

SPEAK UP

Issue #35
Winter 2007

Newsletter from Manchester People First

Annual General Meeting

CANCELLED



The Voice of the Learning Disabled

Welcome



to our winter issue of the newsletter. We have recently held our Annual General Meeting and we wanted to become a Company Limited by Guarantee to protect People First, unfortunately not enough people turned up to vote so we had to call the meeting off. It was very disappointing and some members were upset that after all the hard work over the last 3 years no one supported us.

What we do

Manchester People First is run by and for learning disabled adults and is independent of all services.

We give training, support and advice to learning disabled adults and professionals and campaign for disabled peoples rights.

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Newton Heath
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M40 8WN

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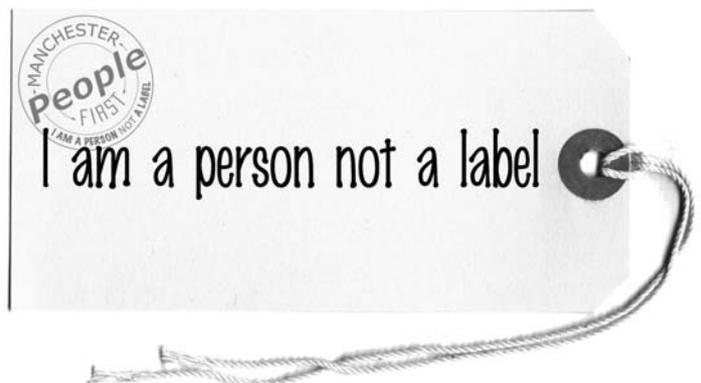
Committee 2006/2007

Officers:

Edward Kane (Chair)
Joseph Rooney (Treasurer)
Louisa Burton (Secretary)

Committee Members:

Katherine Graham
Frank James
John Jarvis
Yasser Mahmood
Richard Hughes (co-opted)





We held our annual Reunion Games on Thursday 6th September, about 25 Learning Disabled adults were there. A trainer called Danny from Manchester City Council came to help us run all the games – thanks for all his hard work.

All four teams made up their own names. They were called The Super Six, The High Fivers, The Baggers and The Millhouse Marvels. We started the morning by making flags to go with the team names and then we had a few relay's. We then had a break for a drink and a chat. The morning had gone so quickly, all the team's were very close with only a few points between first and last place. We finished out drinks and went back to the races to find out who was going to be the winner.

It was a very tight competition and it all came down to the last relay race to decide the winners, anybody could of won the scores were still very close. In the final relay, the Millhouse Marvels just edged it by a nose. So congratulations to the MILLHOUSE MARVELS for being the Reunion Games 2007 Champions and we hope to see you all next year for our Reunion Games 2008.

Hello and welcome back to our regular update about our work as Service Audit Assistants. We have been very busy learning about all the policies and procedures at Manchester People First and how it works.

Red Cross

We spoke about our contracts, our wages, how we will get paid, how many holidays we can have and what to do if we are ill and that we are we should let someone from People First know. We then did a first aid course with the British Red Cross to become first-aiders, which we all passed.

Fire Service

We had a safety talk from the Manchester Fire Service and also training from the commissioners to help us understand what our job was about. We also came into People First to meet the Chairperson and other members of the committee.



Phillip and Christopher went on their first visit which went well and Michelle and Stephen are due to go on their first visit soon.

NVQ

A tutor from Pendleton College came to talk to us about doing NVQ Level 2 in Customer Service and we are enrolling with them to do the course, which will be starting very soon.

Service Audit Assistant's Report

What we think

"We are all enjoying working at Manchester People First".

"It's the best job I have ever had because I am meeting different people and going out in the community".

"I am up for doing the college work I think it will be great and give me confidence and help me to move on if I want to."

"Working with the team helps me with my confidence and gives me self esteem."

"This job is about equal opportunities and being fair to everybody."

We hope you all have a nice Christmas and we will speak to you all again in the New Year. See you in 2008.

Best Wishes from
*Stephen, Michelle,
Christopher and Phillip*

Visiting the Mayor



Andy, Stephen and Edward went to visit the Lord Mayor of Manchester- Councillor Glynn Evans - in his parlour at the town hall on 26 July. We spoke to the Lord Mayor about what People First do and how we started.

We were served tea and coffee and we sat and had a chat. MPF's Edward sat where Prince Edward had sat only a few days before. We had our photos taken with the Lord Mayor and we signed his visitor's book. We also saw some of the City's beautiful prized silver and trophies on our way out of the Lord Mayor's parlour. The Mayor thanked us for visiting and said if there was anything more he could do, we should write in and he would do his best to help.



These pages should have been

But no one



We were going to become a company limited by guarantee at October's Annual General Meeting. But only 4 people from Abraham Moss came.

This meant that we wasted nearly £1000 let alone the time our committee who had spent nearly 3 years setting the whole thing up.
What a waste of time, money and food.

**Thursday 18 October 2007:
Manchester People First's
biggest day in 15 years...**

WHERE WERE YOU?

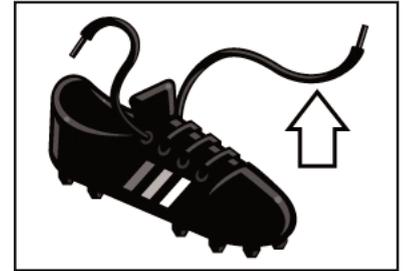
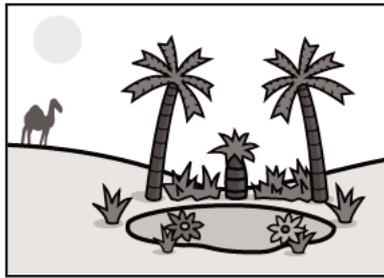


full of pictures from the AGM

turned up!

CANCELLED

Name The Bands?



Name the Brand



Oasis Black Lace Dollar

TOP 5's: Songs

Andy's All Time Favourite Christmas Songs

1. Fairytale of New York - The Pogues
 2. The Power of Love - Frankie Goes to Hollywood
 3. Happy Christmas - John Lennon
 4. Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow - Dean Martin
 5. Santa Baby - Eratha Kitt
 6. I Believe in Father Christmas - Greg Lake
- It was really hard to pick just 5, so I picked 6 -Sorry



Pay attention at the back!



You will find the answers in the newsletter!

How many people came to our AGM?

Where was our AGM?

What were you doing on Thursday 18 October?



Guest writer



Anna Fedeczko on Person Centred Planning

Person Centred Planning (or PCP for short) means that the person is at the centre of planning their life.

Person centred planning is about listening to and learning about what people want from their lives. It is about helping people to think about what they want now and in the future. A good plan has lots of information about what is important to the person and how the person wants to be supported. Sharing this information at meetings and reviews gives support staff and managers a better understanding of needs which we hope they will use to deliver and plan better services.

Anyone can have one. Sometimes people enjoy planning together with a group of people so they can share ideas about what information should be included, or some people prefer to plan with a helper. The decisions are yours to make. The plan will belong to you and you will decide what it looks like and what is included.

If you would like more information contact:

Anna Fedeczko

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Notice Board

News and dates for your diary

Manchester People First's office will be closed for Christmas from Wednesday 19 December 2007 and will open again on Thursday 3 January 2008.

Committee Meetings

Tuesday

4 December 2007

8 January 2008

5 February 2008

11am to 1pm

(time to be confirmed)



28 November: Pool

19 December: Christmas Meal

30 January: Planning Meeting

27 February: To be confirmed



Manchester

Learning Disability

Partnership Board

 Visit our web site at:
www.manpf.org

Next Meetings:

Tuesday

15 January 2008

11 March 2008

Dates to be confirmed at the next Partnership Board meeting

Christmas Party

Thursday 13 December

11am - 3pm

Irish Centre

Queens Road

Cheetham Hill

See back page

 Visit the web site at:
www.partnershipboard.org



Merry Christmas to all members from everyone at People First



MENCAP
Understanding learning disability



**Jobs fair for adults with a
learning disability in Manchester**

your job links

Thursday 22 November 2007

11am – 3.30pm

GMCVO

St. Thomas Centre

Ardwick Green North

Manchester

M12 6FZ



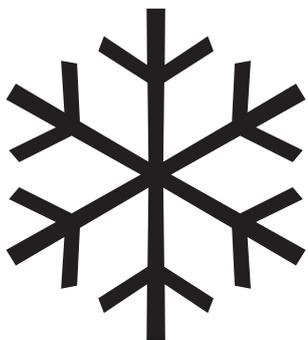
www.yourjoblinks.org



XMAS

PARTY

Thursday 13 December 2007
11am – 3pm
Irish Centre
Queens Road
Cheetham Hill



Come and join in at
the last party of our
15th Year
celebrations

