



The Old Schoolhouse
Community Project

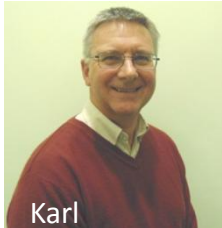
CHALKBOARD

The Old Schoolhouse Community Project
St. John's Road
Huyton
L36 0UX

Issue 1
Winter 2016

Meet the Team

A little introduction to the Schoolhouse staff.



Karl



Paul



Chris



Dave



The Volunteers

Karl hails from the Antipodes but, despite living here for the last 44 years, finds some of his Kiwi traits remain – he still cannot fly.

As an ambition, flying doesn't come top of the list. What is more important is the desire to be effective (in a good way) in the lives of people with whom he shares space. That 'space' might be his home, his neighbourhood, his larger community. That's the primary motive behind most of his life choices. One of which led him to co-founding The Old Schoolhouse Community Project.

After graduating from university Karl worked in the family double glazing business. His spare time was spent doing voluntary youth work. It was this work that led him to taking permanent employment as a Community Worker with Catholic Social Services (now named the Nugent Care Society). Following his time there he trained for, and was ordained as, a Catholic priest. He served in various parishes for fifteen years but is currently away from active ministry. This has allowed him to pursue the development of The Old Schoolhouse.

As the manager of the Project, he is delighted that the building was saved from demolition to become a noted place of meeting for a variety of groups and individuals.

Paul has been involved with The Old Schoolhouse since April 2003 when managing a team of Neighbourhood wardens, they were amongst the first group of tenants.

After 4 years he left to develop the first Neighbourhood warden scheme in Warrington. He still did voluntary work at The Old Schoolhouse and was also a trustee. Funding was secured for a member of staff

for 12 months so he decided to take a chance and apply for the job, the rest as they say, is history.

He has three lovely ladies in his life, his lovely wife and two wonderful daughters. He likes to play golf, read and go on holiday! He is also a member of a Ukulele group who rehearse at The Old Schoolhouse and put on shows for care homes, women's groups etc. He enjoys his time at The Old Schoolhouse so much that he doesn't think of it as a job, but as getting paid for enjoying himself. Every day is different, meeting lots of people from all walks of life.

Chris joined the Old Schoolhouse staff in September of 2016, having spent the previous long years teaching French and Spanish to mostly sceptical pupils in a large Liverpool secondary school. He is a qualified yoga teacher, as well as a hopelessly unqualified gardener and handyman.

He is a Huyton native and grew up just a few minutes away. He still lives in the borough with his wife and their young son.

An aspirant writer and musician, as yet, Chris' genius remains tragically under appreciated by the wider public.

His role at the Schoolhouse is Project development worker. If you have any ideas of services or schemes that you'd like us to look into running then please speak to him.

Dave recently joined the Old School House staff team as a Chef/ Project Officer. His two main career paths in life have been catering and homelessness. One has given him joy of food, which he hopes to share through various projects in the centre. And the other, homelessness, has given him vast experience on the effects of social isolation, something we would like to address in the centre.

This is an exciting time for The Old Schoolhouse as we hope to develop the catering output and options within the project, with Dave at the centre of our culinary exploits.

Staff and Trustees would like the centre to be a place of 'wellbeing', and as part of this ideal Dave sees food as a great way of bringing people together to share a meal. He believes homemade food should be encouraged as even the most basic recipes prove to be everlasting.

Please contact him if you have any views, ideas and recipes that you would like to share. He is also happy to be contacted for any cooking related advice.

Dave's advice: Keep Cooking!!

The Volunteers are a group of committed individuals from the local community who help with the day to day running of the project. They are always ready to welcome with a smile and friendly hello. Without them we would be lost!

We are very grateful to our **Trustees** who volunteer their time to help with maintaining the life and soul of the Schoolhouse.

We welcome three **Ancillary Staff** to the team. Jean and Moe who keep everything clean and tidy and Christine who will be working with the team to promote the Schoolhouse and all the amazing work that happens here. Any news for quarterly newsletters? Please pass it on to her: christinewball@gmail.com

Organisations in the Old Schoolhouse

The backbone of any community is the people working for the good of others. Here at the Schoolhouse we have a group of organisations whose work is about giving a voice to those who need to be heard and empowering and supporting people to be able to live the life they want to live.



Knowsley Carers Centre

We care for you, because you care for them!

Knowsley Carers Centre is an independent, local registered charity and network partner of Carers Trust.

They provide a range of services to support and enhance the lives of unpaid carers throughout Knowsley.

A carer is a person who provides unpaid support to a partner, child, relative or friend who couldn't manage to live independently or whose health or well-being would deteriorate without this help. This could be due to frailty, disability or serious health condition, mental ill health or substance misuse. Very often people do not recognise

themselves as 'carers'; they are just family members, friends or neighbours who find themselves in a caring situation, sometimes suddenly, sometimes gradually, and simply get on with what needs to be done. A carer may not

always live with the person they care for, but their help may be essential in enabling that person to go on living independently.

It can help to know that you are a carer; it is a way of recognising that what you are doing is a very important job. Caring can sometimes be demanding, both physically and emotionally. It may help to know that your work is recognised by others, and that there are services and benefits available to help support you in

your role.

Knowsley Carers Centre is here to support unpaid carers throughout Knowsley. They offer a range of services including information and advice, advocacy, training, holistic therapies, carers coffee groups, trips, welfare rights advice, carers counselling service and carers emergency card.

Contact Details:

Telephone: 482 6279/549 1412

Email: enquiries@knowsleycarers.co.uk

Office Times: Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am to 4.30pm and Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm.

If you have any questions please contact them.



Knowsley Pensioners Advocacy and Information Service

"KPAIS provides advocacy and support to enable older people to obtain their rights as citizens, so enhancing their quality of life"

KPAIS is a registered charity, established in Knowsley in 1998.

For anyone over 60, they provide:

- Independent, issue-based advocacy for older people, including non-instructed advocacy
- T.A.S.K – Trade Approved Scheme for

Knowsley, giving older and vulnerable people access to reputable traders in partnership with KMBC

- Information and Signposting.

For people aged 50 and over, they provide one-to-one support for anyone affected by cancer.

A volunteer advocate can:

- Attend a medical appointment with you
- Assist you to find out what practical help is available
- Help you with any other support you may identify.

KPAIS has a strong connection with The

Schoolhouse, with some of its staff having gone to school here, sent their children to school here and now find themselves working here.

Contact Details:

Telephone: 0151 546 6680

Website: www.kpais.co.uk

Facebook: KPAIS

Twitter: @KPAIS2



Healthwatch is the champion for both health & social care. It exists in two distinct forms – local Healthwatch, at local level and Healthwatch England, at national level. It is about helping you get the best out of your local health and social care services.

The Health & Social Care Act 2012 set out that local Healthwatch would be established in April 2013. The aim of local Healthwatch is to give residents and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how health & social care services are provided within their locality.

You can leave feedback for any services

you have accessed via: www.healthwatchknowsley.co.uk. The feedback they receive helps to inform and improve local services.

Their aim is to make a real difference to people on a local level by:

- providing information about the care choices you have
- talking and listening to people from every part of the community
- holding services to account for the care they provide
- being part of the community and being answerable to the people of the community!
- improving local health and social care

through the feedback they receive.

They are an active group and provide a visible presence within the community hosting coffee mornings, events, talks and so much more. They have a regular newsletter that updates and informs which can be subscribed to.

Contact Details:

Telephone: 0151 449 3954

Email:

enquiries@healthwatchknowsley.co.uk

Facebook: Healthwatch Knowsley

Twitter: @healthwatch.knowsley



The First Step aims to support and protect people who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence and abuse.

Anyone can experience domestic violence and abuse regardless of gender, age, race, geography, wealth or sexuality.

First Step are committed to pursuing non-discriminatory policies and practices, providing an environment in which there is equality of opportunity, as well as safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people

and vulnerable adults. There is an expectation that all staff, trustees and volunteers share this commitment.

They offer, under their 'First Step Project', practical and emotional support to victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse. Telephone and one-to-one support is available. They also offer group support, including therapeutic groups. Their Independent Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocates (IDSVAs) are practical and emotional support services for victims and survivors of

domestic violence and abuse which aim to increase safety. Their Refuge House provides a place of safety and support to women and children escaping domestic violence and abuse.

Contact Details:

Telephone: 0151 548 3333

Opening hours: 9am- 4:30pm Mon – Fri
National Domestic Violence Helpline (24/7): 0800 2000 247

From everyone at The Old Schoolhouse, we would like to wish you all the best for 2017. Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter and don't forget to register with Give As You Live.

