

Bristol Disability Equality Forum E-Bulletin March 2018



**Bristol
Disability
Equality
Forum**

News

New Forum Website

We are very happy to tell you that we won a competition to have a new website designed and created by a team of web experts from a project called 'Do Action' <https://doaction.org/>.

The new website is up and running, at bristoldef.org.uk/

But, we still need to put a lot of information on it. This is because our old website got a virus so we can't copy over the content from the old website, to the new one. So, we have to write everything that was on the old website again!

If you have any comments (other than that it's a bit empty at the moment) we'd love to hear them, so please leave us a message.

Bristol Wins Bid to Become a Time to Change Hub

Bristol has been named as a Time to Change Hub, set up to change how we all think and act about mental health locally.

Time to Change hubs are networks of local organisations and individuals committed to ending negative attitudes and behaviours towards people experience mental health problems in their communities.

Time to Change Bristol is made up of Bristol City Council, Bristol Independent Mental Health Network (BINHN), Wellbeing CIC and Rethink Bristol, with additional support from local businesses, unions, universities, the NHS and Avon and Somerset Police.

For more information about the Time to Change campaign and its work, visit: www.time-to-change.org.uk

Changing Places Petition

Three leading Disabled campaigners are supporting a petition that calls on the government to force all new, large buildings to include a Changing Places toilet.

Changing Places toilets are toilets with extra space and equipment for Disabled people who cannot use standard accessible toilets e.g. those who need support when they need to use the toilet and/or need a hoist.

Many Disabled people need this to use the toilet safely and hygienically. But, at the moment, they can't. Instead many have to lie on the floor of an accessible toilet, regardless of what might have been spilt on the floor or brought in on the shoes or wheels they use to get around.

If you are one of the 250 thousand people who need to use Changing Places toilets, you can find out where the nearest one is here:

<http://www.uktoiletmap.org/>

You can sign the petition here <https://www.change.org/p/change-building-planning-regulations-to-make-changing-places-toilets-compulsory>

Did you know...

The Holiday Inn hotel chain has a policy which allows a paid 'carer' to have a free room when accompanying a person they are 'caring' for.

It seems you have to show them some 'evidence' that the PA is paid to be the 'carer' so, if you are interested in this offer you should ask the Holiday Inn what evidence they need, (e.g. a recent payslip) before booking so that you do not end up paying for the second room. You should also check with the particular Holiday Inn you are interested in staying at, that they follow this policy too. For more information visit:

<https://www.ihg.com/hotels/gb/en/global/support/access>

Dates for the Diary...

Share Stories or Memories of Bristol's Disability History

Date: every Thursday throughout March and Saturday 24th March,

Time: 11am – 1pm

Venue: M Shed, Bristol.

Throughout March, Accentuate are looking for people to share stories or memories of Bristol's disability history. If you know about Disabled people's history in Bristol, or have experienced living here as a Disabled person and want to share any stories or opinions, then they would like to hear from you.

Come along to M Shed on the one of the dates listed above and find the Accentuate team at the exhibition.

If you would like to contribute but can't get to M Shed, please get in touch with Grace Swordy, project coordinator

grace.swordy@accentuateuk.org

Find out more about the project at:

www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/m-shed/whats-on/brave-poor-things/

Rhythm of the Night – 90's Night!

Date: 22nd March

Time: 7pm – 10pm

Venue: Trinity Centre



The Misfits Theatre Company would like to invite you to Rhythm of the night, a nightclub for adults with learning difficulties, their families and friends. It's a fun way to meet new people and have a chat over a drink or two, along with some great music to do some dancing and socialising.

Tickets are £5 on the door.

For more information visit:

<https://misfitstheatre.com/content/rhythm-night-14>

Hidden Impairments Access Group

Date: Tuesday 10th April

Time: 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Venue: St Pauls Learning Centre, room LT1

The Forum works hard to improve access and services for all Disabled people whatever our impairments or long-term health conditions.



At the Hidden Impairments Access Group meeting we can share information and look for practical ways that we can improve access to services, employment opportunities etc. for people with hidden impairments.

This meeting will include a talk from [Unchartered Collective's](#) Raquel Meseguer. Raquel will tell us about the work she has been doing on building a network of safe public resting spaces for people with hidden needs.

You can register your free place by:

Emailing us at bristoldef@gmail.com,

By phoning us on **0117 914 0528**,

Or book a free place online at <http://bit.ly/2E9U7gB>

Or just turn up on the day!

Access for All - Southmead

Date: Saturday 21 April

Time: 11.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: Outside McColl's, Arnside, Southmead

Inclusion Southmead is a residents group working alongside the Forum and the Care Forum. We have found that local McColl's shops are not accessible, due to steps and more accessible entrances being locked. So, we contacted McColl's to explain that

Disabled people cannot use some of their shops and the Post Offices inside. McColl's said they looked into this, but cannot do anything due to 'planning permission.'

We don't think this is good enough, as the law is very clear about making sure that shops and services should be accessible. To highlight these issues we are meeting outside the McColl's shop and Post Office at Arnside. Please join us and let people know what you think!

For more information e-mail: mike.bristoldef@gmail.com

Or call: **0117 914 0528**



Do You Want to Write for This e-bulletin?

Are there changes being made where you live that you think others should know about? Do you have any news or views that other members may like to hear about? This is your e-bulletin so please get us by email, phone or post with your ideas.

Bristol Disability Equality Forum

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