



Parkside Newsletter

Chairmans Message

Welcome to the Winter/Spring edition of the Newsletter. I hope all readers and your families are fit and well. In the last edition, I wrote 'this has been a very difficult few months for everyone, but I like to think there is some light at the end of the tunnel'. Little did I know that the same applies now! However, the success of the vaccination program and the gradual easing of lockdown measures gives hope that life will return to something like normality this summer.

After another period of suspension, our core Services are now up and running again, albeit with limited numbers of Service Users. As circumstances permit, the number able to attend will increase to more normal levels. Unfortunately, it remains the case that it is highly unlikely we will be able to return to pre COVID-19 Service levels. However, it is our intention to restart as many non-core Services as possible.

One unfortunate outcome of the pandemic has been a reduction in staff numbers. We tried to keep this to a minimum, but circumstances forced our hand. The remaining staff spent long periods on furlough leave which, combined with cost saving measures, helped to protect our finances. We remain very grateful to those who have voluntarily paid invoices as a donation for which no Services were received. If anyone else wishes to donate this can be done by clicking on the donate button on our Homepage at: www.parksidealdershot.co.uk.

We have held 2 Annual General Meetings since the last Newsletter, the first being on 29th September and the most recent on 13th April. On both occasions, to comply with COVID-19 regulations, we limited the attendance of members and it was disappointing to observe the limit was not reached on either occasion but understandable given the current Covid situation. We will be considering what can be done to encourage more members to attend in future and hope we can repeat a similar successful AGM held in 2019 when the JET Youths provided entertainment.

Finally, I sincerely hope I do not have to write again about how this pandemic is affecting Parkside and our Services. Let us hope the light at the end of the tunnel proves to be the case.

Chris Harris

Misselbrook Trust
Mr and Mrs Brown
Mr Beadle
Mark Marriott
Nicky Wright
Pinewood Quilters
RAIB
RBC
RJ
Rushmoor Lottery
Zebrahouse Design

*thank
you*



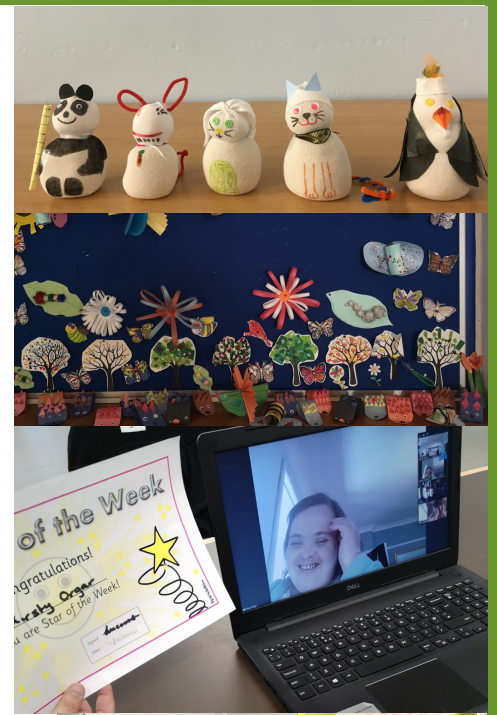
Adam Woodcock
Aldershot Allotment Association
Aldershot Rotary Club
Bridges Estate Agents
Co-op Neighbourly Scheme
Dominic Langdon
Farnborough Airport Consortium
Farnborough Not Forgotten Club
Hart Lottery
HCC
Jim Goodman
John Knight

PIP Returns

Now our day services PIP Youth and PIP have returned they have been catching up with each other. It has been brilliant to hear laughter again. Everyone has been quite industrious with various crafts. You can see here the great no sew sock animals and the lovely board they have are creating to show how beautiful our trees and nature are.

PIP Youth over at Farnborough are really enjoying being back and when asked about what they think of being back some of them wanted to share the following. Brandon says "Being with my friends I missed them" Chantelle said "I like seeing Jenny. I am good at doing my test on my own" Kieran just said "I'm so happy" They have all been enjoying the weather with a walk to a local greenspace and a picnic.

Everyone has been so amazing through all the lockdowns and have adapted so well to the different ways we all have to adhere to now. Our 'Star of the Week' at PIP has been well received and may of our lovely Service Users have shown they can really shine in a this current Covid world! Here are some of our Stars of the Week.



JET is back

JET is back albeit reduced numbers we hope it will not be long before everyone is back into one group. Everyone has been enjoying the Zoom sessions but have been so keen to actually see each other; so, once the time was right, we brought it back. Everyone who came back with the first session loved it



Quotes

Joel told me he has missed the social interaction with his friends during lockdown & has been really looking forward to coming back

Daisy said she has missed her friends and glad to be back. Felt a little weird coming back without her friend Zara who also lives with her. This is due to Covid rules and only one person can travel in the back of the car at any time. Daisy said she will feel happier when they can come together again.

Nigel is really pleased to be back and said he is glad to have a break from looking at his iPad. Too much Zoom and Facetime with friends & family.

Chris has missed talking about football with his friends and the banter! Really pleased to be back. Lacy-Jane said she has missed playing Bingo with her friends and tonight is the first time she has been out. Very pleased to be back.

Adam has missed everyone and everything about Jet and said he is 5 star pleased to be back!

Parkside Heroes



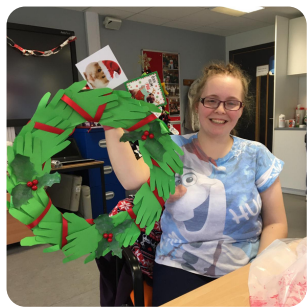
Many of you will have heard about the London Virtual Marathon this event which is the same distance will be run alongside the main event October 3rd. We are thrilled to have 3 runners taking part and raising money for Parkside Josh and Daniel Watkins (Suzanne's sons). Janet Bell. Many of you know Janet a Support Worker here at Parkside if you would like to support any of our runners visit <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/> and search by name or our charity.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL!



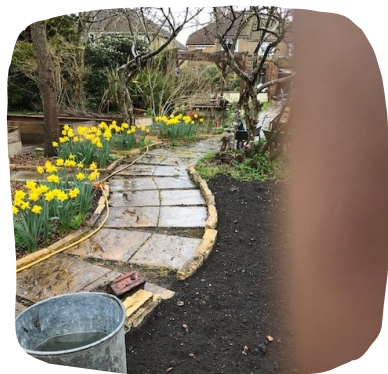
Crafts

Christmas feels like it was a long time ago, but we did manage a few sessions between lockdowns, where PIP groups were able to enjoy some Christmas crafts. Checkout Georgia's beautiful Angel wings and Stacey's wreath amazing!

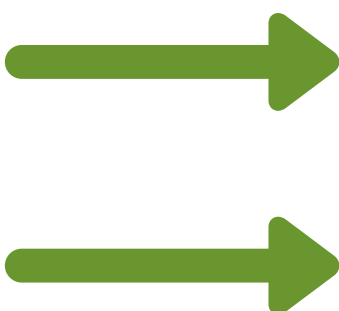


Garden work

The garden in Gillian Ave continues to flourish with the continued support from our fabulous volunteer David. Lots of new seeds have been sown and items created from some really good upcycling ideas.



The garden at Parkside is also undergoing improvements with the support of a grant from Farnborough Airport Consortium and a Rushmoor Lottery grant. Our thanks to the Tuesday garden group who have been preparing the garden for some new areas in the shade that everyone can enjoy. Also, thanks to our neighbours who donated materials for the project.



Baby news!

We had some lovely news; from Lucy who many of you know, left us to have her baby in March. We can announce the safe arrival of baby B (yet to be named). He was born 16th April at 6.30pm weighing 7lbs 12ozs.



Montage

