



# FLASH

Family Liaison Autism Support - Havant



Dear FLASH Families

It was good to see so many of you over the summer. Our trip to Legoland was a great success and really enjoyed by everyone who went. Also, it was great to meet some new faces at this year's BBQ at Riverside School. The swimming at the Taro Centre continues to grow in popularity and you'll see that we've booked another session. This is what we have planned for the coming months:

**COFFEE MORNING Waterloo Community Centre (next to Asda), Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

**9.30am - 11.30am** We have booked a private room and refreshments will be provided.

**COFFEE MORNING AT THE TOY LIBRARY, Mill Hill Children's Centre, Waterloo. Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

**10am - 12pm**

This is a special coffee morning where we will have access to the very well stocked children's toy library. They have a wide range of toys which many of our children would like including sensory toys. As usual, the coffee meeting is free and toys can be borrowed for up to 4 weeks.

**SOCIAL EVENING AT MERCHISTOUN HALL Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm - 9.30pm**

We have booked the lounge bar at Merchistoun Hall, Horndean for a relaxed evening get-together with other FLASH members and look forward to seeing you there.

**TARO CENTRE, PETERSFIELD Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm-7.30pm**

This time we have booked the **whole** of the swimming complex. We will have exclusive use of the main pool, learner pool, leisure pool, large slide, vortex and bubble pool. All of this is for just £5 per family. Please see the attached flyer and return to Helen by Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

**SIBLING ACTIVITY - Laser Shooting (Battlefront Games), Queen Elizabeth Country Park.**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 3pm - 5.30pm** This is the first activity we've done for a while solely for siblings and we are planning more events in the future. If you have ideas of what siblings would like to do, please get in touch with committee members. Please see attached flyer.

**HALLOWEEN PARTY, Riverside School, Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

There'll be dressing up, fun activities, arts and crafts. We'll send out more details nearer the time.

**FASS (FAREHAM AUTISTIC SUPPORT NETWORK) EVENTS**

FASS have invited FLASH members to join in with some of their activities:

**HORIZONE PLAY CENTRE, Havant**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm - 8.00pm**

This costs £3 per child for the first 2 children, then £1.50 per child thereafter - voluntary contribution. Please pay Susie Maddy on the day on arrival.

**A TRIP ON THE WATERCRESS LINE, from Alresford, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 11am to 12.30pm  
(access to carriage from 10.30am)**

This costs £3.50 per seat and for further details contact Susie Maddy on 07900297267.

**SIBLING NIGHT OUT - CINDERELLA AT THE MAYFLOWER THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2009 7pm start - 10pm approx (access to seat from 6.15pm approx)**

This costs £15 per seat and for further details contact Susie Maddy on 07900297267.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Donations from Waitrose**

Waitrose are donating £1,000 per month to nominated charities. Local people fill out a form and nominate the cause they would like to support. Waitrose pick the 3 most popular causes and put them on display. Customers then vote by way of tokens for 1 of the 3 charities they would like to support and the money is divided between the 3 charities according to how many tokens they each get. It would be great if our members could pick up some forms and vote for FLASH and also get family and friends to join in so we could have extra funds to plan more events.

### **Money raised for FLASH from Lions sponsored walk**

We would like to thank Nicola Long and Sharon Lewis for raising over £300 between them for FLASH from the Lions sponsored walk around Langstone Harbour. It is really appreciated and the money raised will go towards some of the activities we've got planned over the next few months.

### **Youth Group, Peel Park, Clanfield. Tuesday 4pm-6pm**

This is aimed at 11-17 years olds to encourage young people to use the facilities at the recreation ground and socially interact with other young people with disabilities. It's aim is inclusion and parents are welcome to stay. It is based outdoors with access to shelter with toilets and refreshments. There'll be more information in the next newsletter but to find out more in the meantime, please contact Catherine Johnson via email at: [Catherine.Johnson@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Johnson@hants.gov.uk).

### **Special Needs Information Day Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Alton College, Old Odiham Road, Alton GU34 2LX, 10am to 3pm. A free event for parents and carers of children and young people with special needs. There are workshops being held throughout the day. For further information contact Parent Partnership Service on 01962 845870  
Email [enquiries.pps@hants.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.pps@hants.gov.uk).

### **Computer programme that may help children and young people to understand facial expressions**

This is called "Emotion Trainer" and is an interactive multimedia computer program designed to teach a person how to recognise and predict emotions in other people. We don't know how effective this sort of programme would be but if you're interested you can find out more at: [www.emotiontrainer.co.uk](http://www.emotiontrainer.co.uk)

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- You are entitled to a radar key which allows you to unlock disabled toilets. This is particularly useful when your children become older. To get one go into the Havant Borough Council offices (near the Havant leisure centre) and ask for one from the reception desk, they cost £4.20. For further information phone (023) 9244 6428.
- You can get an "access card" from the library which entitles you to 2 free DVDs per week and it can be used at any library in the area.