

CHALKBOARD

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

Issue 4 - Autumn 2017



Defibrillator Fundraiser Success

On Saturday 28th October the Schoolhouse welcomed over 60 guests for an evening of fun, entertainment and fine food all in the name of a very good cause – to raise money for a defibrillator.

The British Heart Foundation explains that “a defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is in cardiac arrest. This high energy shock is called defibrillation, and it's an essential life-saving step in the chain of survival.”

As you might expect, such life-saving equipment does not come cheap and we had a fund raising target of £1000. We were thrilled when, with the help of local friend of the Schoolhouse, Maureen and Jane, we were able to secure a match funding agreement with Santander.

Our resident entertainer-extraordinaire, Paul, acted as Master of Ceremonies and led the guests through virtual horseracing and karaoke as well as performing many crowd-pleasing hits with the Huyton Ukulele Troup. Meanwhile Dave's delicious scouse and curry ensured all were well fed.

On the night we raised over £770 – a fabulous amount and we are very grateful to all who supported the event. On the Friday 10th November a group of Schoolhouse volunteers and members of staff from different resident charities here in the building met to receive training on how to use the new equipment.

Of course we hope we never need to use our defibrillator but it's reassuring to know that we now have the facility to help someone in critical need and potentially save a life.

Thanks again to all who helped us reach our goal.



Guests at the defibrillator fundraiser enjoying music by the Huyton Ukulele Troup.

DIY Carpark Expansion!

The modest size of our carpark has presented a challenge to us for some time now – a challenge that seemed financially impossible to resolve. Our dream was to reorganise the current distribution of spaces, resurface some damaged areas of tarmac, and extend our parking provision onto the lawned area at the front of the building. This, however, would cost tens of thousands of pounds so we had to find an alternative solution that at least allowed us to make use of the grassed area for a fraction of the cost.

Ground Mesh is a plastic product that enables cars to park on grass without the ground rutting under their wheels. It has the added bonus of being more eco-friendly since it allows the grass to grow through and preserves the natural drainage ability of the land.

In early October we installed the mesh to create our new 'overspill carpark' – offering at least 8 new spaces. So far the weather has provided some testing conditions already but the mesh seems to be doing the job well and has already proved itself to be invaluable on our busiest days.



The freshly-laid ground mesh covering the front lawn.

Hello Thursday

Social Groups for Dementia Sufferers

Did you know that every week there is something on offer at the Old Schoolhouse for dementia sufferers and their carers?

Each week, on Thursday, either the Alzheimer's Society's Singing for the Brain group or Memory Lane meet to socialise, sing some of the old favourites, chat and enjoy a nice cuppa or two. If you know someone who might enjoy such a group then please pass on the information below. Don't forget, you could also phone ahead and order some lunch!

Singing for the Brain

www.alzheimers.org.uk/info

The Alzheimer's Society's Singing for the Brain takes place from 11.00-13.00 on the **2nd & 4th Thursdays** of each month. For people living with dementia and their carers. There is no cost and refreshments are provided.

Contact details:

telephone: 0151 426 4433

email: knowsley@alzheimers.org.uk

Memory Lane

www.kdcsmemorylane.co.uk

Memory Lane aim to provide emotional and practical support to carers as well as stimulating activities for those with dementia. They run a group here at the Old Schoolhouse on alternate Thursdays from 10-2pm. **(Whenever Singing for the Brain is not meeting).**

Contact details:

telephone: 07858 032 490

email: kdcsmemorylane@live.co.uk

Follow us on Social Media

Social media offers a great way for you to keep up with the latest news and opportunities from the Old Schoolhouse. So, please, seek us out on your preferred platform:



www.facebook.com/oscommunityproject



www.twitter.com/SchoolhouseCP



www.instagram.com/theoldschoolhousecp

Christmas Shopping?

Don't forget that you can help to raise money for the Old Schoolhouse while you shop online. Simply register at the following address and retailers linked to the scheme will donate a percentage of every purchase you make – it won't cost you a penny. Thanks for your support!

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/theoldschoolhouse

Just Ask TASK!

Based here in the Old Schoolhouse, TASK is the Trader Approved Scheme Knowsley and is a directory of reputable and reliable traders working across the Knowsley area.



TASK is primarily for the use of older and vulnerable people and the information is accessed by calling **0151 546 6680**

TASK has been in place in Knowsley since 2003 and is extremely successful in helping people feel safe when using a trader.

All members of the community require work, major or minor, carrying out on their home at one time or another. It is difficult however, for members of the public, especially the elderly and vulnerable members of the community, to know which traders operate in a fair and honest way and if their work is of an acceptable standard. The traders on TASK commit to quality work, carried out for a reasonable price and within a reasonable time.

If you use traders from TASK you will be sent a feedback form so that you have the opportunity to report back on the work you have had done. In this way the traders are regularly monitored by the people who use them.

So if you need a trader in the Knowsley area – Just Ask TASK

Call 0151 546 6680

TASK is delivered by Knowsley Pensioners Advocacy & Information Service registered charity number 1070751.

KPAIS are one of our longest-standing tenants here at the Old Schoolhouse and their organisation values promote choice, control and independence for older people.

Come Dine with Us!

Our Snack Shack is an ideal place to come and enjoy a cup of tea and maybe a homemade biscuit or three. However, did you know that lunches are also available?



Delicious fresh baguettes or wraps are available at just £2 each With the following fillings: cheese, ham, chicken or tuna.

Fancy something hot? What about a Jacket potato with beans, tuna or melted cheese? Again just £2. There are daily specials available too and everything is prepared fresh by our chef, Dave.

Just place your order by 10:30. Dinner is served at 12:30

Not here at 10:30? Don't worry – you can phone ahead and place your order: **(0151) 480 9177**

