



Headway Monthly Bulletin

Issue 11

April 2010

Leicestershire Leicester and Rutland Headway
Providing support for people with brain injuries

Marietta and Andy's Photo Album Part 1



Paws for thought!



Did it mention a river on the map?



Back on track!

Headway's Monthly Bulletins may also be viewed on our Website
www.headwayleicester.org.uk

It could be Yoooooou...

By Alison Leight, Fundraiser

Well, they do say "the best things come to those who wait", we waited, and waited, and finally, we got the news – The Big Lottery Fund has awarded us £146 thousand pounds!! The money can only be used to fund woodwork, but it means the department is safe for at least another five years. Hurrah!

The story was in the Leicester Mercury on the

16 March, and Mary was interviewed on Oak FM radio, in Loughborough. We want to 'officially' celebrate the award with a little soiree here at Headway House sometime in early April, so we're hoping to get in the papers again – maybe even on television too.

We have also had donations from Rutland

Inner Wheel Club (a ladies version of the Rotary Club), Blaby and District Lions Club, Market Harborough and The Bowdens Charity, and another charity that prefers to stay anonymous gave us £20,000. At last! all this staring at computers is starting to pay off. Thanks to everyone who's helped us with the funding applications, lets hope that this is just the beginning...



Marietta and Andy go Dutch

By Alison Leight, Fundraiser

It is Brain Injury Awareness Week from 17th – 23rd May this year. To mark the occasion, and to celebrate Headway House's 20th Anniversary, Day Centre Manager, Marietta Sharp and her husband Andy will be taking on a sponsored cycling challenge. It will be Marietta's own 20th year with Headway, so she wanted to celebrate that anniversary too. It won't be just any old sponsored cycle ride – she will be cycling down the 'backbone' of Holland from Amsterdam to Eindhoven, and the challenge is to cover 100

kilometres in one day on May 19th. That's IN ONE DAY! At the moment, we're busy finding sponsors to pay for the train journeys, kit, accommodation etc. If you would like to sponsor Marietta, there will be sponsorship forms for you to complete on the noticeboards at Headway House very soon. We are also setting up a 'Just Giving' fundraising page, and you will be able to follow her journey on Facebook and Twitter. In the meantime, if you would like to sponsor Marietta you can contact her at Headway Leicester,

telephone 0116 2739763. We are aiming to raise enough money (over £1,000), to cover the cost of running art and craft workshops after a community grant we were getting recently ran out. Marietta says she's always wanted to complete a cycling challenge and is looking forward to seeing Holland. She has been training in all weathers – the pictures are of her in Derbyshire in the depths of Winter, so a brisk Dutch breeze won't present any major problems!

P.A.T. on the back for Jacob

Jacob Peatfield-Straw lives in Markfield and is a member of the Pets as Therapy (PAT) junior club. He visits Headway in Leicester with his mum and PAT dog, Fidget, a 3 year old lurcher. Headway offer a range of services to people with brain injuries or illnesses and those close to them.

Jacob helped on the Pets as Therapy stand at Crufts 2010, raising money and awareness of the charity.

At Crufts, he was awarded the PAFTA Award for 2009 for the 9-13 age group. PAFTA means Pets as Therapy Award for Outstanding Achievement.

During 2009 as well as visiting Headway Leicester, Jacob did a talk to his year at school, made a special visit to a nursery for 0-4 year olds, helped at Crufts and did numerous fundraising events. He has been a



very busy young man! Who knows what he will be doing this year? For details of the charity, visit www.petsastherapy.org.uk
Judi Peatfield (Ms)

ACTION FOR BRAIN INJURY WEEK 2010

17-23 MAY

Happy Birthday Headway!



This year is the 20th anniversary of the opening of Headway House. It actually opened in September 1990, but we want to spend the whole year celebrating! We are creating a 'shopping list' of 20 items from £20 to £20,000 to raise money for, so please let our Fundraiser, Alison Leight, know if you have any ideas for things we need. Also, if you've got any ideas for special slogans to help promote our birthday, ideas for events, or people and businesses that may want to support us. All of your ideas are most welcome!

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To all my friends at Headway

By Pat Martin, Day Centre Worker

As there is no way I can say "farewell" to you all individually (at least without being overcome!), I thought an open article would do the job!

I wanted to say how much I have enjoyed my years at Headway, how much I have learned from members, staff and volunteers - THANK YOU. I am going to miss all of you but am looking forward to retirement,

more hols in the caravan and more time with Paul.

Good luck, health and happiness to everyone and special thanks to those on "my" days who have tolerated the moaning and "grumps" with such good humour.

Lastly, for those of you who knew her, a quiet thought about Sylvia, to whom we owe so much.

Love to you all. Pat."



Pat at Rutland Water

Moving on

By Surinder Attwal

Before the doctors discovered I had a brain tumour my life was mainly my family and work, my two daughters and young son. Life was very busy and happy. Then the brain tumour was removed. Everything happened so fast. I was left feeling very fragile and vulnerable. Having only my daughters and son to rely on; they looked after me with the help of the doctors and my sister. All this was very emotional. Then after six weeks of radiotherapy and counselling my GP said I should go to Headway. She explained a little as to what it was. Then a few days later Julie, my outreach worker from Headway came to see me and the family, first we were reluctant, then she explained how it would benefit

all of us; this persuaded my daughters.

Then I attended Headway House where I have been given many opportunities to do things which I would not otherwise have done, such as mosaics, woodwork which I had only done at school. Everything in the woodwork room was daunting but Maryanne put up with me and showed me how I should do things. Even the lathe was alright when she showed me. I would like to thank her for her calmness and patience which she showed towards me. I managed to finish a few things.

Headway has really pushed me along into the normal world. All the staff and volunteers are very remarkable people. With the help of Headway House and

every one there including Julie, I feel I have come a long way in my journey. Thank you for helping me back to the real world.



Do you need help after an accident?

The firms of solicitors on this short list are all members of the Law Society's Accident Line Scheme and have solicitors approved by the Society's Personal Injury Panel.

Osborne Morris & Morgan
Solicitors & Neurolawyers
Danbury House
West Street
Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire LU7 7DD
Tel 01525 378177
Fax 01525 851006
Contact Eric Morris

Harvey Ingram LLP
Solicitors
20 New Walk
Leicester LE1 6TX
Tel 0116 2545454
Fax 0116 2554559
Contact Robert Rose

Nelsons Solicitors LLP
Solicitors
Provincial House
37 New Walk
Leicester LE1 6TU
Tel 0116 2226666
Fax 0116 2337822
Contact Chris McKinney

Freeth Cartwright
Solicitors
108-110 New Walk
Leicester
LE1 7EA
Tel 0116 2014000
Fax 0116 2014002
Contact Jane T Williams

Please note that Leicestershire Leicester and Rutland Headway does not recommend any particular solicitor but is pleased to have the generous support of these four firms.

A special thank you
goes to
Tindy Chaggar
(who left in 2007) for
all the craft materials
she has donated to
Headway Leicester.
We wish Tindy good
luck in all her new
ventures including her
work with
"Radio Fox".