

# HEADLINES

THE HEADWAY THAMES VALLEY NEWSLETTER **February 2013**

Headway Thames Valley, Brunner Hall, 84b Greys Road, Henley on Thames, RG9 1TF

## 65's Club January 2013

C Harrison	£65
D Horton	£35
M Adams	£20
Lee Rampton	£15
A Westcott	£10
D Dorrington	£10
B Graham	£5
J Bajada	£5

## 65's Club February 2013

D Dorrington	£65
K Butterfield	£35
P Ferris	£20
F Painter	£15
C Coulter	£10
S Brooks	£10
M Ives	£5
J Davies	£5

Thank you to all 65's club members for their support.

### **Events coming up...**

*For more details on any phone or see the web site*

**Charity Darts evening at  
Salisbury Club, Henley Friday  
15<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 pm**

**Quiz evening at Salisbury Club,  
Henley, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
7:30pm**

**Arts evening, South Street Arts  
Centre, Reading 9<sup>th</sup> May**

**Action for Brain Injury Week  
13<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May – events planned!**

## News

### Abseil down Battersea Power Station



The two daughters of the late John Rees, Shelley and Ali abseiled down Battersea Power Station with their friend Zoe recently. They raised funds for Headway Thames Valley. Our grateful thanks to them for their efforts. Pictured above are l – r : Zoe, Shelley, Ali and John. Very sadly, after suffering a brain injury in 2011, John was subsequently diagnosed with lung cancer and died on 30<sup>th</sup> January. He leaves his two daughters and wife Irene.

### Thank you Sainsbury's Calcot



Staff at Sainsbury's in Calcot raised £200 for our satellite at Greenfield House in Calcot which has been running since January 2012 on Mondays. Pictured at Greenfield House, back row l – r are: Holly, support worker, Teresa Edwards, Tricia Watkins of Sainsbury's, Cathy Samson, Angela Perks, outreach support, Wendy Carlson, Front row l – r : Peter, Helena Levett, Art therapist and David Samson.

# HEADLINES

Continued from previous page

David suffered a stroke in 2011 aged just 29. David's mother, Cathy, works at Sainsbury's in Calcot and nominated Headway to receive the funds which she helped raise with tombolas, face painting and raffles. Cathy said 'The group has helped us so much and they mean a lot to me but they rely on donations like these to keep going'. The group take part in physiotherapy, art therapy and social activities. Sainsbury's PR ambassador, Tricia Watkins said 'Headway is a service anybody could need in the future so it is important to raise funds for them'.

## More news from Satellites...

We are very pleased to now have meet up points across our area. Using some of our existing venues we are aiming to ensure that each part of the area has a place where we can assess new clients and meet non-centre based clients who can't get to our main base in Henley. We have the Open learning Centre in Bracknell (where we run courses), our satellites in central Reading, a room in West Berks Community Hospital and starting shortly we will hold meet up afternoons for new clients at Brunner Hall too on Thursdays when we are not currently open.

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## Celebration of the life of volunteer Tatiana Chabas

On Saturday 5th January several members of staff, volunteers and clients attended a memorial afternoon for Tatiana Chabas. Tatiana worked as a volunteer at Headway Thames Valley from 2004, and sadly passed away in October last year.

The day, which was a celebration of her life, was held at Bix Village Hall, and was well attended by everyone who knew her, including her children's school friends and parents, representatives from Henley Rowing and Rugby clubs and her many friends, neighbours and colleagues in Henley. There were several moving speeches and Christa Ahmed from Headway spoke about Tatiana's outstanding contribution and her wonderful memories of working with her. As they are both of Swiss origin, they always had lots to chat about and had a special bond.

Everyone who attended was asked to bring along some food, and there was a delicious spread of international dishes, many of which were Tatiana's favourite recipes.

Her husband Bruno, daughter Daria and son Tristan were welcomed back to Henley by Tatiana's friend, Lucie Henwood who organised the day.

- *By Carol Brand*

A collection on the day raised £220 for the charity. Sarah Krause, art teacher at Shiplake College whose son played rugby with Tristan donated the proceeds of Shiplake College teacher's raffle - £425 - in memory of Tatiana. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed to these two donations. We have yet to decide what would be best to spend these on and will let you know as soon as we have.

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## Thank you!

A very big thank you to the following recent donors. Also we would like to express our grateful thanks for any other individual or smaller donation not mentioned and received recently. Without such donations we would not be able to run the charity as our fees only cover part of our running costs, for example, paying for the minibus evacuation course – see below!

<b>Saddlers</b>	<b>£300</b>	<b>Marist School</b>	<b>£380</b>
<b>Holy Trinity Church</b>	<b>£320</b>	<b>Churches Together</b>	<b>£100</b>
<b>St Barnabas Church</b>	<b>£250</b>	<b>Lady Younger in Memorium</b>	<b>£135</b>
<b>Henry Denman &amp; Agnetha Cook Trust</b>	<b>£5,000</b>	<b>Shiplake Pop Up Café</b>	<b>£190</b>
<b>Experto Credito, Bracknell</b>	<b>£3,000</b>		

## HEADLINES

# Headway Staff pass minibus fire evacuation course with flying colours!!!

All our minibus drivers are now MIDAS trained and recently also took part in a fire evacuation training day.

What is MiDAS?

MiDAS stands for Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme. The scheme helps improve minibus safety by working with organisations such as schools, colleges and charities like ours to improve driver standards.

The course was MIDAS 5 steps to Safety (Vehicle Evacuation Procedures.) run by Keep Mobile Training and took place at Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action at Amber House in Bracknell.

The drivers spent an hour in the classroom discussing the theory side of evacuation in an emergency situation, but the majority of the day was spent on role play of various scenarios with and without theatrical smoke. They practiced evacuating the bus from the back only and front only and also how to cater for different impairments in an emergency situation: wheelchair users, partially sighted, hearing impaired - and also how to cope with panic attacks and claustrophobia.

Apparently an alternative career on the stage awaits some of our drivers for their very convincing acting skills!!!!

After all of that – they went back to the classroom for a written exam paper. And all passed.

As you can see from the photos – it was very cold and despite this being a very serious subject all managed to have fun!



*Angela Perks and 'evacuee' MiDAS trainer Mark Parker complete with theatrical smoke.*



*Elaine Carpenter, Phil Fraifeld and Carol Brand try to keep warm!*

## HEADLINES



*Undoing restraints in smoke*



*L to r: Carol, Phil, Elaine, Angela and Trainer Mark*

### HEADWAY UK ACCREDITATION SCHEME <https://www.headway.org.uk/approved-provider-project.aspx>



**We need your help!** If you are interested in the longer term aspects of brain injury care – please read below information from Headway UK to see how you may be able to help get a local care home to work towards Headway UK accreditation:

Headway UK has developed the Approved Provider scheme, an accreditation scheme appropriate for NHS and independent care settings, including hospitals and neuro-rehabilitation units, residential and nursing homes and respite facilities, specialising in acquired brain injury (ABI).

The scheme utilises standards developed to reflect the specific needs of people with ABI, using these to evaluate a range of facilities including hospitals and neuro-rehabilitation units, residential and nursing homes and respite facilities.

The process involves units signing off a statement of compliance against each required standard and undergoing a robust on-site assessment, within an inspection system that also involves unannounced interim reviews.

This process ensures that units gaining Approved Provider status can demonstrate their provision of appropriate specialist care for those with complex, physical and/or cognitive impairment due to acquired brain injury. Key aspects of the process include ensuring staff working in the unit are aware of and responsive to issues associated with ABI, and that the unit gives consideration to the information and other needs of the service user, their family and carers.

Each successful unit is accredited by Headway for a two year period as an Approved Provider, able to meet the needs of those affected by ABI.

Headway has compiled a web-based directory of Approved Providers for use by families and professionals. As outlined above, accreditation lasts for two years, with an initial assessment and an unannounced review during this time.

# HEADLINES

Quotes from Approved Providers

"It is helpful to get a different perspective on our service"

"A well thought out scheme that supports our efforts to improve our service"

## Where does Headway Thames Valley fit in to this?

Currently the nearest approved home is in Kent. Providing a local care or respite home has been a long held pipe dream of Headway Thames Valley. While other things are more pressing and without a passing millionaire it has remained that – a pipe dream. However, we feel that in the mean time a compromise might be available in the form of the scheme above.

## How can you help?

Headway UK are looking for local assessors:

Anyone taken on as an assessor within the project must be prepared and able to take part in onsite assessment visits. Many visits can involve a long day e.g. travel time, plus 5-6 hours onsite, plus a 1-2 hours debrief meeting with the lead assessor.

You will probably be required 2 – 3 days a year

The paid work involves preparation for the visit i.e. reading the statement of compliance against each Headway standard, returned by a home before their assessment visit.

During the visit itself both assessors check evidence made available by the home on site in support of their application. Visits involve 5 – 6 hours on-site.

You would work alongside an experienced lead assessor (with professional experience of working in ABI)

You need to have relevant family and / or personal experience of ABI.

And -

- Able to read through information sent by the Unit in support of their application for Approved Provider status
- Able to respect confidentiality issues e.g. information given about / by service users within the visit
- Able to review a wide range of evidence presented by the Unit throughout the on-site visit
- Able to speak with staff and service users / family about their perceptions of the Unit undergoing assessment
- Able to note down / accurately recall key information during the visit, for discussion with the lead assessor afterwards
- Able to travel independently to and from assessment visits.

If you think you may be suitable or know someone who is interested– please get in touch with me, Wendy Carlson, at Headway Thames Valley on the contact number below and I will provide full information. I am right behind this fantastic scheme which could answer a prayer for many families, Please could all our friends and supporters think hard if they could help or know anyone who could. Remember – it is only 2-3 days a year.

## What IS this?



**Answer on the last page!**

### BAD WEATHER

During the recent bad weather, Brunner Hall and satellites managed to stay open most days. The main difficulty we have during such weather is that our minibuses can't always get out to collect clients, or they can't get to us in their taxis or cars. We usually find that we have sufficient staff to open each centre though. If you are unsure whether we will be open, please check

our web site, or phone our main office number.



### Tree of Life

Clients at Brunner Hall made the lovely display above. The idea was to include sayings and proverbs that mean something to each person. It is opposite the area where the standing frame is used. Those using that often get a bit bored to it is something to read.

## HEADLINES



We hope you like our new logo. It was redesigned for us by Angela Pugh of Creative Associates Design. Many thanks to Angela!

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**We are not open → → → →**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May

**FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 7:30 pm - Charity Darts evening at Salisbury Club, Henley**

**THURSDAY 18th APRIL 7:30pm - Quiz evening at Salisbury Club, Henley**

**THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MAY Arts Evening – South Street Arts Centre, Reading**

**Action for Brain Injury Week**

**13th – 18th May – events planned more details nearer the time!**

**SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> August - R 4 D – a regatta on the river AT Phyllis Court Club, Henley – adapted boats, Dragon boat racing, stalls music and much more <http://www.regattaforthedisabled.org/>**

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> September – Global Picnic – [www.biglobalpicnic.org](http://www.biglobalpicnic.org)**

### CONTACT US

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View this and all our previous newsletters online at:  
[www.headwaythamesvalley.org.uk](http://www.headwaythamesvalley.org.uk)

**Mystery photo – It's the frozen fountain at Brunner Hall!**

