

Bristol Disability Equality Forum

E-Bulletin June 2019



News

Getting back into the Swing of Things

After six weeks off of boredom recovering from an operation, our Admin and Comms worker Winnie is back in the office. She is thoroughly pleased to be back at work! Things may get off to a slow start while she tackles the inbox and paperwork – but she will get back to you as soon as possible for any enquiries. In the meantime, keep up to date with us on our social media and website for all new content.

Click here for:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[BDEF Website](#)

New Possibilities on the Horizon

The Forum is excited about a new project we are hoping to get lottery funding for. The project will record Deaf and Disabled people talking about the campaigns they were involved in, to create disability equality in Bristol from the 1970's. Disabled people will collect these 'oral histories' (as they are called) and research pictures, news reports etc related to them, to build a disability history exhibition. The exhibition will stay with Bristol Museums archives so anyone can access it, whether they want to at the end of the project, or in 20 years time.

The project will also produce a toolkit on disability history in the wider Bristol area for schools and colleges and on the things museums, art galleries etc can do to be more accessible to people with a range of impairments and conditions.

A second group will be trained in access appraisals and provide lived experience advice to the South West's heritage buildings and grounds.

If we are successful, the new project will be launched at our event for Disability History Month 2019.

Watch this space!

Colston Hall by Steinsky • CC-BY-SA-3.0



Disabled and Older People Making Change Happen in Bristol

It is almost a year since our Making Change Happen (MCH) project started. We set up the project because members told us this was a project they wanted. However, attendance has not been great so we'd really like to know what might have put you off attending and/or anything not offered that you need to be able to get involved.

To respond you can text, email, telephone, Facebook, Instagram or tweet us. We don't have a long list of questions for you, all we need is a sentence or two about why the MCH project didn't appeal to you.

To remind you, the MCH project involved meeting up with other Disabled people, in one of four places across Bristol, for a coffee/tea and chat, share information and discuss the main disability issues in your local community – including issues that affect every community in Bristol.

Here is some of our most recent feedback and a recent photo taken by Dan at [JobsNetworkBristol](http://JobsNetworkBristol.com).

"I found the making change happen meet up a really interesting experience"

"we discussed the state of Bristol's bus service and we had a discussion about how people in wheelchairs often have to plan their journeys in advance, taking into account such things as bin collections and blocked paths and access to dropped curbs."

"I recently had to push my friend in his wheelchair and it was an eye opening experience having to think ahead which side of the road to be on in case"



**Making
Change
Happen**



funded
through



there wasn't another dropped curb or if there was a build-up of traffic preventing us from crossing the road, and I think that is why the making change happen meetings are eye opening, because although I would like to think of myself as a considerate person, we all, including people in positions of authority and providers of services, have blind spots to the needs of others."

"it's important that all people, able bodied or disabled, have the opportunity to have their voices heard and participate in the decision making processes that affect their lives."

August Dates

- Thursday 1st August at 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
The Beehive Centre, Whitehall, BS5 7AW
- Monday 5th August at 11.00 am – 1.00 pm
St Pauls Learning Centre, BS2 8XJ
- Friday 16th August at 11:00am – 1:00pm The Hub,
Lockleaze BS7 9FB
- Friday 30th August at 10:30 – 12:30pm Gatehouse Centre Café BS13 9JN

To find out more please get in touch:

Call: Tel. 0117 914 0528

or email Mike: mike.bristoldef@gmail.com



School's out for Summer!

It's officially the summer holidays – well at least it is for the kids! Thankfully, there are plenty of accessible and inclusive activities to enjoy for all the family. Click on the events for more information.

[Multi Sport, Health and Wellbeing Event hosted by Cerebral Palsy Plus and Access Sport](#) – 8th August at St Pauls Community Sport Centre

[Gympanzees Pop up Summer Event](#) (booking required) – 29th July -23rd August at Kingsweston School BS11 0UT

[An Inclusive Curious City hosted by WECIL and We The Curious](#) (booking required) – 28th August at We The Curious

[Rock Climbing with Bristol Inclusive Thrill Seekers](#) (booking required) – Various dates and locations.

AccessAble Needs YOUR Help

AccessAble (previously DisabledGo) produce online Access Guides by going in person to a venue and collecting factual information, measurements and photographs. The idea is so that people can view a venue before going there to know about various pieces of information such as lighting levels, hearing loops, door widths, accessible toilets and much more!

AccessAble will be surveying 25 new venues in Bristol over the summer and would like to invite you to an event in which you would be able to make suggestions for new venues to be surveyed.

For those of you who have or have not had a chance to nominate venues to be surveyed, an event will take place on Monday 19th August between 1-3pm at City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR.

You will need to secure yourselves a place - email hello@AccessAble.co.uk

AccessAble App can be downloaded free of charge on all smartphones.

[Android](#)

[iPhone](#)

Petition – Make Disability Hate Crime a Specific Criminal Offense

Disability hate crime must become a specific criminal offence and the Government must review how the criminal justice system works for non-verbal disabled people.

Sign the petition [here](#).

Launch of 'Know Your Human Rights' online tool.

NSUN trustee, Rachel Rowan Olive, attended the launch of the British Institute of Human Rights online tool earlier this month. The 'Know Your Human Rights' tool is aimed at helping mental health service users raise issues around human rights in their care. BIHR are looking at how they can make sure the tool is widely used and get feedback on how to develop it further.

Read more [here](#).

Volunteers needed!

The Forum is looking for volunteers to work with us. We have lots of roles available but we also welcome your ideas about what you could do.

We would also like to hear member's ideas about what we should be focusing on and what is most important to Disabled people in Bristol.



If you have time to spare, please contact us!

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.

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