

# News flash

DECEMBER 2016

Issue No 99



## Merry Christmas

The Committee, staff and volunteers of Eastleigh Borough and Romsey MENCAP wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## ROBIN HOOD

MAYFLOWER PANTO TRAIL PROJECT



Participants working on designs for the Panto trail

Participants in our Mayflower Panto project have completed all three workshops to explore the Robin Hood legend and how it has been adapted for the Pantomime. The team have designed and built the station for our part of the story trail at Hilliers Arboretum.

We were delighted to work with Chris Bennett as drama coach and public artist. He is an old friend of EBR MENCAP, having worked with us since 2006; he knows many of our participants well and missed those usually attend but who were absent this year.

We have our visit to Hilliers Arboretum planned for December and a visit to the Mayflower together in January to see a full performance of the pantomime with Shane Ritchie and Jessie Wallace.

## Volunteer Drivers for One Community

Many of our clubs rely on the services of One Community's transport service and we are grateful to them for the provision of the minibus and the volunteer drivers who come out with us.

Sometimes however they do not have a volunteer driver available and trips could be cancelled. If you passed your test before 1997, enjoy driving, with some time on your hands and think you could enjoy this role, why not get in touch with them to find out more? Training is provided. Call One Community 023 8090 2400, ask for Transport.

# The Fantastic Mr Fox at The Nuffield Theatre THURSDAY December 22, 2016



*"You know as well as I do: no-one outfoxes a fox!"*

We can provide transport on a minibus coming from Eastleigh and returning people to the town centre area. The bus will not be going out to other parishes. Or you can come with your own transport.

Cost: £10 Essential carers go free.

VERY Limited number of spaces for the show and on the minibus.

**PLEASE BOOK AND PAY BY December 16**, IF YOU WANT TO COME.

Call Michelle (023 8048 3471) for more details and to book.

# Public consultations

Please take the time to look at the following and respond:

- (1) **MAKING LIVES BETTER** – Booklet One (of four)

## The work, health and disability green paper

<https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/workandhealth/consult/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/work-health-and-disability-improving-lives>

Easy read booklet:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/564066/work-and-health-green-paper-easy-read-1.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/564066/work-and-health-green-paper-easy-read-1.pdf)

- (2) **Funding for Supported Living**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/funding-for-supported-housing>

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

In our June edition we reported that communication with Adult Services was changing and that your calls to the Learning Disabilities team would be going through the Call Centre, HANTS DIRECT. Members of Call Centre staff are being trained to assist you with a wider range of administrative issues and are not just there to put you through to the Team.

**We are interested to know how that is working for you, if you have called them.**

The idea is that this will leave the Learning Disabilities Team to do more of the work for which they were trained. There will be a reorganisation of the local teams and the establishment of North and South hub offices, though local offices will also remain. More information on this as it happens.

Please do tell us your recent experiences, good or bad, both of the Hants Direct Call Centre and of Connect to support, the website that offers information on all aspects of Adult Social Care. We can then feed this back to Adult Services.

**It is important for us all that feedback is provided.**

**Mencap** The voice of Learning Disability

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