

HEADWAY HULL + EAST RIDING

www.headwayhero.org.uk

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July 2012

It was good to catch up with regional and national Headway news when our Regional Co-ordinator, Rachel McLafferty, joined us for our June meeting. The range of Headway Fact Sheets continues to expand and is recognised by the BMA as providing valuable information on such a wide range of subjects. These are free to read or download from the national website. Any members without internet access can ask their local librarian to show them how to access the information using a library computer. Lesley can also supply printed copies.

SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH UNIT, University of York. "Assessing Outcomes of Integrated Care for Long-term Neurological Conditions". Lesley attended an Advisory Group Meeting for this on-going research project. The findings of the earlier project evaluating the National Service Framework for Long-term Neurological Conditions are still being used by professional bodies.

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HEADWAY DIARY

Wednesday 18 July – Centre 88, Saner Street, Hull – 7pm – 9pm. Rob Awty, one of our members, is also Lead Governor with Humber Mental Health Foundation Trust. He represents the public of Hull in the Governors Assembly. He will come and talk to us about his role and to see if there are any issues he can take forward for us.

No meeting in August

Wednesday 19 September – Hollywood Bowl, Kingswood, Hull. 7pm – 9pm 10 pin bowling.

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Training Day – Are you interested in attending a training day on any of the following? :

Understanding Brain Injury – interactive workshop giving solid foundation knowledge of brain injury and its effects on the survivor and their carers/family.

Challenging Behaviour – Challenging behaviour has a huge impact on those working and caring for people with brain injury. This workshop will allow you to develop efficient recording and reporting measures to identify ways to manage the behaviours. De-escalation techniques will be covered to enable you to utilise methods to reduce challenging behaviour.

Cognitive rehabilitation issues – looking at the process of cognitive rehabilitation and how to practically implement with brain injury survivors. It looks at the factors surrounding the rehabilitation process and you will come away with practical ways to overcome these.

Sex and sexuality after brain injury - Sexual and relationship problems are frequently reported following acquired brain injury and research suggests that not all of it is due to organic damage. The workshop looks in a practical way at the view that sexual and relationship education and therapy should be an essential part of brain injury rehabilitation and how it can be included in programmes.

Ed will tailor the day to suit members with brain injury, family members and carers. Please let Lesley have some indication of which subject you think most useful. There is a huge demand for these days so we may have to wait some time to be included in his busy schedule.

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HEADWAY UK – www.headway.org.uk

The Way Ahead Annual Conference weekend took place at East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham University Campus from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th July. Andy, David and Lesley attended.

Ceri Bowen, consultant Clinical Psychologist, talked about Relationships after Brain Injury. (Ceri was a member of the Advisory Panel for the SPRU research at University of York).

There was a brilliant presentation by **Ian Jordan, Specialist Optician**, “Management of visual processing problems in neuro-rehabilitation”. Absolutely fascinating. A young lad, unable to speak in normal light, became quite articulate when a blue light was shone on him. Many examples of how special spectacles can improve balance, dyslexia, dyspraxia etc.

Canine Partners demonstration showed how specially trained dogs can assist people with disabilities.

Brainy Dogs – Headway Ipswich and East Suffolk. Here they have worked with prisoners from the local open prison to train dogs to assist people with brain injury and other disabilities, Not only has this initiative helped a number of members gain more independence but it has also resulted in several of the prisoners continuing to help even after they are released from prison.

Workshops – I wanted to go to most of them but had to be content with two. Cognitive communication difficulties following ABI and Positive behaviour management, Andy and David attended the Employment and Support Allowance workshop – what a minefield.

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At the Way Ahead Weekend we were once again encouraged to bring the following to your notice:

Headway Awards 2012

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for the work they do for Headway? Anyone involved in Headway’s work is welcome to make a nomination.

Categories are:

Carer of the Year Award – may be a friend, relative, neighbour or family member.

Volunteer of the Year Award – this award recognises individuals who have donated significant amounts of their time to Headway.

Achiever of the Year Award – celebrating the courage of brain injury survivors whose achievements in the face of adversity serve as a shining example to us all.

Campaigner of the Year Award – This award can be for carers, volunteers or brain injury survivors who have raised awareness of Headway and brain injury among the press, public or key decision makers.

Stephen McAleese Outstanding Contribution to Headway Award – Stephen, who sadly passed away in December 2010, was 15 when he sustained a brain injury as a result of contracting meningitis. He dedicated his life to promoting understanding of brain injury and helping others. He was a passionate and effective ambassador for Headway. This award will recognise similar outstanding contributions to the work of Headway made by survivors, carers, volunteers or supporters.

There is a nomination form on the Headway website www.headway.org.uk

Nominations should arrive no later than Friday 10 August.

Send to: Rachel Broughton, Headway Awards 2012, Headway – the brain injury association, Bradbury House, 190 Bagnall Road, Old Basford, Nottingham, NG6 8SF.

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