



Our News Our Views 2017



June ~ Issue 31

Created and run by adults with a learning disability.

We are three! – By Peter Crum

Our News Our Views will turn three years old in June 2017. In that three years we have:

- Distributed about 13,000 copies of the newsletter
- Written over 400 articles in 30 editions
- Put in over 800 hours work each in the team



Everyone in the team is really proud of all these achievements but even more proud of all the things we have learned together and how we get on as a team to produce the newsletter.

Team member Tracy Roberts said, “Our News Our Views has helped me improve my computer skills and my confidence and challenged me to learn new skills. I’d never done anything like this before but now I am involved in the whole process of making the newsletter”.

Support Worker Mary Simpson added, “I love working for this team. They have developed their skills enormously over three years as creators, editors, reporters, fundraisers, bosses and supportive workmates. They have bags of enthusiasm and motivation and heaps of great ideas”.

We hope to keep going with Our News Our Views and celebrate our 4th birthday in 2018! However funding is always an issue, so we need to keep finding ways to bring money into the project.

Snap General Election - By Peter Crum

To help you with your important voting decisions here are some links.

What is a general election?

www.easy-read-online.co.uk/news/general-election-information-sheet/

The main parties are:

The conservatives www.conservatives.com

The green party www.greenparty.org.uk

The labour party www.labour.org.uk

The liberal democrats www.libdems.org.uk

UKIP www.ukip.org

Look out for their manifestos soon. A manifesto is a list of what the parties want to make happen and their values.

Policy summary

We have made a 2-page summary of their policies from each of their websites:

<https://ournoursourviews.com/latest-news/>





Update from the Editors

Thank You to those of you that sent us information – we love to hear from you. The next deadline is 21st June for the July edition.

No entries to the competition as we go to press early –but we'll note in the next edition if we get a winner! Good luck this month.

In this edition:

- If you plan to vote – some helpful links and Tweet-like replies from the candidates that made the snap election deadline!
- Learning Disability Board summary –thanks for making it easy.
- Safer road crossing, all about ECHOfest, American circus.
- And Happy Birthday to us!!!



See you next month –and happy voting.

By Tracy Roberts on behalf of Our News Our Views editorial ing, .

The General Election – Who can we vote for?

The local candidates when we go to print and their internet links are:

Hereford and South Herefordshire

The Conservative Party – Jesse Norman - www.jesse4hereford.com

The Green Party – Diana Stella Toynbee- www.facebook.com/diana4hereford

Independent – Jim Kenyan - twitter: jim Kenyon @ jim of hereford

The Labour party – Anna Coda – www.herefordshirelabour.com

The Liberal Democrats Party – Lucy Hurds www.herefordlibdems.com

UK Independence Party (UKIP) – Gwyn James Price -



North Herefordshire

Conservative- Bill Wiggin – www.herefordconservatives.com

Green party- Ellie Chowns –

www.greenherefordshire.org.uk/ellie4northherefordshire

Independent - Arthur St John Devine

Independent - Sasha Rose Alicia Norris

Labour- Roger William Page - herefordlabour.com

Liberal democrat - Jeanie Falconer –

www.herefordlibdems.com/jeanie_falconer_for_north_herefordshire



Update Brandon Trust – By Brandon Trust

Aspire will take over the **St Owen's hub** when Brandon Trust finishes on **16 May 2017**.

Brandon Trust has agreed to keep running the services at **Widemarsh, Ryefields and Marshfields** until **30 June 2017** while we sort the new arrangements out.

Easy Read Candidate Comments

We asked each candidate to send us a slightly longer than tweet-length sentence (190 Characters) to answer the following Question:

Why should a person with a learning disability vote for you or your party?

Here are the tweets from the ones that replied in time to go to print:

Diana Toynbee

Green Party Parliamentary Candidate for Hereford and South Herefordshire

Thank you ONOV for helping people engage in this election! I want to be your MP so I can fight for a more equal country where everyone is respected and nature is protected. www.diana4hereford.net

Dr Ellie Chowns

Green Party Parliamentary Candidate for North Herefordshire

Please vote for Ellie and the Greens because we campaign for a fair society, care for the environment, and for everyone's voice to be heard. www.ellie4northherefordshire.org.uk

Jim Kenyon

Independent

I have first-hand experience of how disability affects daily life. The government can cause delays, difficulties and stress to most vulnerable. <https://www.facebook.com/jim4mp/>



People with disabilities have the same right to vote as anyone else. By voting in the general election you can help to decide who runs the country. Find out more here: www.everyvotecounts.org.uk

Learning Disability Partnership Board Meeting Summary report.

Date: 21 March 2017

Overview

Here is a summary of the things we talked about at the meeting of the Learning Disability Partnership Board on the 21st of March.

WISH

We heard about plans to improve WISH over the next few months. The improvements will:

1. Allow people to find local activities
2. Add a news section to the WISH website
3. Allow people to search for personal assistants through WISH.
4. Allow people to add events or activities they run to the WISH website.
5. Make search results better.

We also looked at some new easy read pages on WISH which you can find here <https://www.wisherefordshire.org/adult/information-and-advice/easy-read/>

Brandon Trust

We received a update on the search to find new providers when Brandon Trust finishes in May. There will be regular updates on the easy read pages on WISH. (See above)



Safer Crossing - By Lisa Perkins

I was concerned that I did not have enough time to cross the road the other day so I looked at this site:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/what-we-do/key-issues/crossings>



"I found their campaign interesting and thought you would too:

Everybody should be able to cross the road safely, directly and without delay.

Crossings should be positioned in the right place and give everyone enough time to cross the road.

We want more (clearance) time to the cross the road timings on signalised crossings should be adjusted to reflect how quickly or slowly people walk.

The green man lighting up is your invitation to cross the road. When the green man starts flashing, that's the clearance time currently.

The time the green man spends flashing assumes that people walk 1.2 metres per second.

This was calculated in the 1950s and hasn't changed since.

However, a 2012 study showed that 76 of men and 85 of women over 65 walk more slowly.

The team found that the average walking speed was 0.9 m/s for men and 0.8m/s for women.

We know that young children also take longer to cross the road.

With our supporters. We campaign to make safer crossings a reality".

The History of the Master's House – Adrian Phipps

The Master's House Ledbury is a composite building. At its heart is the original timber-framed tudor mansion. Over more than 500 years this building has been adapted and added to in four main phases. It was originally a home for the master of st Katherine's hospital. Successive occupants have altered the Master's house to suit their own needs. The restoration carried out between 2011 and 2015 has revealed the story of the Master's House as never before.



American Circus – By Laura

I went to American circus. There were lots of people there so I thought it was the best day to go. I enjoyed it very much. They lived up to their description below:

Roll up roll up Uncle Sam's great American Circus is back by popular demand. 2017 sees Uncle Sam's biggest and best production to date with a completely Brand new star studded show .The Diaz sisters will amaze with grace and strength including balance and even hanging by their toes 13 meters high in the roof the big top .



This year hilarious comedy is the Tony Tonit clowns with traditional slapstick. There is also roller skating, foot juggling and the wheel of death, thunder ball rider and much more. I would like more people to go to save circuses as they are great fun - very exciting and good value for money.



We are ategi and we run the **Shared Lives** Scheme in Herefordshire. Our Carers give care and support to people who live with them as part of an ordinary family home.

If you want to find out more about how you could either get support from Shared Lives, or become a Shared Lives Carer, call Dave Davies on 01432 803 231.

www.ategi.org.uk

"Supporting people to live their lives."

Festival Fun – by Tracy Roberts

I interviewed Lofty and Rich from the band about Last Tree Squad performing at ECHOFEST later this summer.



You might know Lofty from Yam Jams sessions in Leominster and Hereford which offers an opportunity for participants to join in with making music. You may not know that Lofty is a member of a band Last Tree Squad playing a mix of hip hop and reggae

Lofty what will you be doing at ECHOFEST?

We will be performing with our live band Last Tree Squad which is a seven-piece live reggae band.

What is different for an accessible festival?

It just means they have accessible wheelchairs and toilets nothing really different, they are all festivals and they are all fun. PARTY TIME!



Why is it important for ECHO to organise ECHOFEST?

Do you know what? I think it's a really, really important thing. It outreaches to the community more. More people in the community can get involved. I think it's a brilliant thing.

What are you looking forward to most about ECHOFEST?

Smiling faces and sunshine.

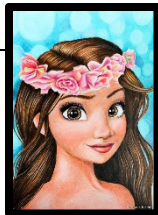


You hope it will be sunny?

We'll bring the sunshine! Lofty says make sure you will come to ECHOFEST on July 15th at Dom's Bike Stop!

What's On

Date	Time	What	Where	Detail/Price
1 st to 4 th June	Various times	Hay Festival	Hay on Wye	Various
2 nd and 3 rd June	June 2 nd 11am June 3 rd 11am and 2.30pm	Moana Sing along	Courtyard theatre hereford	£7 con £6.50 under 16's £5
June 3 rd	10am until 1pm and Scruffs from 1.30pm until about 3pm.	SCRUFTS Fun Dog Show	Poston Mill Park, Peterchurch, Hereford.	Proceeds go to Macmillan Cancer Support and Cancer Research
2 nd -11th	Various	Leominster Festival "Paint the town" See website for programme.	Leominster	Lots for FREE
10 th June	10-4	Disabled people water sports –fun day with sailing and canoeing	Llangorse Lake	
14 th -16 th June		Beer and Beast Festival (Pub and BBQ)	The Farmers Arms, Wellington Heath, Ledbury, HR8 1LS	FREE
15 th -17 th June	8p.m.	LADS Breath of Spring -Theatre	Market Theatre, Ledbury HR8 2AQ	£10 Students £8
16 th June	See Website	Three Counties Show	Three Counties Showground	£19
17 th June – 2 nd July		Ludlow Fringe Festival	Ludlow	Free Street Festivities
June 24 th to 25th		Gardens in the Wild	Whitfield Estate, Wormbridge, HR2 9DG	£5 to £8.50
1 st July	2pm to 11 pm	ECHOfest	Doms Bike Shop HR60NA	



Puzzle Corner £10 Prize!

Spot ten differences.

Winner will be drawn from correct answers.

(Ring them, send in with your name, address, and email or phone number.)

Deadline 21st June. One entry per person please!

Prize donated by Ms Brettina Meadows. Thank You!



Have you heard the one about...? By Laura Joliffe

What do you call an alligator in a vest? An investigator.

What the difference between a guitar and a fish? You can't tune a fish.

What do you call a baby monkey? A chimp off the old block.

Did you hear about the hungry clock? It went back four seconds.



We welcome your advertisements.

(Distribution 500 –website coming soon.)



Distribution
now up to 500!

Advert size	How much of a page of A4	Organisation rate £	Adult with a learning Disability. Special rate £
a	Sixteenth	15	2
b	Eighth	20	3
c	Quarter	30	5
d	Half	40	7
e	Whole	65	12

Front Page Under Header £109 or £155 (bumper issue)

Thank you Funders and Sponsors!



Making a real difference to the lives of disabled people in Herefordshire

Leisure, learning, social, voluntary and work-based activities during the daytime, evenings and weekends.



www.echoherefordshire.org.uk



Herefordshire Mencap, making a difference to people's lives. Working with local people with a learning disability, their families and anyone with an interest in learning disability.

Informing, campaigning and plugging the gaps.

'Safe places'; 'changing places' toilets; advocacy; 'Stay Up Late' gigs; 'Stop Gap Press'.

www.herefordshiremencap.co.uk
find us on facebook and twitter @HerefordMencap.

**COMIC
RELIEF**



**Your advert could be
printed here!**

(See excellent prices page 7)



"Our News Our Views" is a pioneering initiative run by adults with a learning disability who have pooled their personal budgets to set up an accessible newsletter for the Learning Disability Community of Herefordshire.



The deadline for articles and adverts for the July edition is the 21st June

(Please note: The editors reserve the right to edit all copy.)

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