

Sam Allardyce opens Blackburn service



On Thursday 14th January, Sam Allardyce, Manager of Blackburn Rovers, formally opened Creative Support's Social Inclusion Service for Blackburn and Darwen, funded by Blackburn with Darwen Council. There was a good turnout of service users and representatives from our partner organisations and great excitement about Sam's participation. He was asked for many autographs and posed for photo after photo. All those who attended the opening were further impressed by the exhibition of service users' artworks and also enjoyed the delicious

buffet laid on. Sam and Blackburn Rovers' Commercial Manager, Ken Beamish, also a former player, were impressed with how the service had developed, the dedication of the team and the important support they were providing and the active involvement of the service users.

Meet and Greet at Parr Mount Court

On January 14th Creative Support organised a 'Meet and Greet' event at Parr Mount Court in St Helens. This service is an extra care service for older people. Food was provided and tenants had the chance to get to know Creative Support staff members and ask any questions they might have. The event was a success and was very well attended.



Creative Support Calendar 2010

The fabulous Creative Support 2010 Calendar is out! If you, your project, service users, families or contacts would like any, please email alannah.gale@creativesupport.co.uk with the details of your project and how many calendars you would like. This is a great promotional tool so do take advantage of it!



We also encourage you to send in copies of service user artwork and creative writing for the website and other promotional materials to alison.white@creativesupport.co.uk

New Services recently launched or in development

Oldham

Supported Accommodation for vulnerable adults in partnership with Great Places Housing Association

Tameside

Re-awarded Mental Health contract

St Helens

Extra Care service for older people in partnership with Helena Housing

Leeds

Independent Living for older people with mental health needs

New Starter at Head Office

Karen Leatham is our new Supported Housing Officer. She will be responsible for our North East caseload of services. Karen was originally based in our Tameside projects and has moved over to Head Office so some of you may already know her.

new

Freecycle it!

Freecycle is a worldwide network of people across the globe giving and getting things - absolutely free! The way it works is very simple:

- Visit the Freecycle UK website: www.uk.freecycle.org
- Sign up to the Freecycle group in your area
- Check out what groups are giving away in your area
- Contact them

You could end up with a new TV, a Wii console or sofa for nothing. It's a great opportunity to give away unwanted Christmas presents or clutter and feel good in knowledge that someone else is benefitting from it.

DVD Camera for Hire

Creative Support would like to remind everyone that we have a free DVD Camera for service users to borrow. Please contact reception at Head Office on 0161 236 0829 if you would like to borrow it. The DVD



Camera could be used by service users to make a film or to document an important event such as a birthday party. It's a professional piece of kit and we are keen to make the most of it!