

## The Board of Trustees

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## The Board of Trustees

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This year seems to be flying by now that the Autumn is upon us and we move towards our AGM (See below and page 2).

The past couple of months have again been busy.

We have held the membership launch meeting for the Forum for Equality and Diversity In Somerset (FEDS) looking for Equalities organisations or officers from other organisations that would benefit from FEDS membership. Whilst we see many people who have a general interest in equalities it does not appear to form a part of their job description, and

statutory bodies appear to have committed to the development of equalities departments but unfortunately equalities issues are still not given the priority they deserve. Any organisation that was unable to attend the launch but has a passion for equality or attended but have yet to complete their membership form should contact Alison at the office or email [alison@sain.org.uk](mailto:alison@sain.org.uk) for more information.

SAIN have again been busy facilitating consultation events, including the Sedgemoor Disabled Tenants Forum and the Joint

Equipment Services Listening Event, thanks to all those who gave their time and their views so readily. Mandy is now busy recruiting members to participate in the Taunton Deane Talking Tomorrow Consultation and SCC Disability Equality Duty Consultation (see page 4) and is also working to finalise other projects including a sensory loss consultation and a Halcon Users event for this winter.

We very much look forward to seeing you all at the Blackbrook Pavilion for the Information Fair in November.

## SAIN AGM and Disability Information Fair

Thursday 9th Nov 06  
Blackbrook Pavilion,  
Taunton. 10.30am - 3.00pm

If you haven't already done so then now is the time for members to reserve their place for the SAIN AGM and Disability Information Fair. It is not essential to reserve, as the event is open to the public so anyone can attend, however we can provide transport and lunch for individual members who reserve a place in advance.

This year's event promises to supply you with a wealth of information and advice. Over 40 stands have already confirmed (Turn to page 2 to see

a list of confirmed stands) and we have a full and interesting timetable of speakers (See timings opposite)

We are really grateful to all those organisations who have committed their time to bring along their information and would now encourage as many disabled people, their carers, friends, family and anyone else with an interest in disability, to take advantage of this unique opportunity to make contact with other people in a similar situation, have your say and explore the wealth of interesting stands available, all under one fully accessible roof!

For more information please contact Michelle or Mandy on 0844 9842828 or by email to [info@sain.org.uk](mailto:info@sain.org.uk)

## SAIN AGM and Information Fair

**10.30am - 3.00pm**

Visit the stands at your leisure

**11.00am**

Speaker - A4E - Advocacy for Disabled people

**11.30am**

Speaker - Somerset County Council - The Disability Equality Duty

**12 noon**

SAIN presentation and AGM

**12.30pm**

Speaker - Disability Rights Project - Know your rights.

**1.00pm**

Lunch for members and stand holders

**1.30pm**

Speaker - A4E—Direct Payments and Independence

**2.00pm**

Speaker - MIND

**2.20pm**

Speaker - Avon & Somerset Police



**Adult Learning & Leisure**

**SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL**

A new year has started in Adult Learning & Leisure with a huge variety of courses available across Somerset, from Dulverton across to Frome and down to Chard. You can choose a course that is a few hours long like Sugarcraft or one that requires attendance all year such as Spanish conversation!

Last year Adult Learning & Leisure supported over 200 disabled learners to attend courses ranging from Computer classes to

Watercolours, Tai Chi to Jewellery making. A specialist team dedicated to finding the

right support for you as an individual will work with you to enable you to learn the subject of your choice.

Using a Conversor (an individual neck loop) enabled people to partake in yoga and dance classes in Minehead and Wellington.

Specialist computer equipment meant that adults from Frome to Minehead could participate fully and achieve

certificates in an assortment of computer studies.

Learning Support Workers have



enabled over 150 of our learners to attend courses and achieve qualifications. One of our learners who has a short term memory

loss, recently studied Maths GCSE and with one to one sup-



port she has completed the course and is hopeful of an A-C grade. If you want to take up a learning challenge and would like support to do so, contact your nearest Adult Learning & Leisure office or call Fay on 01935 410555 for Mendip and South Somerset or Penny on 01984 632024 for Sedgemoor, Taunton Deane and West Somerset.

**Visit the following stands at the Disability Information Fair. 9th Nov 2006. Blackbrook Pavilion, Taunton, 10.30am to 3pm**

A2B Stairlifts

A4E

Adult Learning and Leisure

Age Concern Somerset

Albemarle Centre

Arthritis Care

Blackbrook Pavilion

BIBIC

Brunel Care

Candlelight Care

Care South

Carers UK

Day Services—Mount Street

Disability Rights Project

Electric Mobility Euro

Epilepsy Action

ESCAPE

Falcon Academy

Forum for Equality & Diversity in Somerset

Hickley Valtone

Medicare Technology

MIND

Moving People.Net.UK Ltd

Open DAWS

Orchard Mobility

Parkinsons Disease Society

Pride Mobility Products Ltd

RNID

Rural Women's Network

SAIN

Select Healthcare

Somerset Association for the Blind

Somerset Community Foundation

SCC Customer Access and Equality Team

Somerset Direct

Somerset Primary Care Trust

Somerset PPI Forums

Somerset Total Communication

South Somerset Disability Forum

St Loyes Foundation

Stroke Association

Taunton Citizens Advice Bureau

Taunton Deane Borough Council

User Participation in Somerset

Volunteer Centre Sedgemoor

Work Power

WTCS Ltd

As we go to press there are still a limited number of stands available. If you have not yet reserved a stand, but would like to, please contact Mandy on 0844 9842828 or email [mandy@sain.org.uk](mailto:mandy@sain.org.uk) for a booking form

**If you haven't yet done so please book your place for the SAIN AGM and Disability Information Fair today**

Transport can be provided for individual members who need it and lunch and refreshments will be available throughout the day for all members. Call Mandy now on 0844 9842828 to book

## Learning and Skills Council National Personal Achiever of the Year 2006

Lucy Wilkins, 24, has proved that she's a real go getter by scooping the National Personal Achiever of the Year award 2006.

Lucy, who has Ushers Syndrome, which causes moderate to severe deafness and deteriorating eyesight, enrolled on an Apprenticeship Scheme through Somerset County Training in October 2004.

Lucy's colleagues and tutors have been astounded by the speed in which she completed the course, with most apprentices taking up to 32 months to complete. Lucy completed hers in just 20. This was achieved by

Lucy's own hard work and determination, SCT who positively supported her training and Somerset County Council's Property Services team who have provided the positive working environment that enabled Lucy to achieve her goals.

SAIN first met Lucy in 2004 when she participated in SAIN's Sensory Loss Consultation and now regularly bump into her at network events around the district, most recently the Forum for Equality and Diversity in Somerset launch, where she plays an active role in making sure that disability is on the agenda.

Lucy is an inspiration to all young people but most importantly proves to disabled people, young and old, that the barriers that dis-

abled people meet can be overcome with a positive attitude, hard graft and by working in partnership with those around you to achieve your goals.

We pass on our sincere congratulations to Lucy on her achievement and hope that she continues to be such a positive role model to others around her.



## Want to Link to the Equata Website?

Equata, the South West Disability Arts Development Agency, is in the process of redesigning its

website. .

This is an opportunity for disabled and Deaf artists from across the region, who have a website of their own, to have a link from the Equata site.

This is an excellent opportunity for artists to increase their profile, so if you would like us to include your site's information then please email Equata for a form [kim.wide@equata.co.uk](mailto:kim.wide@equata.co.uk)

## Homecare Live on the Web

A new website, developed by Somerset County Council and the Somerset Residential Care Providers Association, makes it easier for people to find out about homecare in Somerset. The new website helps people to find out about:

- What to expect from agencies that provide homecare
- How SCC can help
- A complete list of all registered homecare agencies in Somerset
- Links to other useful websites for advice, information, and inspection reports

There is also advice about choosing a care provider, and information about paying for care.

Homecare, sometimes known as domiciliary care, can support people who are frail or who have long term care needs, so that they can stay at home and be as independent as possible.

A range of help is available but sometimes it is difficult to find out about it or know who to ask for information. Homecare can help with getting up and going to bed, washing and dressing, getting to the toilet and many other essential household tasks.

Using the search tool on the website, people can find out about providers in their area and the type of care they offer.

The site is easy to use and can be read in ordinary or large print and a number of alternative languages.

The information on the website

will be of benefit to people who need homecare and also to health and social care professionals.

Betty Chandler, Strategic Commissioning Manager, said: "The website will help people and their carers find out about the care and support available to them at the click of a button." Anyone who does not have access to a computer at home can visit the website <http://www.homecaresomerset.org/> by using a computer in their local library using the free Peoples Network service.

Information about homecare, and other social care services arranged by Somerset County Council can also be accessed by contacting Somerset Direct on 0845 345 9133.

Mendip Care and Repair have a number of nearly new and used items for sale. All items are hygienically cleaned before being sold. If you are interested in any of the items listed please contact Sharon on 01749 341827 or email sharon@mendipcareandrepair.co.uk

Item	No	Retail Price	Mendip Care & repair Price
Shopping Trolley with Seat	1	£81-95	£30-00
Chair Risers	1	£51-99	£20-00
Bed lever	1	£47-00	£20-00
Over bed table	2	£69-50	£25-00
Deluxe Cushion (New)	1	£28-00	£15-00
11% Wedge Cushion (New)	1	£16-00	£8-00
Folding Shower Seat	1	£65-95	£30-00
Folding Shower Seat with legs	1	£80-00	£40-00
Bath Step	2	£20-00	£10-00
Bath Board and Seat	1	£38-00	£18-00
Bath Board	2	£30-00	£15-00
Bath Tub Grab Rail	1	£25-00	£12-00
Neptune Electric Bath Seat	1	£400 - £500	£200-00
Bathmaster Electric Bath Seat	2	£500 - £700	£225-00
Bath Knight Easy Bather	2	£900-00	£300-00
Adjustable Arm Chair	1	£650-00	£250-00

**PRIORSWOOD RESOURCE CENTRE**

Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm Morning Surgeries every morning including:-

- Credit Union
- TDBC Housing and benefits
- Age Concern
- Citizens Advice
- Adult Learning and leisure
- Over 60s Thursday Lunch Club

Pop in for more information or a friendly chat The centre are currently looking for committed volunteers to help with the lunch club, reception, newsletters, deliveries, general administration etc. If you feel you could offer the community of North Taunton a helping hand then please call in for a chat or contact the centre on the number below Tel. 01823 353643 Priorswood Place, Eastwick Road, Taunton

**Taunton Deane—Talking Tomorrow Consultation**

During the Spring some of our members took part in a consultation exercise with Taunton Deane BC concerning proposals for change in Taunton Town Centre. The response to this early consultation is now available to view at various locations including public libraries and Deane House. The second phase of the consultation will take place during November. The Senior Policy Officer for Taunton

Deane will be coming to the SAIN offices on Tues 28th November from 10am until 12 noon to provide feedback from the previous meeting, an update on the Taunton Access and Mobility Audit and will be accompanied by their Licensing Officer who is keen to engage the group on the difficulties that disabled people experience with local taxi services. Spaces for this event are limited so please contact Mandy on 0844 9842828 if you would like to attend

**Somerset County Council Disability Equality Duty Consultation**

As part of its commitment to the involvement of disabled people in the production of its Disability Equality Duty Scheme. SCC have asked SAIN to facilitate a consultation meeting. This will take place on Friday 24th November 06 from 10.30am to 2.30pm at the SAIN offices in Taunton.

We are looking for members with a passion for equality, from anywhere in Somerset, to attend this meeting. The cost of transport and additional care needs can be covered. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Spaces for this consultation are limited so please contact Mandy at the SAIN office if you would like to attend Email mandy@sain.org.uk or call 0844 9842828

**Please remember to let us know if you change address, telephone number or email so that we can stay in touch.**

**This publication is available in other formats including Large Print, Tape and Braille.**