Newsletter



April 2018

Information

St Joseph's bingo night in aid of ChAPS and the Carers Centre is to be held on Friday 13th April at St Joseph's RC Church Parish Centre, Woodford Lane, Winsford. 7.30pm. **ChAPS** members and families of any age welcome. Drinks available. This was a very popular event last year, please support them.

Northwich Odeon Cinema have **FOUR Autism friendly** showings next week 2nd – 6th April at 10.15am. Please check their website for details. Monday – A Wrinkle in Time. Tuesday – Peter Rabbit. Wednesday – The Greatest Showman. Thursday – Coco.

Autism In Motion World Autism Day Event to be held Saturday 14th April 2018, 12-4pm in Norris Green Park, Liverpool. After the huge success of last year's event this year promises to be bigger and better. The day will be a mixture of information stalls, fun activities, inflatables and some stalls selling home-made items. If you would like to attend please contact <u>aimautism@hotmail.com</u> or call 07872 444652 or visit their website for further details <u>www.aimautism.com</u>

Cerebra workshop "Challenging Behaviour" on Saturday 21st April 10.00am. The workshop will take place at **Space4Autism,** The Space Centre, 15-17 Mill Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire. SK11 7NN. To book your place please email <u>info.space@hotmail.com</u>

Together Trust are hosting an Autism Sleep Clinic in **ChAPS** Northwich Training Rooms. This session is in three parts, starting on the Tuesday 24th of April, 9.30am-12noon. For more information and to arrange a place you will need to contact <u>enquiries@togethertrust.org.uk</u> or call 0161 286 4201.

NAS and Cerebra DLA Workshop on Tuesday 24th April 10-2pm St John's Church Hall, Church Lane, Guilden Sutton, CH3 7EW. The workshop aims to give parents the skills, in conjunction with Cerebra's DLA Guide, (<u>http://www.cerebra.org.uk/help-and-information/guides-for-parents/dla-guide/</u>) to be able to complete the DLA claim form themselves. To book <u>https://bookwhen.com/cerebra</u>

The official launch of the new **Halton Speech and Language Therapy Service** is on Tuesday 24th April from 1pm at The Heath Business & Technical Park, Runcorn, WA7 4QX. To book a place you can email <u>office@chatter-bug.com</u> or call 0113 240 8510.

Cheshire Centre for Independent Living are hosting **Creative Arts and Drama Group**; supported by Children In Need, 8-14 years on Tuesdays 4.00-6.00pm at St Michaels Church Hall, Devon Road, Kingsway, Chester. For further details to register for this group you can contact <u>office@cheshirecil.org</u> or Mel on 01606 331853.

A state-of-the-art Respite Care Centre to help people with learning disabilities has been opened in Chester by Councillor Paul Dolan. **Abbey Respite Centre**, in Abbey Square will be run by Special Care Needs Ltd and Cheshire West and Chester Council. It offers residential and day care for people with special educational and behavioural needs, including autism and challenging behaviour. Activities at The Arc include creative arts, music therapy, information technology, cooking and motivation support. It has a multi-sensory room: is a soothing, sensory environment with restful sounds and lighting. For any further information, please contact The Arc on 01244 207 307 or visit <u>www.specialneedscare.co.uk</u>.

Carers Trust 4all is launching a NEW service to support children aged 8 – 13, with a diagnosis of Asperger's or who are struggling with communication and social skills. Focused groups led by a qualified Speech and Language Therapist will concentrate on improving key social and communication skills and social sessions will encourage children to put their new found skills into practice. If you would like to access the group or for more information; please call 0333 323 1990 or email <u>cheshirewest@carerstrust4all.org.uk</u>

Urban Air Trampoline Park in Winsford are keen to attract the autism community and provide autism friendly sessions. They are now also offering 1:1 Rebound Sessions. For more information visit their website http://www.uacheshire.co.uk/rebound-therapy or contact **Nicola Finn or Grace Brennan** on **01606 212690** or email info@uacheshire.co.uk/rebound-therapy or contact **Nicola Finn or Grace Brennan** on **01606 212690** or email info@uacheshire.co.uk Cheshire East families can receive this therapy free. Please note **any U6's must** be supported on trampolines by an **ADULT**.

Jump Nation in Runcorn run autism friendly sessions available fortnightly on Saturday mornings at 10am. March sessions are the 31st March and 14th April. You can book via their website <u>https://www.jumpnation.com/classes/autism-friendly/</u>or by calling their booking line 0845 609 0799 (selecting option 2). The sessions are £8.95 and a carer would attend free of charge.

Tanja Sharpe - Integrative Family Counselling & Mindfulness Cheshire <u>www.tanjasharpe.com</u> is offering; young people's one to one & group counselling - ages 7+ in Schools, one of our counselling rooms or online. ChAPS families discount at £30 per hour. Mindfulness - by arrangement through ChAPS. Tanja's email is <u>courses@confidenthearts.com</u>. Thanks very much Tanja – highly recommended by ChAPS.

Cheshire Carers Trust run Parent Carer Support Groups/Coffee Mornings in Cheshire East. They are informal friendly groups and often include activities and speakers. For more info on Crewe, Congleton, Macclesfield and Poynton coffee mornings, times and venues, please check out the following website www.cheshireandwarringtoncarers.org

NAS Warrington have just set up an evening meeting at The Seven Woods Pub, Westbrook Crescent, Warrington, WA5 8TE. Please let them know if you are planning to go along and also if it is your first time and you want someone to look out for you/meet you at the door. For more information email <u>NASWarrington@nas.org.uk</u>

Ellesmere Port Autistic Spectrum Support their next coffee morning will be Tuesday 17 April at the New Creation Centre CH65 4BW from 9.30 – 11.30am. The entrance to the centre is from the car park at the rear. EPASS also have a monthly bowling night. For more information or to make contact with the group, search for EPASS on Facebook.

Autism Support Hub and Resource Library are open Wednesdays 10 - 6pm during term time and have a range of resources as well as books to borrow. Parent membership costs £10 annually. For more information email Amanda or Karen on <u>autismlibrary@rosebank.cheshire.sch.uk</u> or call on 01606 783295.

Aspies for Warrington have a new website <u>www.wands.biz</u> and are still meeting Fridays 6-9pm at Fairfield & Howley Neighbourhood Project, Warrington WA1 3AJ. For more details contact Mike Hewitt on <u>maspie59@gmail.com</u>

Will Consult You is a family business providing advice and guidance on creation of **Wills, Trusts, Lasting Power of Attorney and Funeral Plans.** They understand that life with a child with additional needs is complicated enough without the cost of planning for the future. They can provide relaxed and ethical advice for **ChAPS** families by means of a free legal review in the comfort of your home. If you decide to put measures in place to safeguard your families' future you will be provided with a fixed fee. They aim to make a difficult subject simple, easy, and relaxed so that you have one less thing to worry about. James Hughes recently did a short presentation to our Northwich parents meeting and can be contacted by email on <u>james@willconsultyou.co.uk</u> or 01829 309103.

Future Events

NAS are hosting a **Supporting Siblings Seminar** on Thursday 3rd May, 9.30am-2.30pm at The Vicarage, Wicker Lane, Guilden Sutton CH3 7EW. The seminar will look at the experiences of children who have a brother or sister with autism. It will help parents and carers to support their child's understanding of autism and share a range of strategies that may have a positive effect on sibling relationships. The seminar is for parents and carers of children with autism of all ages. To book onto the course visit https://bookwhen.com/siblings and for information you can contact cwacenquiries@nas.org.uk.

The Lowry have a relaxed performance of **War Horse** coming on Thursday 28th June at 2pm. Tickets are available to book over the phone on 0161 876 2183. For more information please visit https://www.thelowry.com/events/war-horse.

Book and DVD Suggestions

Andrew Edwards, Author of 'Have I Got A Stat for You' and Henry Normal's 'A Normal Family: Everyday adventures with our autistic Son' have recently been added to our lending library.

Carey is also requesting book reviews PLEASE from anyone who wishes to comment on books they have used in our lending library!

Activities for Adults on the Spectrum

Adult Independence and Living Skills Course will be held in our Runcorn training room in the afternoon starting Thursday 19th April. This training is designed to help adults with autism to become more independent and give them essential living skills. If you would like to attend this course, please contact Carey on <u>families@cheshireautism.org.uk</u> or register your interest here <u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/independence-living-skills-for-adults-on-the-autism-spectrum-tickets-</u>30158677416

Crafty Club run by **Terri** is being well supported by many of our adults group and is giving them a chance to socialise with parents of children on the spectrum. Why not come along to a session on 1st and 3rd Mondays in Runcorn office, and 2nd and 4th Mondays in Northwich office. Sessions are 1pm- 2.30pm. Thank you **Terri**.

Spectrum Connect will meet at New Images, Winsford on **Monday 16th April and Monday 30th April** 8.30-10pm. Quizzes, board games as well as table football, table tennis and pool. Unfortunately we only have one session this month due to the bank holiday.

Halton Spectrum Connect will meet at The Halfway House, Runcorn on Monday 23rd April 8-9.30pm.

Yoga for Parents and Adults on the Spectrum will be held on **Monday 9th April** in our **Runcorn office**, 6.15pm-7.15pm and back to normal on **Thursday 26th April at 11.30am-12.30pm** at our Northwich Training Room. Come and join us for a lovely relaxing session.

Chester Group for Adults **ASPIRE** will be meeting Wednesday 4th April, 11.30am -1pm. See Facebook for more info on this group and new meeting location in **Storyhouse Chester** <u>https://m.facebook.com/groups/491332914410676</u>

Aspergers Adults (Ellesmere Port) is a group run by Carers Trust 4All and they meet at Trinity Church in Ellesmere Port on a Tuesday 7 - 9pm every other week. For more information you can contact Angela or Charlotte on 0333 323 1990.

ChAPS News

We are very proud of our new **ChAPS Website** and lots of you have given us really great feedback already so if you haven't had a good look round it, please visit here: <u>http://www.cheshireautism.org.uk/</u>

The **Art Exhibition** launch event was held on Thursday evening of the 22nd March in Northwich Training rooms and we have held this event over three days to celebrate World Autism Awareness Week. The event has been an astounding success in its second year with over 65 artists showing their work! The event was also an opportunity for the official handover of the funding recently awarded by **Steve Morgan Foundation** which has allowed us to recruit **Business Manager Cindy.** Jo is extremely grateful for this as the help is desperately needed.

We are really excited to announce a new activity that we will be running in **Widnes** at **Freaking Awesome** every **1**st **& 3**rd **Tuesday of the month**, starting in **April.** Freaking Awesome is a comic shop that invests in

retro gaming consoles, card games, collectables and comics for the community to use and ChAPS have a private session there!

A new parents meeting is coming to Frodsham! Every 2nd Thursday of the month, starting in May. 9.30-10.30am. Our lovely new volunteer Carol will be running the session to help parents to increase selfconfidence and promote well-being.

We have lots of new courses starting in the upcoming months...

Mindfulness for Children is to be held in Northwich and Ellesmere Port. Both will start after the **Easter** Holidays.

'Best Gift is YOU' Mindfulness course will be coming to Runcorn in April on Tuesday afternoons. This is a therapeutic Mindfulness programme for parents and adults on the autism spectrum running over 8 weeks run by Tanja.

Intensive Social Skills for Children the next course will be after Easter on a Tuesday evenings in Northwich.

Parent's training course will continue in Runcorn in our *new* large training room. This training is provided by **OSSME Autism Initiatives** who have a lot of experience and knowledge. There is still opportunity to book on the remaining weeks. You are able to attend topics that best suit your needs!

Swimming Lessons will start again in April. **ChAPS** is able to offer this fantastic opportunity for our families thanks to the teaching provided by **Jeff**, and also to Greenbank School for providing the small safe pool. We are very grateful. Please email **Carey** on <u>families@cheshireautism.org.uk</u> if you are interested in a place for your child.

NEW! Play Therapy The six week course will be starting at **Runcorn** on **Saturdays** after Easter. Those who expressed interest have been contacted. We are grateful to Megan and Tara at **Entwine Play Therapy** who have run two very successful courses so far in Northwich and look forward to hearing the outcomes of this course for the children who are attending.

Diary Events Please book them in your diary! (Bold are the extra activities)

4 Apr	LLANFYNDD	Horse Therapy at Clwyd Special Riding Centre LL11 5HN with Emily & Sam.	9.30-4pm
4 Apr	RUNCORN	Sensory Play Therapy at Runcorn Training Room with Megan, Tara & Rach.	1-3pm
4 Apr	NORTHWICH	Circus Skills at Barnton Life Church CW8 4HP with Naomi & Di.	4.30-5.30pm
4 Apr	CHESTER	Dog Training at Vicars Cross Comm Centre CH3 5LU with Kerry & Claire.	5.30-6.30pm
4 Apr	CHESTER	Youth Club at Live! Newscene Centre CH2 2HH with Claire & Nat.	7 – 8.30pm
5 Apr	WINSFORD	ORDParents Meeting at Subway Delamere St Winsford CW7 2LU with Di.9.	

5 Apr	HALTON	Tubing at Runcorn Ski Centre WA7 6PT with Emily & Rach.	10-12noon
5 Apr	E'PORT	Kidz Club at New Creation Centre CH65 4BW with Sam, Jacqui & Zara.	5-6.30pm
5 Apr	RUNCORN	Kidz Club Halton at The Acorn Club WA7 5EX with Mel & Rach.	6.15-7.30pm
5 Apr	E'PORT	Parents Meeting at Trinity Church CH65 0AB with Nat & Leona.	7-9pm
7 Apr	E'PORT	Multi Sports at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	3-4pm
7 Apr	E'PORT	Family Swim at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	4.15-5.15pm
7 Apr	NORTHWICH	Family Swim at Memorial Court Northwich CW9 5QJ with Cathy F.	4.30-5.30pm
8 Apr	WIDNES	Anti-Gravity Yoga for kids at Martial Arts Centre WA8 0QZ with Mel.	3-4pm
9 Apr	E'PORT	Chester Zoo Ranger Workshops at New Creation Centre CH65 4BW with Emily.	10-3pm
9 Apr	RUNCORN	Parent & Toddler Meeting at our Runcorn Office with Rachael & Leona.	10-12pm
9 Apr	BLACON	Parents meeting at Matthew Henry Church CH1 5RS with Toni & Nat.	11am-1pm
9 Apr	NORTHWICH	Crafty Club at our Northwich Training Room with Claire & Carey.	1-2.30pm
9 Apr	BLAKEMERE	Barnaby's Playbarn CW8 2EB family session with Carey, Di & Bobbie.	5-7pm
9 Apr	BLACON	Kidz Club at Ash Grove Day Nursery CH1 5NF with Nat & Tina.	6.15-7.45pm
9 Apr	RUNCORN	Yoga for Adults at Runcorn Training Room with Rachael.	6.15-7.15pm
10 Apr	CHESTER	Clip & Climb at Flipout Chester CH1 6LT with Carey & Emily.	10.30-12noon
11 Apr	CHESTER	Youth Club at Live! Newscene Centre CH2 2HH with Claire & Nat.	7 – 8.30pm
12 Apr	E'PORT	Youth Club at New Creation Centre CH65 4BW with Tessa & Zara.	6.30-8pm
12 Apr	RUNCORN	Youth Club at The Acorn Club WA7 5EX with Mel & Rach.	7-9pm
13 Apr	LYMM	Safety workshop at Safety Central WA13 0TE with Emily & Cindy.	9.30-4.00pm
13 Apr	DELAMERE	Walk for adults at Delamere Forest CW8 2HZ with Carey.	11.45am-2pm
14 Apr	WIDNES	Pony Riding at Bold Heath Equestrian Centre WA8 3XT with Mel.	3.30-4.30pm
15 Apr	WINSFORD	Gym with Games at Winsford Academy CW7 2BT with Simon, Di & Bobbie.	10.30-12noon
15 Apr	B'TRAFFORD	Animal Therapy at Freedom Equine Centre CH2 4JT with Sam J & Sam.	2-3.45pm
15 Apr	WIDNES	Anti-Gravity Yoga for parents at Martial Arts Centre WA8 0QZ with Mel.	3-4pm
16 Apr	CHESTER	Parents Meeting at Kingswood Comm Suite CH2 2LN with Claire & Leona.	10am-12pm
16 Apr	RUNCORN	Crafty Club at our Runcorn Office with Terri & Rachael. 1-2.3	

24 Apr	HARTFORD	Swimming lessons at Greenbank School Pool with Jeff.	4 -5pm
24 Apr	NORTHWICH	Together Trust Sleep Clinic at Northwich Training Room with Carey.	9.30-12noon
23 Apr	RUNCORN	Spectrum Connect Adults Social at The Halfway House WA7 5NR with Rach. 8-9.3	
23 Apr	NORTHWICH	Parents Meeting at Northwich Training Room with Di.	7-9pm
23 Apr	BLACON	Kidz Club at Ash Grove Day Nursery CH1 5NF with Nat & Sam J.	6.15-7.45pm
23 Apr	NORTHWICH	Dog Training in Lach Dennis CW9 7SZ with Denise & Cathy.	
23 Apr	NORTHWICH	Crafty Club at Northwich Training Room with Terri & Carey.	
21 Apr	WIDNES	Roller Disco at Ormiston Chadwick Academy WA8 7HU with Mel & Rach.	
21 Apr	E'PORT	Family Swim at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	4.15-5.15pm
21 Apr	E'PORT	Multi Sports at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	3-4pm
21 APR	NORTHWICH	Mindfulness for Teens at Northwich Training Room with Tanja.	11am-12pm
21 APR	RUNCORN	Play Therapy at Runcorn Training Room with Tara & Megan.	10am-12pm
20 Apr	RUNCORN	Training Programme for Parents at Runcorn Office with Emily.	1-3pm
19 Apr	RUNCORN	Kidz Club Halton at The Acorn Club WA7 5EX with Mel & Rach.	6.15-7.30pm
19 Apr	E'PORT	Kidz Club at New Creation Centre CH65 4BWwith Sam, Jacqui & Zara.	5-6.30pm
19 Apr	RUNCORN	Adult Independence and Living Skills at Runcorn Office with Emily.	1.30-3pm
19 Apr	KNUTSFORD	Parents of Adults Meeting at The Cross Keys Pub WA16 6DT with Carey.	11am-1pm
18 Apr	BLACON	Parents Meeting at The Enterprise Centre The Parade with Toni & Claire.	7-8.45pm
18 Apr	E'PORT	Mindfulness for Children at New creation Centre CH65 4BW with Tanja.	5.15-6.15pm
18 Apr	RUNCORN	Crazy Club at Widnes Superbowl The Hive WA8 0TA with Mel and Emily.	5-7pm
17 Apr	NORTHWICH	'FEEL IT' SPD Workshop at Northwich Training Room with Carey.	6.30-9pm
17 Apr	WIDNES	Freaking Awesome at Salisbury Street Widnes WA8 6AZ with Rachael.	5.30-7pm
17 Apr	RUNCORN	'Best Gift is You' at Runcorn Training Room with Tanja.	1-2.30pm
17 Apr	NORTHWICH	'FEEL IT' SPD Workshop at Northwich Training Room with Carey.	12-2.30pm
16 Apr	WINSFORD	Spectrum Connect for adults at New Images CW7 2HG with Cathy & Di.	8.30-10pm
16 Apr	WINSFORD	Youth Club at New Images CW7 2HG with Cathy, Di & Bobbie.	7-8.30pm
16 Apr	CHESTER	Kidz Club at Live! Newscene Centre CH2 2HH with Sam J & Tina.	5.15-6.45pm

24 Apr	CREWE	Parents meeting at The Brocklebank Weston Road CW1 6FZ with Maureen.	8-10pm
25 Apr	B'TRAFFORD	Horse Sense for Parents & Adults at Bridgefields CH2 4JT with Claire.	10am-12noon
25 Apr	WINSFORD	Urban Air Trampolining Winsford CW7 3RL with Carey, Di & Bobbie.	4.30-6.30pm
25 Apr	CHESTER	Youth Club at Live! Newscene Centre CH2 2HH with Claire & Nat.	7 – 8.30pm
26 Apr	NORTHWICH	Yoga for Adults at our Northwich Training Room with Sarah & Carey.	11.30-12.30pm
26 Apr	RUNCORN	Youth Club at The Acorn Club WA7 5EX with Mel & Rach.	7-9pm
26 Apr	E'PORT	Youth Club at New Creation Centre CH65 4BW with Tessa & Zara.	6.30-8pm
28 Apr	KNUTSFORD	Pony Riding at Holly Tree Stables Plumley Moor Rd WA16 9RU with Terri.	2-3pm
28 Apr	E'PORT	Multi Sports at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	3-4pm
28 Apr	E'PORT	Family Swim at Ellesmere Port Sports Village CH65 9LB with Claire.	4.15-5.15pm
30 Apr	WINSFORD	Youth Club at New Images CW7 2HG with Cathy, Di & Bobbie.	7 – 8.30pm
30 Apr	WINSOFRD	Spectrum Connect at New Images CW7 2HG with Di & Cathy	8.30-10pm

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