

Newsletter: Home-Start North West Hampshire, Rucstall Community Centre, Holbein Close, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 3QN. Tel: 01256 325793
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Welcome to our SPRING edition!



VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Welcoming our newest cohort of Volunteers to the Home-Start Team who completed their training on the 24th February 2023. This Course ran with the biggest number of Volunteers since Covid, all 13 who attended are either awaiting to be matched, currently working with their first families or supporting in Groups.



Left to Right:-

Claire Warman, Lin Obourne, Thea Halstead, Kirsty Cary, Margaret Rogers, Mandy Madge, Peter Cook, Pauline Irving, Jane Michael, Lynda Hall & Shirley Vacher

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF WINTER 2023!

CAB Advice 1st Aid Training for Volunteers

Citizens Advice Bureau in Tadley very kindly ran the above free training session for HSNWH Volunteers. The overwhelming response received from those that took up the opportunity was that it was a very worthwhile course to attend. See feedback below from Nicola J. who attended: -

"I was so pleased to attend the 'Advice First Aid' training at the Tadley Citizen Advice Centre. Learning and being guided on how to navigate their system,



Jen Laidlaw pictured far right had to leave early and missed out on the Group Photo as did Katie Minney who was unable to make the last day.

which covers numerous topics that most of us face when engaging with our families 1:1 or in a group, enables me to signpost families I am working with more effectively. This also means I don't have to call my co ordinator as frequently to find out an answer to a question or get them to point me in the right direction."

Monthly Volunteer Drop-In

Claire & Em held Volunteer Drop In on Thursday the 30th March 2023 at the Gabardine Bar, top of town. Claire reported that it was great to see so many Volunteers who had the opportunity to chat over a cuppa and discuss upcoming HSNWH fundraising events 😊



A chance for all volunteers to network, meet fellow volunteers and feel part of the wider team, whether working in groups or 1:1 with families.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Volunteer Drop-In between 1pm and 2pm on Monday 24th April 2023 - venue to be confirmed.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS 2023

Thank you to everyone who took part in "sharing the love" during this year's Random Acts of Kindness Week.



A big Thank you to Tesco at Chineham who very kindly donated Bunches of Daffodils for us to give out during RAOK.

Photos & comments received via Facebook:-

Thank you for my bunch of daffodils, lovely surprise to find them on my car at north Hampshire hospital.

I also found some on my car at North Hampshire Hospital. Thanks very much, it was a lovely start to my day! 🌻

I was given some today by a lovely gentleman visiting his wife at our care home.



Lovely surprise to be handed daffodils today whilst visiting Basingstoke to babysit grandson. Had a nice chat with the lady, I still attend a Homestart support group as have a 12 year old. Passed on the daffodils to my daughter who loves them 😊 thank you!!



It was lovely to see Children involved in RAOK week handing out daffodils and making home-made boxes with sweet treats inside 😊



Are you interested in a volunteer role with us? Our next 6 week Course is due to on Friday 5th May 2023 -Come & join our team of Volunteers.

We are looking for:-
 -Home Visiting volunteers
 -Family Group helpers
 -Trustees
 -Fundraising Volunteers

BECAUSE CHILDHOOD CAN'T WAIT!



FAMILY GROUP UPDATE

All our usual groups re-start after the Easter break on Monday the 17th April 2023. The focus for our Family Learning Programme for the summer term is on children attending school for the first time. The first of our Preparing for School programme starts with a 4-week course on the 4th May 2023 running from Carnival hall.

This free community course is open to anyone across Basingstoke & Deane who has a child starting school in September 2023. The course content includes looking at family routines, name recognition, mark making and is also an opportunity for parents to share tips with other parents. Please contact the office if you would like a place for you and your child.

Last term Young Parents Meet up and Mum's Club have had visitors from Jess the PCSO, Suzanne Shields from Barnardo's ran a Baby Talk workshop and Janette, one of our volunteers who offers guidance on debt and benefit claims. We are always grateful for them spending time with us. If you have an idea of someone who would be a useful guest to chat with families at group please drop us a message.

FOCUS ON FUNDRAISING

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Money raised through fundraising is invaluable as it allows us to continue our work in the community supporting families with young children to access our services.

Below are fundraising events planned so far for the year but we are always looking at different ideas for fundraising and would welcome any suggestions/help. With that in mind just a reminder that our next fundraising meeting is on Thursday 20th April 2023 here at Rucstall Community Centre at 10am – all welcome to attend!

Ramble – Sunday 28th May 2023 on the Greywell Estate by kind permission of James Malmesbury -HSNWH Patron.
Tickets on sale shortly!

Quiz Night – Friday 2nd June 2023 at Old Basing Village Hall - hosted by the Rotary on behalf of HSNWH

Cocktails & Canapes Evening - Thursday 15th June 2023 at the Gabardine Bar, top of town, Basingstoke.

Race Night – Friday 29th September 2023 at Viabes Community Centre.



HSNWH 200 Club

Another great way to raise money for Home-Start is by becoming a member of our 200 Club. Not only do you get a chance to win 20% in a prize draw each month but becoming a 200 Club Member will make a difference to someone's life 😊!

Tickets are £5 each and more than 1 can be purchased. The draw is held live via our Facebook page on the last Friday of each month with the winning number also posted on the front page of our Website.

More members means a bigger monthly prize pot but more importantly funds our work with families! If you are interested in joining our 200 Club, please contact the office for more information or an application form.

THANKS TO:-

St. Stephens Church Congregation, Baughurst for donating food & toiletries early January which was very much appreciated by some of the families we work with who were finding life harder just after the Christmas festivities.

Sherfield Village Green Events Volunteers held a Reindeer Trail on Saturday 10th December 2022 at Sherfield-on Loddon raising an amazing £700!



John Attwood on behalf of Sherfield Village Green Events Volunteers presenting Claire – left and Jools right with a cheque of £700 raised at the Reindeer Trail

CO OP LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

We have been partnered with the Co-op Local Community Fund until October 2023. You can support HSNWH when shopping at your local Co-op Basing & Oakley Stores money raised goes towards our Well-being Group project which can be viewed on the Co-op Membership site, link below:

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/73321#ItsWhatWeDo>

Please do share with all your friends & family.

Do You Know a Business who might like to hear more about our work?

We need your help to find new corporates to shout to about the fantastic difference our volunteers make to families across Basingstoke and Deane.

Maybe you have a friend or family member that works for a company that has a charity of the year or a 'give as you earn' scheme for staff. A warm lead or introduction gives us much better chance of setting up an initial meeting and finding new partners.

STAFF TEAM UPDATE

The Staff Team have been developing their skills on how to build partnerships with local businesses and have recently taken part in a 1 day Corporate Funding training run by Catherine Cousins – Barfield Independent Consulting. Everyone is very excited to start using the skills they learnt on the course in approaching local Corporates. Claire & Jools have been meeting with local company Berry Brothers and plans are in place for an exciting partnership in the coming months.

Berry Brothers employees have been invited to use their paid volunteering days helping at our forthcoming Fundraising events and through the Preparing for School Programme during summer term. Any that do take up the volunteering opportunity of supporting weekly in one of the 4 Schools will undergo a DBS check and a training session with HSNWH.

We hope that this is the beginning of a rewarding relationship for all involved for years to come.

TRUSTEE UPDATE

Vice-Chair Sheren Butler stepped down from the Board in March, we thank her for her support over the last 4 years as Trustee. We welcome new Trustees Sue Bailey & Samantha Baker to the Board and look forward to working with them both.

Save the Date:-

Volunteer Celebration Evening – Wednesday 7th June 2023 @The Roger Morris Centre, Eastrop.

Dates for your diary:-

HSNWH AGM – Friday 21st July 2023 @10:30am, Rucstall Community Centre.

Number Crunching

55

Active home Visiting/Group Volunteers – 1st April 2022- 31st March 2023

590

Children supported since 1st April 2022- 31st March 2023

182

Requests for support received since 1st April 2022-31st March 2023