



West End Newsletter

West End Community Centre

Volume 9

This month so far.....



Hi everyone! Hope you all well. We, at The West end Centre, have had a very hectic but absolutely brilliant time since our last Newsletter.

We have helped Lorraine Donnelly celebrate her 60th birthday, with many of her new friends from the centre attending her fantastic birthday party along with her existing friends. Can you believe she had 200 guests, what a turn out!



We held our AGM on the 10th May which was very well attended. Guests included Chris Graham and Peter Tate who were involved in the original set up of the centre over 10 years ago. Representatives from CVS, Clive Whittaker, Sheila Brett our Ward Officer and local Councillor Taj Salam also supported us by attending. Of course the main stars, as ever, were you, the people who attend the centre. Over 30 of you came to hear what we have done over the past 12 months and help us to appoint our Management Committee. I think it's so important that we all have a say in how our centre is run. Fran and I were amazed at everything we had done over the past 12 months. We couldn't believe how much we had packed in and of course it doesn't happen without your participation and



support. Rat's film diary of the year was great; it reminded us of some wonderful days. We are thinking of making Lorraine our centre pin up as she appeared in nearly all the photos. Well done Lorraine, it just shows how much you join in. We will try to put the video on the web site for those of you who didn't manage to catch it.

As if that wasn't enough for one week we then held our Community Consultation and Evaluation day on the 12th.

Again, a fantastic turn out with 54 of you attending. What a success!! Just the right balance I think between having a bit of fun and gaining some really valuable insight and information. Many thanks to Helen Rhodes, who, I'm sure you will all agree, did a fantastic job. Wasn't the human bingo fun? For any of you that weren't able to attend but would still like to be involved come and talk to me or Fran and we can make sure your views and comments go forward. Helen is preparing an independent evaluation report for us and once we have it we will, of course, share it with you. Some very interesting ideas came out of it and we are doing our best to look at how we could go forward with them.

The quotes in this newsletter

edition are just a few that came out of the day.

We must also give a big thanks

to **Salty's Fish & Chip Shop** for cooking and delivering our dinner. The fish 'n' chips were gorgeous and made all the better by being shared with friends and eaten outside on a lovely sunny day.

We must definitely do that again. Does anyone fancy starting a fish n chip group??

I would also like to say a great big **Thank You** to Sue and Brenda for all their hard work in the kitchen supplying endless cup of tea and making sure we were all fed and watered.

You may think that that was our week over. Oh no! not that easy, we then held interviews for our new Functional Skills Learning Champion. If you remember we recently appointed Riala, but unfortunately she was unable to stay with us. Anyway I look forward to welcoming Janet Hepplestone to the team. She will be joining us next week so watch this space.....

West End Newsletter

Allotment update

"I lost my confidence. Since coming here I have gained it back....."

"I like coming to the centre, meeting new friends and learning new skills"

We are very busy. The site has changed significantly in the last few weeks. A lot of the construction has been done including the beginnings of an outdoor kitchen! We are now getting into the planting. Veggies here we come!! If anyone wants to come down and help out everyone is welcome! We are on site between 11 and 2 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. text or call Dan on 07562378848 dan.westendcentre@yahoo.co.uk



Building the outdoor kitchen



Look how far the site has come on!
All the wood has been kindly donated by Arnold Laver



Liam and Jonny working hard!

Stars of the month

Our stars of the month this month are.....



Michael Whyte: For setting himself a health goal, making lifestyle changes and sticking with them to achieve a 1st weight loss- well done Michael!

Lorraine Auker: for improving her job seeking skills so much that she has had two job interviews this month- the first time this has happened in 15

years. She has started a volunteering job and had also lost 1 stone in weight. Go Lorraine!

Sharon Nibbs: All Sharon's hard work and perseverance had paid off and she has found full time employment in warehouse administration- Good luck in your new role Sharon.

Liam Pickering- Liam has also found full time employment this month- Well Done Liam!

Jonathan Lees: Nominated by Dan for a star of the month award, Jonathan has been volunteering on our allotment project. He is always enthusiastic, happy to give anything a go, and produces really good work. Thank you for your help in getting the project off the ground Jonathan.

Right Royal Do

Put Saturday June the 11th in your diary as there will be a Right Royal Do!

St Oswalds Church and the West End Centre are working together to put on a Street party in the grounds of the Church to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday.

Why not come along

and bring some food to share with others?

There have already been some fantastic donations for the free raffle and on the day there will be a bouncy castle, apple bobbing, splat the rat and other games. There will also be a pop up art gallery , Live music through the ages,

Children's crafts and much more.

Come along to meet your neighbors and new friends, or feel free to bring family and friends and enjoy a great free day out !



Brenda on Volunteering at the West End Centre...

I Became a volunteer at the West End Centre in November 2015. I had not worked in a long time so was a bit nervous at first, I also didn't think I would like it: until I came and met all the people involved in the centre. Everyone

was so friendly and made me feel so welcome, and I can say the same for anyone who walks through their door.

I cant really explain it but I feel like I have gained a lot from being a volunteer at the West

End and would recommend it to anyone. Wonderful staff, wonderful people and a really great centre!

“ I feel I have gained a lot from being a volunteer at the West End”

Saba writes about her first ever student placement!

The West End Community centre is a small voluntary organisation which prides itself on being a dynamic and diverse organisation which is run by the community for the community. I am a student from Bradford college on a placement for two weeks in the West End Community

centre. I really enjoyed working here. The staff are lovely and so helpful. I learnt so much new from here it was such a great experience. I have met so many new people here and learned something new from them. In these two weeks I gained experience and learnt new

skills. I built my confidence and self esteem. I also developed my communication skills. At the centre they do different activities every day, so many people join these activities and enjoy their self. I really enjoyed being a volunteer in this community centre. I am definitely going to miss everyone.

Thank you so much West End Community centre for giving me so much .



West End Community
Centre

St Oswalds Church
Christopher Street
Little Horton
Bradford
BD5 9DH

Phone: 07539204492

E-mail: fran.westend@outlook.com

www.thewestendcentre.org

“My cooking class and English class made a huge difference in my life”

Birthdays in May

We would like to wish the following a VERY Happy Birthday:

Nancy Mitchell

Flo Franks

Mona Kerr

Syd Napper

Habeeb Hassan

Lorraine Donnelly

Alan Richardson

Julie Burgoyne

John Holloway

Michael Whyte

Gulnaz Bi

Zarah Kakacholia

Michael Hillerby

Trip to Saltaire

The walking group and friends had a fantastic trip out to Saltaire.

It was a glorious sunny day for us. Rat had set us a quiz based around Roberts Park and Saltaire village and we had so much fun trying to find out the answers.

Lunch was had by the Canal then some of us relaxed in the park and watched the world go by and the more energetic of us went off to investigate

the village.

We had a fantastic day but didn't get to see and do everything we wanted so everyone has asked if we can do it again! Well you ask and we deliver so on Thursday 26th of May

we will be having another Saltaire trip. Meet at the Centre at 10 or by Greggs in Bradford Interchange at 10.30. Bring bus fare and a packed lunch. We hope you will join us.

