

CHANGE IN VENUE FOR AGM

The KASBAH AGM is now being held on Wednesday 4th October 2017 at 11am and will be on the Kentish Lady boat. The business side of the AGM will last 30 minutes with tea and coffee being served, before departing on a one hour boat ride through the River Medway.

Please note the toilets onboard are fairly narrow. The paperwork for this meeting will be provided online at www.kasbah.org.uk as of 21st August 2017.



http://www.kentishlady.co.uk/boat_excursions/

When reflecting upon the events, challenges and successes of the past year it's with the comforting knowledge that



everyone at KASBAH experiences them together, as a family.

It is as a family that with great sadness we must now join together and mourn the loss of Jon Juniper. Jon joined DIAL as a volunteer in October 2013 and it was immediately very clear that he had

the passion, drive and determination to give his all to help others. Jon immersed himself in benefit rules, case law and precedent in order to achieve the best possible results for his clients. In April 2015 Jon took on a paid position, continuing to challenge the decisions of the DWP and cementing his role as a much loved and respected member of the local community. He was held in the highest regard by those he worked with and was always prepared to support his colleagues with the same level of passion that he gave to his clients.

Discussions with Jon were always long, comprehensive and littered with humour. They could also be direct and to the point. This was something that he was very conscious of and if, in the course of those conversations, he felt that he had caused offence he would always go out of his way to put things right. Jon was a man of great conviction and, although he was suffering from ill health, he was still determined to continue to help others. His death was sudden and came as a great shock to all who knew him. It has left a large vacuum at the heart of KASBAH, a painful reminder of what we have lost.

Thank you Jon, Your KASBAH family.

A message from Emma...

Hi from me,

Hi Everyone,

We are all enjoying the lovely weather here at KASBAH and arranging summer outings and trips, if you have a good resource in your area we would love to hear about it. We would also like to encourage KASBAH members to contribute more to the newsletter so if you are interested in sharing your thoughts and views, becoming a KASBAH blogger or investigating local news please do let us know. As you are all aware we ceased printing the newsletter in December but the feedback we have received is that it is discouraging people to take the time to read our news therefore we will be sending out printed copies again going forward and producing the newsletter once a quarter as opposed to every other month to help minimise printing costs. Give us a call if we can help in any way.

Best Wishes, Emma.



Volunteers Lunch



On Friday 9th June KASBAH and the volunteers went for lunch at Browns to celebrate National Volunteers Week. It was lovely for all the volunteers to get together and to show them how thankful KASBAH are for all their dedication and support!

News from the Advisor Service

Karen Heath - KASBAH Advisor & Carers Development Manager
Email kheath@kasbah.org.uk Office: 01474 536 202

Hi Everyone, it has been another busy period offering specialist advice, support and guidance to our members. In addition I have advocated within professional meetings and school reviews. I would like to say a big thank you to our volunteers who KASBAH depend on to enhance the services we provide. During Volunteer's week, KASBAH invited all our volunteers to a thank you lunch, a great time was had by all. During Carers Week 12th-18th June myself and Lauren attended two carer events; one for young adult carers the other with the Ellenor Lions Hospice. We value and support our carers as much as we do our members. Kind regards, Karen Heath



A Big Hello To Lauren!

Hi all, my name is Lauren. I will be taking over the position as office apprentice as Christie is off to university in September! I'm very excited to start, learn new skills and meet new people. I'm very chatty so do come up and say hi if you see me! Hope to meet you all soon!



Goodbye Scott!

A message for Scott written by Emily on behalf of all at Maddison House—

We just want to say a massive thank you to Scott for looking after us and all he has done. We have had a great time going on different trips and doing different activities. We hope you enjoy your time at Gingerbread House. We are going

to miss you and are sad to see you go. Love all the guys at Maddison House.

News from KASBAH Services.

Rochester Road- A Tribute to our Taylor—Taylor was more



than just a cat, she was more like a family member to each of us. Taylor was loved by everyone who met her, she even converted dog lovers. Taylor helped the trainees at Rochester road learn responsibility of looking after a pet, she gave them independence and they took on different roles of her care.



Nicola enjoyed the task of feeding her every morning, whilst Michael, Karen and Abi took it

in turns to clean out her litter tray. Taylor is missed very much by all the trainees and staff at Rochester Road. Rochester Road also spent one Wednesday for social skills, visiting the Fenn Bell Inn and Allhallows.



Maddison House- Hello to everyone from Maddison House! We are enjoying

the start of Summer and have had lots of things going on that have kept us busy. In early June, Dan went on a

Tallships trip where he travelled from Poole to Canary Wharf, the Tallships project was/is funded by Barclays for those who aren't always in a position to self-fund a boat trip. Barclays organised a 'Welcome Home' event where we



turned up to surprise Dan, we got to look around the boat and enjoyed a buffet provided. During this month the residents (and SBH trainees) were supported to take part in an election talk where easy-read manifestos were looked at to explore choice on who to vote for (or whether to vote at all). The majority of the folks chose to vote and the talk turned out to be insightful for all those involved. We went to Broadstairs beach on 9th June, however the weather was very much on and off which wasn't ideal, although a good time was had by all and we look to get back down to the beach very soon. A huge thank you from all of us goes to Mr & Mrs McDermott who generously covered our travel expenses for our trip. Other bits we have been up to include Gravity for Natalie's birthday, a monthly Bingo trip (where unfortunately we had no winners) and anniversary celebrations for our Maddison House couple, Tom and Danielle, who have now been together for three years!



Gingerbread House-

Katy and Katie have both had a very fun couple of months. The main thing for June was their amazing holiday to Clacton on sea. They stayed in a lovely holiday park called St Osyth's, the trainees enjoyed some lovely activities like swimming, trip to the pier for the day, Colchester zoo and many more fun outings. It was an amazing fun filled time and great for staff to see them enjoying themselves. Gingerbread House has recently had a new bright and bold bathroom fitted that is more suitable for the trainees needs. Both ladies are progressing well at Gingerbread House and constantly achieving their set goals and targets which is great to see. Both staff team and parents are very proud of them.



Short Breaks—

Our next play scheme will be taking place on Tuesday, 1st, Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd August; Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th August; Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th August. Any young person between the ages of 8 and 18 who is interested please get in touch with Rachel Bowman on the number below. To be held in the Parkwood Youth Centre, Parkwood shopping centre, Rainham. We have lots of activities planned including workshops such as an animal workshop; circus workshop; percussion instrument workshop to name a few as well as trips out. At our session in May we had Catherine Wilson coming along to do arts and crafts with the young people and in June we had an animal workshop which the young people loved. They had a chance of a 'hands on' experience with lots of small animals and reptiles. The young people always enjoy the freshly cooked lunch and we encourage them to 'give us a hand' in the kitchen too to learn valuable life skills. We are planning a trip to the seaside at the beginning of September. The young people and staff always much enjoy this trip, particularly as we can look forward to the fish and chip lunch! **Our sessions run on the fourth Saturday of the month at the Millennium Hall, Rainham from 11am to 2pm. Forthcoming sessions will run on the 26th August and 23rd September. For further information contact Dean Bowman at shortbreaks@kasbah.org.uk**

Hattie Webb House-

So here at HWH we have been very busy... Myself and Emma have been to see Ed Sheeran and it was truly incredible! We now have a new resident Thomas we all get on so well. We've had a couple of BBQ's now at the weekends it's been simply fantastic. We are now finally having our fire system put back in as well as having the new doors fitted and having Emma's room plaster boarded... We all can't wait for it too be done the noise is horrendous! On a positive note it's been wonderful to see Emma Carver she always makes us laugh. **Written by the resident Daisy Louise Crimmins**

Seabrooke House- The service users have been looking at holiday's for this year, and after some research and planning they have decided to book a caravan holiday at Great Yarmouth, they are all getting very excited. SBH hosted a BBQ as the weather was so nice, they invited all the KASBAH services along to join in, a great time was had by all, some of the service users even had a dip in the pool to cool off. Training sessions take place on a Thursday every week for the service users at SBH, we now have integrated the service users from Maddison House so that they can refresh their skills. Areas that have recently been covered are: Aspirations, role models, self-awareness and personal safety. We have also been working on respect and friendships as a group, which helps with day to day living in a shared environment. The service users continue to volunteer with staff support at our KASBAH charity shop, they really enjoy the partnership working with staff and learn new skills too. Staff supported all service users that were given the choice to vote in the general election 2017, we prepared them by fining easy read manifestoes and guiding them through what voting means and the process, all that voted were very proud that they did.



Seabrooke House Day Service-

Made up several Armed Forces boxes to send out the acting soldiers they included letters in with their items, the hand chose all kinds of items to send by following a list of what is permitted. Day service have also been making some very yummy meals, all from scratch and utilising their skills that they have learnt, and of course learning new ones, kitchen safety, budgeting, numeracy, literacy, food hygiene and much more. For further information on our services or to come and visit us at SBH please contact Dawn Varley, House Co-ordinator 01322 386841 or Email—

dvarley@kasbah.org.uk



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Solace Café



The Solace Café in Tonbridge is a new initiative for people who are at risk of developing a mental health crisis and are in need of support and social contact. The café provides a safe and non-judgemental environment for people to meet others with similar problems, and to access mental health support and advice from peers and professionals.

The Solace Café in Tonbridge is open on Thursday and Saturday evenings, from 5pm – 9pm (last entry 8:45pm).



You can contact us by calling 01732 356630 or 07436 102171 during café opening hours, 01732

744950 during office hours, emailing solacecafe@westkentmind.org.uk

G. Beatz

The Factory Bar, Priestfield Stadium, Redfern Avenue, Gillingham, Kent ME7 4DD
Tel: 07840 120586 Email: Crew@GBeatzNightclub.co.uk

Welcome to Cobbes Meadow.

Cobbes Meadow is an independent charity and a member of The Riding for the Disabled Association and is run entirely by volunteers and funded by donations. We provide horse riding and carriage driving opportunities for children and adults with various forms of learning disabilities as well as physical disabilities, with the expert guidance of our volunteers and qualified instructors. If you would like to learn more about us and what we can offer you, please contact our Riding coordinator on 01227 700495 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

Stay in touch... Remember the staff at KASBAH are here to support you. We can be contacted at our main office at **7 The Hive, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9DE**

- by phone on 01474 536501 or email officeadmin@kasbah.org.uk

Or if you have any suggestions or comments for up and coming newsletters, please do let us know.

Newsletters are edited by Christie Hunt and Lauren Gee