



Headway West Midlands

Spring 2016

# News & Views

## HEADWAY FUN RUN FUNDRAISER!



**EASTER FUN RUN!**  
SUNDAY 20TH MARCH, 2016  
Cotton Park, Birmingham  
11AM

Run, jog or walk the 5K route looping twice through the park, on paved pathways, grassland & woodland paths. Easter themed fancy dress optional!

**£10 ENTRY**  
Includes a medal and easter egg

**HURRY!**  
Places are limited.

All proceeds in aid of Headway West Midlands, a local charity helping brain injury survivors & their families. To order an easter information pack, visit [www.headway-wm.org.uk](http://www.headway-wm.org.uk) or call: 07483 173877

Headway West Midlands, 1111st Floor, 20 Church Lane, Bristol, Birmingham, B45 9JH  
Registered Charity No: 2005788 Company Reg No: 2056647 [www.headway-wm.org.uk](http://www.headway-wm.org.uk)

For more information:  
contact Julie Wedgbury on  
0121 457 7541 or visit  
[www.headway-wm.org.uk](http://www.headway-wm.org.uk)

*Pic: Headway's Julie Wedgbury  
and Chris Francis with trainers  
at the ready!*

### Headway are hoping for a great turnout for their first Easter Fun Run on Sunday 20 March!

Entrants completing the five kilometre course will receive an Easter egg and a unique Easter themed medal, kindly sponsored by Frenkel Topping.

The route weaves twice through Cotton Park along paved pathways, grassland and woodland paths.

There are prizes for the first male and female runners to finish, as well as a 'Best Easter Costume' prize. Fancy dress is entirely optional, but as the event is close

to Easter it might entice a few Easter chicks and bunnies to bounce around the course!

Julie Wedgbury, Headway's Fundraising Manager explained: "All ages and abilities are welcome, and it's up to you whether you walk, jog or run the 5k route." She went on to say it was an ideal event for new runners and Parkrun enthusiasts as well as seasoned runners who just want to enjoy a Sunday morning run.

Entry for the event is £10 paid in advance, or £12 on the day if places are still available.

## SKYDIVE 2016

### Friday 3 June

### Raising funds with a 10,000 ft freefall!

£100 prize for raising the most sponsorship, and free entry if you raise over £350. Contact Diana or Vanessa for an information pack

### AND PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!

## PEOPLE AT WORK

### Rick Wise interviews Marc Baylis



**Marc Baylis, 37,** is a Skills Trainer based at Leighton House. Marc is part of the dedicated team that delivers training sessions for cognitive, social, physical and emotional re-habilitation after an acquired brain injury. "Skills training requires a lot of patience and good

listening skills" said Marc when I asked him to talk about his work. "I like to really listen to the client to find out what they need, and to give them options so their focus is not too narrow. We are here to act as a guide, and to help clients re-develop their lost skills. It's the most interesting and rewarding work - I enjoy seeing clients progress, and love to see them improving often without them even realising they are doing so!"

Marc has been with Headway for nearly four years, having come from a background of working in the health and social care private sector. After his college years in which he focussed on art, Marc won a coveted place at the Butlins Academy of Excellence and trained as a Redcoat, going on to become a Butlins 'Presenter' at their renowned shows. The skills honed at Butlins helped Marc to become a Children's Activities Leader which in turn led to contracts all around the world. "I've come a long way" said Marc "I'm fortunate to have a job that I love and want to progress my career further with Headway."

To relax Marc loves writing short stories and scripts and relishes anything to do with the stage, making movies, and spending time with family.

## Headway West Midlands Team up with Thompsons Solicitors!

Recognising the vital role that case management can play in helping those who have suffered an acquired brain injury and their families, Headway West Midlands and serious injury law specialists Thompsons Solicitors have teamed up to launch a new service for people with acquired brain injuries

A Headway Link Worker will take a holistic approach to assessing the immediate and longer term needs of those with an acquired brain injury and their families, providing a vital linking service not always readily available on the NHS.

The Link Worker will be available to act as a liaison between the injured person, their families, and different aspects of the NHS and social care system, as well as providing benefits and housing advice and signposting to support services. The service will coordinate support for families and carers, as well as the care needed by the person with the injury. This will include rehabilitation, which can be crucial and will be funded by interim payments and/ or the rehab code via the insurance company of the party responsible for the injury.



Karl De-Loyde from Thompsons Solicitors, who have supported thousands of people after a catastrophic brain injury, said: "We're incredibly proud to be teaming up with Headway West Midlands to support this new scheme. Having a dedicated Headway Link Worker in the West Midlands will be a much-needed source of support and stability for families who are often wondering how to cope with an entirely alien world of hospitals and treatment and huge upheaval."

Nancy Khan, the Service Manager at

Pic: Nancy Khan and Karl De-Loyde



Headway West Midlands, said: "We're delighted to be able to offer this new service to people who have suffered an acquired brain injury, using our specialist expertise and experience of supporting families from across the region to rebuild their lives after a brain injury. We're proud to be working with Thompsons to ensure that brain injury survivors are given practical advice and guidance and set on the path to rehabilitation as soon as possible after an injury."



## CHRISTMAS DISCO!

The Christmas Fundraiser Disco held at Kings Heath Cricket Club in December was a resounding success! Fun was had by all the clients, staff and carers who were lucky enough to get tickets for this 'sold out' event. Everybody loved the variety of activities like tombola, the

raffle, buffet, dancing and of course the festive merriment! Such a successful event deserves another, and we hope you can all come to the 2016 Client's Christmas Fundraiser Disco which is planned for Saturday 26 November at The Billesley pub in Kings Heath - tickets will be available in August. Oh, and if anyone has any unwanted



Christmas gifts left over to donate for the tombola, please contact Becky Whenham!

*Photos left: enjoying the disco; and right a suitably dressed Marc Baylis with Jack (Becky's son)*

## THE 'TARDIS' IN GREAT BARR!

"We may be small but we're like a Tardis!" says Rachael Baynham, manager of the Headway WM shop in Thornbridge Avenue, Great Barr. The well stocked shop has been completely re-arranged. This enables more stock to be displayed explained Rachael, who is pictured below checking a stock rail with assistant manager Tracey Marlow. The 'Tardis' is doing very well, and it's well worth a visit to check out the retail experience!



Rachael and Tracey would like to thank the super shop volunteers for all their hard work!

**Rusty's Raffle!** Rusty, who is being raffled at the Headway WM shop, is a lifelike toy dog who pants, wags his tail and even barks - thanks to some nifty batteries!



He's pictured with his present 'owner', volunteer Steve Smith, who looks after the toys. If you'd like a chance of winning Rusty - raffle tickets are £1 and the draw is on April 1st. Visit the shop, give him a pat, and buy a ticket!

## HEADWAY HAS TALENT!



Above, the cast: Graham, Noz, Claudia, Dave, Carol, Carl, Dean, Marc and Previn.

Clients from Leighton House staged a drama production called 'Headway Has Talent' in November. The production, directed by Marc Baylis, was a mix of talent meets fairytale! The cast, who were very proud of their production, would like to thank everyone who showed their support by attending on the day.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER



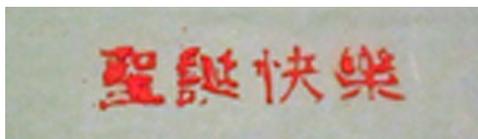
Cheers! Clients enjoyed Christmas Dinner 2015 with three courses and special fun activities. A wonderful and festive time was had by all!

## SANTA CLAUS & REINDEER

During Christmas sessions week, client Jeanette created an amazing model of Santa Claus and his reindeer. Well done!



## CHINESE CAKE ART!



David, Mark, Steve and Robert did very well to create this piece of art as they could only use icing to write with!



## With Sadness

We are sad to announce that client Giriwar Chaubey passed away on 3 November 2015 after a long illness. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his wife Usha and their family.

Our deepest sympathy also goes out to Judy Burgess and family on the sad loss of her beloved husband Stuart who passed away on 20 January 2016. Stuart was a client of ABI Services and his wife Judy became a volunteer in the offices.



## HEADWAY WEST MIDLANDS

Registered Charity No 1008798  
Company Registered number 2686647

**Headway House**  
Moseley Hall Hospital  
Alcester Road  
Birmingham B13 8JL

**Leighton House**  
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