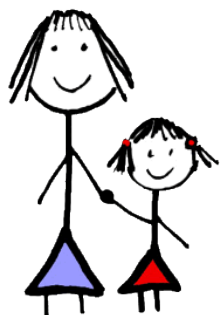


August 2017



Dear Friends



I begin this newsletter by letting everyone know about the very disappointing turn out of people for the family fun day at Stonelodge Academy. A lot of time and effort went in to organising the event for the many younger parents who contact us for support but a mere handful turned out. I find this very strange when people are crying out for support but when it's offered no one turns up. I am not quite sure what people are asking us to provide. If you have any idea or suggestions do please let us know and we can hopefully act upon it. We are here to listen to you. Thank you to Stonelodge Academy for accommodating us and to the caretaker who helped us on the day.



The disappointment of the fun day leads me to say that I sent out a questionnaire asking people just what they want. To date I have had nothing back. We want your suggestions, ideas, requests, anything just contact us.



A huge thank you to the Rotary Club of Ipswich for doing the annual BBQ at Rushmere Hub. Again this was disappointing around 60 people instead of the normal 150 plus. Quite embarrassing when people are kind enough to do things and no one turns up.

The support is needed or all of this will be lost for good.



Thank you to everyone who has registered for Give As You Live supporting Ipswich Mencap on line.

If you haven't already done so check it out. Go to Give As You Live and register then pick your charity choice. Once registered click shop and donate. Every purchase made through the site adds a donation to your favourite charity. Use the site every time you buy on line it's a great way to support your local charity.



We recently received the sad news that Mr Gordon Harris husband to Gill and dad to Steven & Richie passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Mr & Mrs Harris have been members for many years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We have also heard of the passing of Mel Cummings. Mel is the wife of one of our darts players. Mel has been ill for a number of years but is now at peace. Our thought and prayers are also with her husband Dennis and the family.



A Soul Music Night Disco has been arranged for 9<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 – 11pm at The Norbridge Social Club Norwich Road. Tickets are £10 which will include a small finger buffet. There will be dancing to SMC Entertainments. Tickets can be obtained from the Club or from Barbara on 07766 103563 or Sarah 07876 177736.

Why not come in fancy dress. There will be a prize for the best male and female also a raffle during the evening.



Ipswich Mencap is looking for more volunteers to help make a difference in our community.

We need people to help with the garden at Burgess House, people to help with fund raising, help run the social club and join the committee which meets every six weeks.

If you think you can spare a few hours to add your voice then please let us know. We are all getting older and definitely won't be around for ever and it would be a shame for it all to be lost after the many years of hard work.



The Friends of Rushmere Community Hub held their AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Several events have been booked so if you are interested then please call Trudie at the Hub on 01473 720488 for more details or bookings.

The first event is The Autumn Fair 10 – 2.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

The second is A Halloween Disco 6 – 9pm 28<sup>th</sup> October.



The regular car boot sales at Foxhall have been suspended because there have been some serious issues on site.

It has been decided just to concentrate on the Saturday garage sales. These seem to be quite popular at present.

We are open from 10.30ish to around 3pm unless it rains of course. We have a huge amount of stuff so come along and check it out.

The next newsletter will be the beginning of December so if you have anything you would like to add then please let me know.



We will then be thinking about doing the Christmas float at supermarkets and the town centre so please if you can spare a couple of hours do let us know as we are down to about four people again this year. We do 10-6pm at supermarkets but 10-8pm in the town outside Marks & Spencer. We would not expect anyone to do all of those

hours but just an hour would be great so we can have toilet breaks and a coffee.

I have a full list of dates so if you would like a copy to see if and when you can fit it in then please contact me.

Well with school holidays upon us the next few weeks will be hectic for all of us so let's hope the sunshine continues and we can all enjoy it. Loads of sun cream, drinks and stay safe.

The AGM is booked for 29<sup>th</sup> November 8pm after the Two M's club. Please do come along, your voice counts and will be heard. I am enclosing a nomination form. If you are interested in joining the committee please fill it in and return to me.

Well that's it for now enjoy the summer whatever you chose to do and we are at the end of the phone if you need us.

Kind Regards

Barbara