



ASD Family Help

Welcome to our 1st Newsletter!

Hello and welcome to our 1st Newsletter!

We hope to be able to produce a Newsletter monthly from now on, and would therefore welcome any events, news, information that people want to share – please inform us so that we can include your item in the next newsletter.

In future Newsletters we will also include information from other organisations that could be of interest to you.

We have included the 'forthcoming events' to enable you to have a bigger picture of what is available locally.

A little bit of History.....

Over the past 6 ½ years ASD Family Help have grown from the small Parent Support Group, known as WASPARENTS, into what today is a thriving local User Led Organisation/charity employing 3 part-time staff (who also do an enormous amount of time voluntarily), numerous Volunteers, and a committee made up of 80% users of our services. 100% of our employees and volunteers are Users.

We had 15 family Carers in January 2005 and today have over 900.

In past years we have been funded mainly by the local authority (Wokingham) under Carer Grants, LDD Children's Grants & an Adult Social Care Tender, as well as receiving money for other local charities including Wokingham Lions, Woodley Churches, Berkshire Community Foundation, alongside our own fundraising efforts.

We are currently funded by Wokingham Aiming High, Wokingham Learning Disability Development Fund, Wokingham Adult Prevention Services, Wokingham Lions and the National Lottery Awards for All. On the whole our current funding is specific to certain criteria and activities, and we continue to apply for further funding to continue our services.

Our website is designed to answer questions, and give information, to people affected by the Autism Spectrum (ASD).

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and find the contents useful - for further information please see our website www.asdfamilyhelp.org

Thank you

Cathy Roberts

SOCIAL EVENTS AT A GLANCE....

- **Sat 25th & Sun 26th
June 10am to 5pm**

HURST HORSE SHOW

- **Fri 1st July 6pm to
8pm £2 per child**

*Monkey Mates for
Special Needs Children
(and their families)*

- **Sat 2nd July 10am to
4pm**

*CAN Family Fun &
Information Day*

- **Saturday 2nd July
7pm - late**

*MALE / CARERS Social
EVENT **BOOK NOW!***

- **Saturday 9th July 7pm
- 11pm**

*Unlimited BOWLING &
LASERQUEST for ALL
AGES **BOOK NOW!***

**FOR OTHER
EVENTS, SEE
OUR WEBSITE
'CALENDAR'
AND 'EVENTS'
PAGES**

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE & JULY.....

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th June 2011 - 10am to 5pm

The Hurst Horse Show and Country Fayre is a unique annual event held in the centre of Hurst, Berkshire, that runs for two full days in June.

Established over 30 years ago, the 2011 show will take place over the weekend of 25th and 26th June.

Great fun for all - see the website!

FULL DETAILS & PRICES ON THIS LINK:

<http://www.hursthorseshow.org.uk/visit.php>

Male Carers Unlimited Bowling - Saturday 2nd July

The venue is [The Big Apple](#), Wokingham Superbowl, Phoenix Plaza, Wellington Road, Wokingham RG40 2NJ. Arrive at 6.45pm for a 7pm start, cost is **£6.95 for unlimited bowling**. Optional curry afterwards however the restaurant does more than just indian food.

If anyone is interested in going, but would need financial assistance to attend, please contact ASD Family Help in confidence, as there is some funding available if you are a Carer of an adult with Complex and Severe needs - **PMLD** (subsidised by WBC Learning Disability Partnership).

BOOK NOW!

Booking is essential via email

contact@asdfamilyhelp.org or by phone/text to 07707 660 599

'Unlimited Bowling & Laser Quest for ALL ages!

Saturday 9th July - £3 each or £10 per family

We have booked the entire [Big Apple](#) venue for our sole use from **7pm to 11pm**, this means unlimited bowling and/or laser quest and full use of the centre.

For families with younger children an earlier start time of 6pm can be requested when booking.

BOOK NOW!

Booking is essential and payment is required in advance. Book via email

at contact@asdfamilyhelp.org or by phone/text to 07707 660 599

Congratulations to the Me2 club on winning The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, an 'MBE' for voluntary groups. <http://www.me2club.org.uk/>

Friday 1st July 2011 - 6pm to 8pm - £2 per child

Monkey Mates - Special Needs Soft Play Session (siblings welcome) <http://www.monkeymates.co.uk/>

Sat 2nd July CAN Family Fun & Information Day 11am - 3pm at Highwood Primary School in Woodley.

The CAN Family Fun and Information Day is a **free** one-of-a-kind annual event for Children with Additional Needs, and is suitable for the whole family.

Attractions will include:

- Farm animals – 11am to 3pm
- Children's entertainer – 11am to 3pm
- Information stalls and displays
- Circus skills – 11am to 3pm
- Sports activities
- Climbing wall
- Head massage for carers
11.30am-2pm
- Free crèche and play club
(pre-booking advised)
- Face painting 12-2pm

A for Film - at the Vue Cinema at Reading

A '**Special Needs Film Club**' for all young people with disabilities. The sound will be turned down a little and lights not so dim. No other major light distractions will be on in the cinema complex (including games machines etc). There will be several staff members around and a manager who can assist you, and one worker will be in and around the cinema screen during the film, so that if you do need assistance (or anyone to go and get you a drink), they can help. If anyone feels they need to shout, clap their hands, jump up and down or run about a little, then that is fine. **Tickets will cost £0.95 each.** Siblings are more than welcome. Tickets can be bought on arrival at the cinema.

For more information contact Chris Roberts

Email chris_standby@hotmail.com or phone 07711004034

<http://www.asdfamilyhelp.org/A%20for%20Film.html>

ASD Family Help community meetings:

Bulmershe Monday Carers Club – weekly on Mondays (except Bank Holidays and Christmas/New Year period) from 9.15am to 11.30am. Held at Bulmershe Youth Centre, Woodlands Avenue, Woodley, RG5 3EU (above Bulmershe Leisure Centre). Children always welcome!

Wokingham Coffee Morning - Why not join us **every 3rd Friday of the month from 10am to 12 noon** at the Bradbury Centre, Rose Street, Wokingham RG40 1XS. (no meeting in school holidays). An ASD family Help family liaison worker &/or volunteer will be there to welcome you.

Evening Drop-In & Coffee

We have been very kindly offered good facilities within Woodley C of E Primary School to use on **1st Wednesday evening each month, from 7- 8.30pm**, where parents/Carers (sorry no children) can drop in and have a coffee/chat with ASD Family Help Volunteers. (no meeting in school holidays). Woodley C of E Primary School, Hurricane Way, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4UX

<http://www.woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk/>

Office Appointments (Wokingham)

We have secured use of an office, on selected days/times each week, and are able to meet with ASD Adults, Parents & Carers on a 'pre-booked' appointment only basis. This service will offer you a 1:1 private meeting to enable time to complete forms, and offer advice & information with ASD Family Help Staff &/or Volunteers.

Dates: Every Wednesday (except during school holidays)

Time: Appointments available 10am-1pm (*Please email us contact@asdfamilyhelp.org or by text to 07707 660 599 if you wish an appointment arranged*)

Venue: Office 2, The Ritz Plaza, 10 Denton Road, Wokingham RG40 2DX

Contact Address:

ASD Family Help

c/o Wokingham Volunteer Centre,

The Ritz Plaza, 10 Denton Road,

Wokingham,

Berkshire, RG40 2DX

Phone/ Text:

07707 660 599

E-Mail:

contact@asdfamilyhelp.org

Web Site:

www.asdfamilyhelp.org

Currently Funded By:



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

