



# Headway Monthly Bulletin



Issue 7

December 2009

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

## Christmas Party



Thursday  
10 December  
6.30 to 9.00 pm

Mayflower  
Church Hall  
Mayflower Road  
Leicester

PLEASE BUY YOUR  
TICKETS NOW!

£2.50  
(Children and  
volunteers free)

If you require any  
further information  
or directions,  
please contact  
Headway on  
0116 2739763

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

## Hot off the Press

By Julie Page, Outreach Worker

We have just heard that the theme for next year's Action for Brain Injury Week will focus on the information given by accident and emergency departments to those who have had a minor brain injury.

This is of particular interest to me, as part of my job is to visit patients and families at the Leicester General Hospital's brain injury



*Julie, preparing for ABI Week*

## **ACTION FOR BRAIN INJURY WEEK 2010**

17-23 MAY

unit. If people are admitted to the brain injury unit, then they can easily be referred to Headway, and we can offer the person and their families lots of support, advice and information.

However, it could be that a person is admitted to accident and emergency, thought to have a minor brain injury and then discharged home. We might not have the opportunity to see this person and they could feel isolated and worried about their symptoms.

I did visit a consultant at the Leicester Royal Infirmary's, accident and emergency department, and we discussed this very situation. He hoped that staff would give patients the Headway contact telephone number and leaflet as part of the discharge procedure, and we hope this is being done so we can reach all people, with either minor or serious brain injuries.

As we get more information about Brain Injury week, we will keep you informed!

## Fundraising News

Alison Leight, Fundraiser

Well, it seems that staring into my computer all day is starting to pay off — we've had over £6,000 in donations in the last three weeks. Hurrah! And a massive Thank You!

Last month, I was clogging up the post system with two huge mailings (and you thought it was the postal strike!), one asking people to adopt us their Charity of the Year, and the other offering to give talks and presentations to promote our anniversary. I'm hoping to be kept very busy next year.

Mary and I recently 'guested' on Radio Gwendolen at the General Hospital, to promote

Headway. Mary is clearly an old hand at this broadcasting stuff whilst I, er, need a bit more practise! Thanks to Dave Angell for inviting us, and here's hoping I shall have a bit more to say next time!

Following on from Julie about Action for Brain Injury Week — the fundraising focus will again be 'Hats for Headway', encouraging people to pay money and wear daft hats for a day, so we'll be approaching lots of local businesses, schools and community groups to get involved. I'm planning my outfit as we speak!



*Volunteer, Gill, supporting 'Hats for Headway' 2009*



### Happy Birthday Headway!



Next 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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### A new post for Vrush

Hi it's Vrush again. I'm just letting everyone know that you may have noticed that Colin Power has not been in for a while; this is because he has finished working at Headway. I have taken his place and will be working as Headway's Pathways Programme Tutor. I will be at Headway on

different days during the week to help members to find opportunities outside of Headway House within the community. I also volunteer at Headway House 2 days a week and hope you recognise me without the tinsel!

**Vrush Lakhani**



*Vrush is pleased he doesn't have to work in the grotto anymore!*

### Volunteering at Headway

I'm Charlotte and I'm a second year psychology student at De Montfort University. I'm Jodie, and I'm studying a level three course in Humanities and Social Sciences at Leicester College; my future aim is to go to university and qualify as a social worker.

We both volunteer at Headway every



*Andy, Phillip, Charlotte and Jodie working out the score for "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious"*

Monday. We enjoy working with all the members, helping them to achieve their targets and goals. As well as helping the members we have also learnt new skills, for example, silk painting and mosaics. All the staff are very friendly and helpful. We would like to thank them for making us feel welcome here at Headway!

### 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 Headway has launched its new website at [www.headwayleicester.org.uk](http://www.headwayleicester.org.uk) It is being updated and links with other useful organisations are being added. We have included a 'forum' so people can stay in touch, ask questions and chat about their interests and experiences. We hope these bulletins helping to keep you informed about current information. Let us know what you think and all ideas are most welcome!