June 2012



When you have read this publication please pass it on



Disability Essex - helping disabled people lead independent lives.

New Training Courses at Disability Essex



Disability Essex are providing the following training courses:

Disability Awareness
Equality and Diversity Awareness
Work Club – Certificate in Employment Skills – Level 2
Work Club – Certificate in Pre-employment Skills – Level 3
Basic Computer Skills
Access Auditor – Level 3
Disability Awareness Training for Taxi Drivers – NVQ 2
MiDAS
Preparing to Teach in the Life Long Learning Sector – Level 4
Mental Health First Aid Awareness
Tai Chi
Zumba
Creative Writing
Renewable Energy Awareness

For more information or to book a place phone

0844 412 1771

or email

training@disabilityessex.org

Inside this issue:

Websites offer no choice	2
Disability Sports Day	2
Digital Switchover	2
Sage Accounting Training	3
Mobility4u	3
Flower Arranging	3
Mobility Roadshow	4
Breaking Free	4
Disability Essex Clubs	5
For Sale	6

Message from the editor... tell us what you think of the newsletter and what you would like to see in future issues. Respond to the queries and comments you read. Write in with your thoughts on different topic. We want to hear from you!

Price comparison websites offer no choice for disabled

Leading price comparison websites are letting down disabled and older people by ignoring basic web accessibility guidelines, according to e-accessibility expert, AbilityNet, in a report issued today.

Four of the five sites surveyed:

- www.comparethemarket.com
- www.gocompare.com
- www.mysupermarket.co.uk
- www.confused.com

scored the minimum one star, whilst www.kelkoo.co.uk managed a two star rating. Not one of the five sites achieved a three star rating required to indicate a base level of usability for those with disabilities.

Source: http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/enation181

"Like everyone else in these hard times the country's 12 million disabled people want to get the best deal when they're shopping, whether that's for insurance, groceries or anything else. But these cash strapped shoppers are losing out due to badly designed web pages that prevent them from shopping around and accessing the online bargains they need to make ends meet."

And it's not just the consumers who are losing out. Apart from the obvious moral argument for accessibility, the retailers linked to these sites won't be happy about missing out on a market which represents a spending power of some £120 billion every year.

For more information visit www.abilitynet.org.uk/enation181

Riverside Ice & Leisure Centre



Disability Sports Day 2012

Activities throughout the day for all ages and abilities.

Sunday 17 June 1pm and 5pm

Offers people with a variety of disabilities and their families, the opportunity to try an exciting range of sporting activities.

For more information visit:

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/disabilityday

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

Disability Essex trained the following people:



Older People 357
Learning Disabilities 39
Socially Isolated 56
Sensory, mobility etc 196
Non Speaking English 18
Mental Health 13
Help Scheme eligible 76

Total 745

In addition

One to one 219

Source: email, Janet West, 23 May 2012 Source: email, Julie.mills, 29 May 2012

Sage Accounting Training



Can't get your head around Sage Accounts then this is the course for you, no previous experience required.

28th June

10am - 3pm

£50 per person for club members £100 per person for non club members

at

Disability Essex Centre for Disability Studies 34 Rocheway **ROCHFORD** Essex SS4 1DQ



To sign up for membership contact julie.mills@disabilityessex.org

Mobility 4u

19a Station Road Westcliff on Sea. Essex. SSO 7RA



Mobility 4U

Home Services Domestic Care

Dignified Care within your own home Independent living allowance compatible Let the choice be yours

Tel 01702 339880 or 07770 601009

email mobility4ushop@gmail.com

www.mobility4ushop.com

0000000000000000000000

Flower Arranging





Fresh/Silk Flower Arranging Here Every Thursday 10.00am-12.noon

at

Disability Essex Centre for Disability Studies 34 Rocheway **ROCHFORD**

Essex

Tel: 0844 412 1771 Fax: 0844 8800 614 Helpline: 0844 412 1770 Email: info@disabilityessex.org

www.disabilityessex.org

Mobility Roadshow - help to get up and go!

The popular Mobility Roadshow returns to the East of England Showground, Peterborough on Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd June. For over 30 vears it has enabled disabled and older people to test drive a wide range of adapted vehicles either as driver or passenger gain top advice from motoring experts.



It's fun too

Try all sorts of sports in the Sports Arena/Activity Zone, get healthy tips in the Fitness Zone, have your say in the Design Zone, and check out Switches for Kids, Tech for Teens, Interactive Crafting, wheelchair skills training and Meet the Experts sessions.

Register for test drives and free tickets now at www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk or call 0845 241

0390 and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Try out independent living aids

It's lively and interactive. As well as all things mobility motoring, this is a great place to try out innovations latest in accessories. the wheelchairs, scooters and bikes, home and children's products, clothing, gadgets and gizmos. Plus charities, information services, and organisations offering advice and products that include insurance, accessible holidays and accommodation, fitness and therapies.

Editorial contact for more information: Rosemary Vaux 020 8943 5343 mobile 07792 72 62 41 pressoffice@mobilityroadshow.co.uk

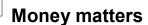
Source: email, Rosemary Vaux, 15 may 2012



Breaking Free - Moving Away From Home

Living independently can be a life-changing moment for many young people, and with the right care, support and planning it might not be quite as difficult as you would think. It's vital to do a bit of research and assess your options before you start packing your bags. So what do you need to think about?





United Response, a nations charity people supporting with various disabilities, produces a range of guide to managing money, explaining everything from opening a bank account to insuring your home. To find out more visit http://banking.making-money-easier.info/



You may have may options to discover. For advice and inspiration visit www.housingoptions.org.uk



Getting help

Your social worker will be able to help you find out what benefits you're entitled to.



Or visitwww.in-control.org.uk

Source: Enable magazine, May/June 2012





For more information visit www.unitedresponse.org.uk





Last date for inclusion in the July 2012 Newsletter is the 14th June

Page 5

Disability Essex Clubs - Continued from last month

Epping Forest

Loughton Baptist Church Day Care Centre (Friday Lunch Club)

Ongar Club for the Physically Handicapped

Leigh On Sea

Essex Army Cadet Force

Maldon

Maldon & District Vision Impaired Club Maldon District Disabled Person's Club Maldon Pioneers Association Tillingham Wednesday Club

Rayleigh

Disabled Christians Fellowship
Rayleigh Physically Handicapped
Club
Rayleigh Age Concern
LOSSuk

Rochford

Disabled Christian's Fellowship
Tai-Chi Chuan

Romford

Havering Albemarle Club

Southend

Southend Stroke Club

The Taxi Drivers Charity Fund for 'Local' Children in Need

Tendring

Tendring Access Group

Thurrock

Corringham Handicapped Invalid People's Society
The Snowdon Club

Uttlesford

Dunmow Blind & Housebound Social Club

Dunmow Disabled Club

Thaxted Centre for the Disabled

The Centre for Disability Studies **Room Hire**

Training Room

(Includes coffee/tea + water)

Charities & Member Clubs

- £50 per half day session
- £100 per full day

To view the facilities, more information or to make a booking, please phone 0844 412 1771 or email to julie.mills@disabilityessex.org



Disability Essex Centre for Disability Studies 34 Rocheway **ROCHFORD** Essex SS4 1DQ

Phone: 0844 412 1771 Fax: 0844 8800 614 Helpline: 0844 412 1770

E-mail: info@disabilityessex.org Website: www.disabilityessex.org

Charity Reg. No.: 1102596 Company Reg. No.: 4980118



Making Contact

Chief Executive Officer

p.thornton@disabilityessex.org

PA to CEO/Office Manager/CRB Contact

julie.mills@disabilityessex.org

Accounts

hayley.meagher@disabilityessex.org

Club and Group Support

genine.rolfe@disabilityessex.org info@disabilityessex.org

Helpline

helpline@disabilityessex.org

Newsletter Editor

claire.bergin@disabilityessex.org

For Sale

Polycarbonate Cold Frame with anchor points

£10

Book Case (Teak effect)

6 shelf's

£10

Claire 07519 176326

5 13

Please note that all responsibility for adverts within this publication is between the buyer and the seller. Disability Essex can accept no liability for outside advertising of services or equipment advertised.

We wish to remind all wheelchair users that there is a recommended wheelchair "Highway code", copies of which we can supply on application. Furthermore, Class 3 Invalid Carriages must be registered with the DVLA.