



Ability Northants

supporting choice & ability in disability

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Weekly News 15 January 2010

Information:

1. Daventry and District Over Fifties Forum - The next public Forum is on **Tuesday 0 February 2010, 2-4pm** at the Saxon Suite, Daventry Leisure Centre. Guest Speaker Katherine Parker from NHS Northamptonshire, providing feedback on how we the public are helping shape the future of healthcare within our District and Northamptonshire. If you have enquiries about DOF, please contact **Della Butcher Tel: 01327 302418** or email: dbutcher@daventrydc.gov.uk

2. Support for Relatives of People with Brain Injury

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 21st January 2010, 7-9pm** at Kelmsley, National Centre for Brain Injury Rehabilitation, St Andrew's Healthcare, Billing Road, Northampton NN1 5DG. For further details and to confirm attendance, **Tel: 01604 616767**

3. NCC. "Be a Voice" For vulnerable adults across Northamptonshire.

Safeguarding and protecting vulnerable adults from abuse has traditionally been seen as a prime role of those working in the social care section. It still is, but now, more than ever, given recent cases that have made national news, it is becoming an issue for everyone in society, not just for those people who have a professional responsibility to safeguard. **If you think someone is being abused call us on 0845 124 4500.**

4. Holocaust Memorial Day Events January 27th 2010

The theme this year is 'The Legacy of Hope' www.hmd.org.uk

The Borough Council of Wellingborough has organised a series of events to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. For more information on these events, **contact Sue Bull, Events & Promotions Manager on 01933 231986** or sbull@wellingborough.gov.uk or www.wellingborough.gov.uk

5. Message from Phil Hope MP House of Commons

"We are in the middle of an unusually long period of cold weather which is stretching national, local and individual resources. I am sure that at a time like this, you, like me won't want vulnerable people in Corby and East

Northamptonshire to be left in the cold. I am pleased to be able to tell you about the help at hand.

Winter Fuel Payments are paid if you are aged over 60. The amount of the winter fuel payment is currently £250 for pensioners aged 60-79 years living alone. (£125 if you share a home with another eligible person) and if you are aged 80 or over, the amount payable is £400 (£200 if you share a home with another eligible person aged 80 or over).

Cold Weather Payments of £25 are for people on a low income. A cold weather payment will be available for each seven-day period at or below zero degrees Celsius. If you are on qualifying benefits, including pension credits, income support, income based jobseeker's allowance and income-related employment support allowance, you are automatically eligible and do not need to apply and you shouldn't worry about turning up your heating.

Our weather stations provide an accurate assessment for those affected. As of 6 January 2010, 61 of the 85 weather stations have triggered a payment since 1 November (some of them have triggered three or four payments so far). There is a postcode search facility at: <http://pensions.direct.gov.uk/en/cold-weather-payment/home.asp> This will show you how many payments have been triggered for your postcode. The scheme runs from 1 November to 31 March"

6. The NAB Mobile Unit will be in the following locations next week.

Tuesday 19th January 10am – 11am Long Buckby GP Surgery car park, Station Road and

11.45am – 12.45pm Guilsborough GP Surgery car park, West Haddon Road

Training:

1. Doddridge Centre – Yearn to Learn? Corrected contact details!

The Doddridge Centre is offering free training on a range of subjects between now and the end of March – to get details of these free courses please go to our website www.doddridgecentre.org.uk or contact us on **01604 586384** for a free copy of our brochure listing all our courses, which include: Computer Training, Digital Photography, Making the most of your money, How to send emails, Buying and selling on Ebay and many many more...

Situations Vacant:

1. Northamptonshire Association for the Blind (NAB) has several positions available.

Part-Time Project Worker – Countywide

Part-Time Volunteer Co-ordinator – Countywide

Part-Time Administration Clerk – Northampton

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Burlington House East Wing,

369 Wellingborough Road, Northampton NN1 4EU

Part Time Care Assistant – Darsdale Home Raunds.

For further details on any of these positions, please email admin@nab.org.uk or
Tel: Head Office on 01604 719193 Closing dates for all positions is **22nd January 2010**

Reminders:

1. Suicide Awareness – free training – Wednesday 3rd February 9.30am – 1.00pm. Lily Rose Room, Hunsbury Hill Centre, Hunsbury NN4 9QX

Suicide is a problem for society as a whole. To increase awareness – and to help remove the stigma which can be a barrier for those in need of help – this free half-day training session is open to everyone; the general public as well as those whose work is more likely to bring them into contact with people at greater risk of suicide. Places are limited so advance booking is essential. For further information or to attend, contact Karen Denoven, SAPT Project Officer at Acre on email: Karen.denoven@northantsacre.org.uk or Tel: 01604 825886

Barbara Kerr
Carers' Project Co-ordinator