

# Headway Monthly Bulletin



Issue 8

January 2010

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

Happy  
New Year



*We will be celebrating 2010, our 20th Anniversary year, by launching the "Harmony Project". This will include counselling for carers and life skills training for our service users— all with the aim of helping families cope after ABI. It's early days yet, but we will keep you informed of how the project's going.*

Headway's Monthly Bulletins may also be viewed on our Website  
[www.headwayleicester.org.uk](http://www.headwayleicester.org.uk)

## Fundraising Fun

Alison Leight, Fundraiser

Christmas? It seems only minutes since we were reporting on the Summer Social. This year's Christmas party was a huge success, over 100 people joined in, and we raised just over £300 in the process, not bad considering it wasn't strictly a fundraising event. (Talking of Strictly, personally, I think Ricky was **ROBBED!**).

The food was excellent with the usual eclectic mix of dishes that appears like magic whenever we have an event – thanks to everyone who made things, bought things and scrounged things, your efforts are much appreciated. Thanks too to Greggs and M & S who gave us vouchers to buy some little luxuries. The disco was a popular choice, and the DJs enjoyed themselves so

much, they've volunteered to do some events for us in the future – something they may well come to regret when they see just how many we've got planned for next year! Thanks loads to Dawn from Outreach for finding them for us. There were a couple of complaints about the loud music, but we couldn't hear them, and it was good to see everyone getting down with the festive groove – especially James, who towered above us all! Maryanne provided us with the quiz, that got everyone into the festive spirit, and tops marks went to Andy's table for getting every question right. They went away with a huge tin of sweets, and of course the kudos that goes with



**Jasdeep, Maryanne, Mary and James on the dance floor**

winning one of our legendary quizzes! We must also thank the Mayflower Methodists who let us use their hall, and all those lovely little cake stands every year for free. Everyone had a smashing time – we look forward to seeing you all again in Summer.

## Pantomime Time for Outreach

My name is Phillip, I have been a member at Headway for seven months and I am thoroughly enjoying it. I went to the Peepul Centre to watch the pantomime, Aladdin. I thought it was fantastic, there was not a best part in the show as I enjoyed it all. I had the best seat in the theatre as I was at the front row and I would recommend Aladdin to all ages.



**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 your ideas are most welcome!

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**Moving On**

By Jacqui Barnes

I started working at Headway on 17 November 2003. I can remember having a look around prior to interview and feeling strongly that it had an amazing warm atmosphere. I knew I wanted to be part of Headway immediately. So I was thrilled to get the job. My passion for Headway has never waned. Some of you I have known since that first day.

Along with working 3 days at Headway for the last 6 years, I have also been in Private Practice as a Counsellor for the last 15 years. After breaking my ankle in the summer I had time to ponder and came to the realisation that I could no longer do both roles, as each had grown too big. So I

made the very difficult decision to leave Headway.

I have enjoyed my time at Headway working with you all. I think we have built up a store of positive memories and shared much laughter. I want to thank you all for the wonderful experiences we have had and wish you many bright, positive moments in your future. For those of you who will be moving on, like me in the future... see it as an indicator of how far you have travelled during your time with Headway and embrace the change. Although I will no longer be working at Headway, I will pop in from time to time to have a coffee and a chat.

I also want to take this

opportunity to warmly welcome Lisa Douthwaite who will take on the Assistant Day Centre Manager role with Volunteers' responsibility and Christine Gale who will take on the Assistant Day Centre Manager role with Education responsibility. Both of whom are committed, warm people and they will be a huge asset to Headway.

My last working day at Headway will be Thursday, 14 January 2010. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year. Very warm regards,



**Fire Safety at Headway**

Whilst enjoying the Christmas festivities, here at Headway we have stopped to think about fire safety. Officers from the Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service (LFRS) very kindly came along to Headway to speak to members, staff and volunteers about fire safety in the home. The LFRS also offer a free home safety check which is tailored to your home and needs. This service involves a

Community Safety Officer visiting your home and providing advice about



fire protection and carrying out smoke alarm checks and I am pleased

to say a few of you did sign up for this. Here are some quotes from people saying what they thought about the talk. *'informative, useful information. It was basic and simple to understand'*. Jayne, member. *'Really interesting, good advice and it held my attention'*, Panisha, member. *'Sometimes you think you know about these things but it's good to be reminded, very informative'*, Holly, volunteer.

**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

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

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

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.

**LL&R Headway On the Web**

Don't forget to check out our website at [www.headwayleicester.org.uk](http://www.headwayleicester.org.uk). It has links with other useful organisations. We have a 'forum' so people can stay in touch, ask questions and chat about their interests and experiences. We hope these bulletins are helping to keep you informed about current information. Let us know what you think and all ideas are most welcome!