

# newsletter

July 2011



Photos from Creative Support Football Tournament 2011

## Football Tournament 2011

What a great day! On Saturday 2nd July hundreds of service users and staff teamed up and took part in this year's football tournament. The sun shone and everyone had fun playing games of footy and taking part in the raffle to win lots of fantastic prizes but only one team could win that all important top prize, the Creative Support cup! **Congratulations to Stockport United** who won this year's tournament and the runners-up - **Ulvserston Ultra Lites** in second place. The Trustees came in third, winning the Creative Support plate, and the plate runners-up were Parkers Passers.

*I really enjoyed the tournament this year, it just keeps on getting better!*

Stuart, service user

We also had a new Creative Support mascot this year, a panda who was named **Raffa** by team Alexican who won the name raffle. Raffa enjoyed his first event and certainly wasn't shy as he posed with everyone for photo after photo.



Raffa and team Alexican

## Leeds Older People Friendship Group



Every month Service users in Leeds take part in a Friendship Group. During a recent session a team from The Feel Good Factor centre attended to offer light exercise and relaxation techniques as well as information about new health checks for older people in the Leeds area.

*I really enjoy the Friendship Group and taking part in the relaxation techniques has helped me loosen my muscles. I feel great!*

Katrina

For more information please contact **Jonathon Trepczyk** on 01132 379625 .



## Safeguarding Month

Creative Support has made July Safeguarding Month to raise awareness and understanding of the issues, promote best practice and strengthen everyone's commitment to take action against abuse. Look out for our **special edition newsletter - Ensuring Everyone's Safe** and our regional safeguarding conferences.

## "Thank you!"

**Carol Baker**, a former Purchasing Officer who recently retired after **11 year's service** with the company has kindly written to say thank you to everyone for their support and for a fantastic leaving-do at head office. Lots of people came to say their goodbyes and enjoyed themselves as they partied into the evening, there was an amazing buffet, drinks and lots of tasty cakes.



Carol has now moved away to enjoy her retirement on the lovely island of Anglesey in Wales.

*"Thank you for the great send-off and for all your support and kindness, I could not thank you enough! I will cherish the memories as I enjoy my new life in Anglesey"*

Carol Baker



## The job's yours!



**Congratulations** to Ginette, a service user from Newbury who recently started a new job at a Travelodge as Receptionist. Ginette saw the ad for the job but wasn't sure if she would get through. After an enthusiastic response from her support workers she applied, was invited for an interview and got the job.



*I am so happy about my new job! I am settling in well and will also continue to do voluntary work, attending support campaigns as a Training Advisor in my spare time.*  
Ginette

## What Does Quality Mean to You? An event held by the Board of Trustees



On **16th June** Creative Support's Board of Trustees organised an informal lunch and held an event for service users to share their ideas and suggestions on how the quality of services could be improved. There was a presentation by Pauline Ambrey, a Trustee and Chair of the Quality Sub-Committee, and Donna Francis, a new Service Director, who together introduced the event and did a presentation on maintaining and improving the quality of services. After the presentation members of the Board sat with groups of service users and listened to what they had to say. It was a fantastic event



and one that really gave service users the opportunity to share their ideas and suggest how they thought services could be improved.

*I really enjoyed this event! I thought it was a great way for me and other service users to speak about services that could be improved, and to mention the benefits of the services we also enjoy.*

Sarah, service user

## Keith and Mike will fix it!



Thanks to Keith Hallam and Mike Glaister, **Creative Support's electricians** who recently took on a challenging job to fit a new vent the roof at head office. The vent was fitted above the post room to increase the circulation of fresh air. Staff are now able to work in the room in a 'cooler' environment.



Keith and Mike, our electricians who go above and beyond!

## New contracts

### Darlington

Floating support service for people with physical and sensory disabilities

### Hartlepool

Choices for Life is a new service model designed to maximise wellbeing and inclusion for people with mental health needs

### North Tyneside

Supported living for 4 adults with learning disabilities

### Frameworks

Providing support to people with learning disabilities in the Bradford area



## Manchester Pride 2011!

For the 2nd year, Creative support is joining the Manchester Pride parade on **Saturday 27th August**, bank holiday weekend. **Want to get involved?!** For more information contact **Suzanne Morton** at head office on **0161 236 0829**.

## The Great Swims!

Seven of our adventurous staff recently took on the challenge of swimming an open water mile in The Great Swims. Well done to Colette Leigh who conquered the Salford Swim and raised an amazing **£260** for MacMillan Cancer Support.

*Just a few words to describe my swim - cold, exhausting, finishing last and very much worthwhile! Thanks to everyone who supported me!*

Colette Leigh

A pat on the back also goes to **The Four Marketeers** - Alison White, Alannah Gale (former employee), Harriet Knowles and Suzanne Morton, who took part in the Great North Swim in Windermere. Last but very much not least, respect to **Claire Lumb** and **Joe Hughes** who achieved an incredible double doing - The Manchester Run and The Great Swim. Everyone helped raise an impressive **£1208** for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

*We want to thank everyone who supported us, we both struggled to finish the swim, it was the thought of everyone who sponsored us that kept us going!*

Claire and Joe



*The water was a balmy 16°C and our intrepid swimmers all completed the course in around an hour. It was hard going, especially once you got past the half mile mark, but we all feel really proud of what we have achieved.*

The Four Marketeers