

SPEAK UP

Issue 41
Autumn
2009

Newsletter from Manchester People First

New South Group



In September we started a new project called South Manchester People First. We have a new member of staff and an Open Day.

Self-advocacy comes to
South Manchester
on pages 8, 9 & 10

Inside  this issue...
AGM (see back page)
Hello to Barry
Goodbye to Maureen



The Voice of the Learning Disabled

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.

Contact us

Manchester People First
3 Broughton Street
Cheetham Hill
Manchester
M8 8RF

Phone or Fax (0161) 839-3700

Email: mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com

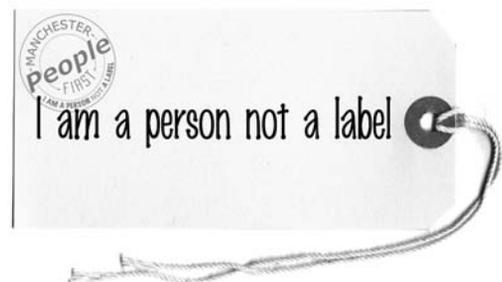
Website: www.manpf.org

Our directors

Louisa Burton
Edward Kane
Joseph Rooney

Staff

Stephen Hughes
Andy Needle
David Dunnico
Maureen Day
Derek Owen
Barry Hills
Stephen Blake
Louise Crowley
Michelle Kozak
Christopher Kenny



Manchester People First is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 6339300. We are a registered charity, number 1124426.

Training course awards



The 12 week 'Personal Awareness Community Empowerment' (PACE) training course we reported in our last issue, has finished. All the people who took part received a special certificate from Chris the tutor. Here is a picture of Carol from Opal getting hers.

Photo course exhibition



12 October 2009

North City Library
Rochdale Road
Harpurhey
Manchester
M9 4AF



Venture Arts ran a photography course. We will be holding an exhibition at North City Library in Harpurhey. Go and see what the group produced.



News

Mens Group



The group is as popular as ever. We've been enjoying ourselves playing pool in July and 10-pin bowling in August. Cyril from Opal won the bowling.



Just Info

Our accessible information project has been doing a new leaflet about free bus passes for Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive. We have also finished a consultation booklet about mental health services for NHS Manchester.

Crown Prosecution Service

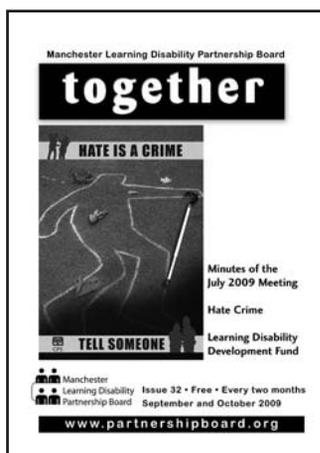


Stacey Davis from the CPS came to our offices in September to talk to us and Opal about Disability Hate Crime. She told us what had been agreed at the meeting held at Manchester Town Hall.

Web site testing

We have been testing websites to see if they work well for people with learning disabilities. We looked at a networking site for the 'Getting a Life' project. And we looked at accessibility for People and Places.

www.manpf.org



Next meeting

Tuesday 17 November

Do you get 'Together' the Partnership Board's newsletter sent to you by post?

We are updating the mailing list.

If you want to carry on getting a copy – tell us!

Service Audit Project



Bye to Maureen



I have worked as one of the Service Audit Coordinators at Manchester People First for over a year, supporting the team of Service Audit Assistants, to inspect services for adults with learning disabilities in Manchester. We have supported the team to audit over 20 houses where learning disabled people live. We have had a very busy but rewarding time, knowing we are helping making services for learning disabled people better.

All of the Service Audit Assistants are very committed to the work they do, and all have learnt many new skills as well as building on skills they already had.

I will soon be leaving the project to take up a position working with young disabled people at Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People. I would like to wish all the very best to all of the Audit team members, everyone at Manchester People First and OPAL. I have enjoyed working with the team very much and know that they will continue to make great strides in the work they do. I look forward to hearing all about what comes next...

Maureen Day



Thanks to Natasha

Natasha Mooney, our student placement, has now finished her time with us. We wish her well with the rest of her studies and thank her for all the work she did with us.

The Fun Filled
Bit in the Middle

David's Top 5 drinks (not booze)

1. Nescafe
2. Tea
3. Diet Coke
4. Vimto
5. Lager (I lied)

Where is it?



It's our new South office

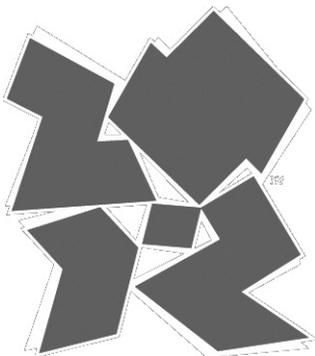
What's the word?

a. R
O
ROADS
D
S

b. D I E T

▲

Name the Brand



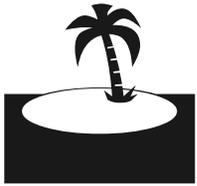
You will be seeing a lot of this logo in 3 years.

A: 2012 London Olympics

b. Balanced Diet

a.: Cross Road

Where have you been?



We asked people in the office where they had been on holiday



Andy: Wet week in Scotland

Paul: Gurnsey

David: Isle of Wight

Louisa: Blackpool

Joseph: Spain and Ireland

Stephen V. 3 weeks in Canada! (alright for some!)

Top 5 Boys Names

- 1. Jack**
- 2. Oliver**
- 3. Thomas**
- 4. Harry**
- 5. Joshua**

Top 5 Girls Names

- 1. Olivia**
- 2. Ruby**
- 3. Emily**
- 4. Grace**
- 5. Jessica**

3 facts Did you know?

1. We have a new member of staff
2. It's time for the AGM
3. New South group is running



New Project

In September we started a new project called South Manchester People First. We have a new member of staff and an Open Day.

This will help adults with a learning disability who live, work or study on the south side of Manchester to speak up for themselves, talk about their lives, problems they have and how they can change things for the better.

We have employed a new member of staff called Barry Hills, who is the Development Worker for this project.

Barry tells you about himself on the next page and on page 10, we tell you about an open day we are having.



If you want to know more about the new group, come and see us on the 14 October.

The new South Manchester project have their own office in Sharston and we will stay in our Cheetham Hill offices.



Barry will listen to what people want and is looking at setting up a men's group and is looking for a female volunteer to help with running a group for women with learning disabilities. Barry said: "We are hoping to run a citizenship course, where people can find out about their rights and responsibilities, and we may run sessions on healthy eating.

A lot of what we do will come from ideas people give us – so tell us what you want to do.

Meet Barry

**Our new project has a new member of staff to work on it.
Barry Hills tells you all about himself.**



I am 40 years old, married to Heather and have a 4-year-old son called Joseph who has just started school. I have lots of different hobbies. I like watching sports and am a Chelsea fan. I like cooking and watching cookery programmes, Dads Army and Mock the Week on TV. I go to the cinema and like watching Clint Eastwood films.

I have worked with people with learning disabilities for 15 years. I have had lots of jobs, such as being support worker in residential homes. I used to work for The National Autistic Society in Manchester, supporting people in their own homes and working in a day centre.

I am based in Sharston and will be setting up an advocacy group for the south side of the city. We are hoping to form a men's group and a women's group to do social activities. We are planning courses and other things, so get in touch with your ideas. We are also planning a young persons parliament and I'll be looking at one in Nottingham that's already running. More on that next issue.



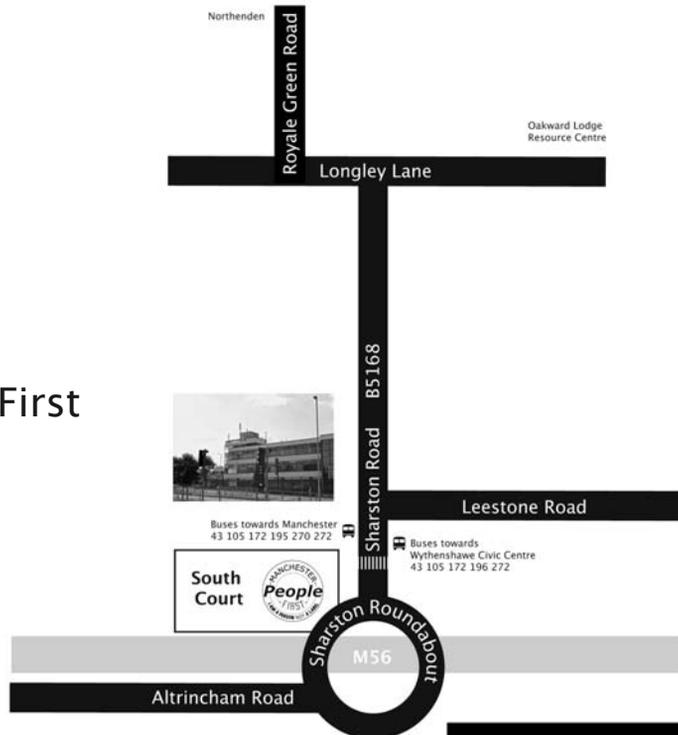
Open Day Wednesday 14 October 11am – 3pm

Manchester People First has launched a new group for adults with a learning disability who live, work, or study on the south side of Manchester. Come and see us, meet Barry our new member of staff, see our new office and have some refreshments.

South Manchester People First
Suite A1 South Court
Sharston Road
Sharston
Manchester
M22 4SN

Phone: 0161 998 0517

Email: southmpf@googlemail.com





How to get here

Our main office is still in Cheetham Hill.
Here's how to get here for our
Annual General Meeting

 Manchester People First
3 Broughton Street
Cheetham Hill
Manchester
M8 8RF

 Phone or Fax: (0161) 839-3700

 Email: mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com

 Web: www.manpf.org



1. From Piccadilly Gardens, walk to Lever Street Bus stand E. Get bus number 135 (First Bus run the service about every 10 minutes).



2. Get off at Cheetham Hill Road / Derby Street stop just before The Jewish Museum and before you get to Manchester Fort shopping park.



3. Cross Cheetham Hill Road at the pelican and walk down Broughton Street.



4. Our office is at the end of the road on the right.





Annual General Meeting 2009

Thursday 22 October 11am to 2pm

Open only to Manchester People First members



Welcome



Reports



Lunch



Voting



Manchester People First
3 Broughton Street
Cheetham Hill
Manchester
M8 8RF



Phone or Fax: (0161) 839-3700



Email: mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com



Web: www.manpf.org

We are a company limited by guarantee,
registered in England and Wales number: 6339300
and a registered charity number: 1124426.