

# Winter Newsletter 2024



Thank you for supporting our Festive Bauble Appeal



# Members Committee

## Thanet



Pat

Housing



Natasha

Margate Hub



Amy

Margate Hub  
and Community



David

Ramsgate Hub



Natalie

Ramsgate Hub

## Herne Bay



Ellie

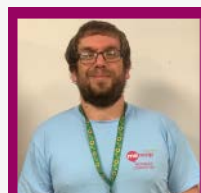
Hub



Paul

Housing and  
Community

## Swale



Ian

Hub

## Deal



Stephen

Housing

## GOLD



Ben



If you have something to share get in touch with a committee member or email [memberscommittee@eastkentmencap.co.uk](mailto:memberscommittee@eastkentmencap.co.uk)

# Members Committee News



We can now have our Members Committee meetings using Teams on our KARA tablets and this is a great achievement

We have set dates for our next tenants and members meetings across all Hubs and Housing for the next 3 months



We sent a letter to all East Kent Mencap services thanking them for their help and support in 2023

# Hello from our CEO Jason Gerlack



Welcome to the Winter Newsletter

I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year

I do hope you had a relaxing break



Thank you to everyone who worked over the holiday to keep our services running



2023 was a difficult year and we expect the cost of living crisis to continue in 2024

We will do all we can within our services to reduce the impact on you



The Festive Bauble Appeal raised just over £1000 which helped to fund our Christmas events and activities

Thank you to all the people and businesses in our communities who kindly supported us



Congratulations on all your amazing achievements in 2023

I hope you enjoy reading about them and I look forward to seeing you soon

Best wishes  
Jason

# News



We had six finalists and two winners at the Kent Care Awards 2023

Paul said I attended the award ceremony with Lucy Kathy and Rosie and we proudly celebrated the success of East Kent Mencap



GOLD worked with local artist Carson Parkin-Fairley to create the Icons of Ramsgate project

Patrick said the artworks were displayed at The Wooden Box Gallery for our friends family and the community to enjoy



Kent Fire and Rescue Service came to the Swale Hub

Lewis said they gave a fire safety talk with helpful advice on how to keep safe



New mum Molly proudly introduced baby Ezra to her East Kent Mencap friends

The Thanet Housing Team supported Molly during her pregnancy and were thrilled to meet Ezra



The GOLD project supported Kathy with her new job at The Tizard Centre University of Kent

Kathy said I attended my first training course in Dudley and stayed overnight

Congratulations Kathy

# News



Swale Hub members attended the Meadowfield School SEN Pathway Event

Lee said we had a great time chatting with the students parents and carers and sharing our experiences



The Bowling Club is enjoying a welcome return  
Come along every Wednesday from 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Bugsys Bowling in Margate

Please contact Ange Brown on 07818 497093 for more information



We have launched lots of new sessions at our Hubs

Melanie said I am learning new skills which is what I wanted to do

To find out more talk to your local Hub



Thank you to everyone who kindly supported our Christmas fundraising appeal

A special thank you to

Asda Broadstairs

Broadstairs and St Peters Bowling Club

Co-op Ramsgate

Dunelm Broadstairs

Herne Bay Baptist Church

Ideas UK

Ramsgate Radio

Slimming World at St Georges School and St Philips Church

St Johns Thanet Lodge

Tesco Manston

Thanet and District Reform Synagogue



# News



The Complex Needs Hub were over the moon with the Air Fryer and ingredients donated by Tesco Manston for their cooking sessions



Members of the Herne Bay Hub sewing group visited The ScrapStore in Ramsgate to choose their Christmas crafting materials

Senior Support Worker Vicki said we could have spent hours there



Groups from our Thanet and Complex Needs Hubs joined together to sing carols at Westwood Cross and raise more valuable funds

David said it was absolutely fantastic



Our Swale Hub made table decorations with amazing volunteer Gemma from Sheppey Matters using plants and leaves from the allotment

Vanessa said I enjoy the gardening sessions and especially loved making my table decoration



Herne Bay Hub hosted a Christmas market and warmly welcomed Councillor Tom Mellish the Sheriff of Canterbury

Friends family and the local community came along to see everyones achievements and hard work

# News



The Community Support team hosted a lunch at Radford House in Ramsgate for people who would be on their own at Christmas

Thank you Radford House for letting us use your fantastic space



Clifford from our Ramsgate Hub created a fabulous festive painting which he named I'm in love with Christmas

Clifford's painting is available as an ecard on [www.dontsendmeacard.com](http://www.dontsendmeacard.com)



The Gateway Club is back and we held a disco to launch its return

The club will be open every Monday at Ramsgate Hub from 6.30pm to 8.30pm

If you would like more information talk to Angela Hughes



Our final Ashford event of the year was a quiz and social evening

Call Kelly Forrest or Louise McAlpine for details of Ashford events in 2024 on 07490 773593



Save the date

Valentines Disco at the Red Arrow Club in Ramsgate on 9 February 2024 at 7pm

Email [fiona.wonford@eastkentmencap.co.uk](mailto:fiona.wonford@eastkentmencap.co.uk) for more details

# Photo gallery



Getting creative and sharing festive joy



Celebrating with friends and creating memories



## Get in touch

 [www.eastkentmencap.co.uk](http://www.eastkentmencap.co.uk)

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