

Autumn Newsletter 2024



Photo credit Cemanthe Mckenzie

GOLD social singing showcase



Fashion show success



Award winning team

Members Committee

Thanet



Pat

Housing



Natasha

Margate Hub



Amy

Margate Hub
and Community



David

Ramsgate Hub



Natalie

Ramsgate Hub

Herne Bay



Paul

Housing and
Community



Ian

Housing and
Community



Stephen

Housing



Ben

GOLD



If you have something to share get in touch with a committee member or email memberscommittee@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Event news



The Red Arrow Halloween Disco has been cancelled

The next Red Arrow disco will be on Friday 14 February 2025
Ask Fiona Wonford for more information



The Unite Ashford and East Kent Mencap Halloween disco is
on Friday 25 October at St Simons Hall Brookfield Road
Ashford from 7pm to 10pm and tickets are £5 each



Come and join us for carol singing on
Thursday 5 December at Tesco Sheerness from 11am
Wednesday 11 December at Westwood Cross from 10.30am
Friday 13 December at Morrisons Herne Bay from 10.30am

Hello from our CEO Jason Gerlack



Welcome to the Autumn Newsletter

It has been inspiring to hear about your many achievements and know that the Members Committee is speaking up for everyone who uses our services



Please keep telling us what matters most to you
This is important because your views help us to learn and improve our services



The Members Committee and I will be working together more closely on campaigns to talk about issues that are important to everyone with a learning disability



A campaign is a way to tell people about something important

If there is something you would like us to campaign about please talk to your Members Committee representative



We are very grateful to have such a dedicated and committed team at East Kent Mencap

Karen is a Support Worker at our Thanet Hub and recently marked her 25th anniversary

Thank you Karen for everything you have done



Congratulations to Vicki Wilks at Herne Bay Hub for winning the Putting People First Kent Integrated Care Alliance award

Read on to find out more

Best wishes
Jason

Members Committee News



Ellie will be leaving the Members Committee

Ellie said I have really enjoyed my time on the committee but would like to give someone else the chance to represent the Herne Bay Hub

Ellie has been on the committee for four years and helped us to achieve so many great things

Thank you Ellie for all your hard work and for everything you have done for the committee



Stephen said Jason Gerlack joined our last meeting and we talked about ways that we can work together to campaign about important issues that effect everyone with a learning disability



Ben said we have been working with the Senior Management Team on the parent carer survey

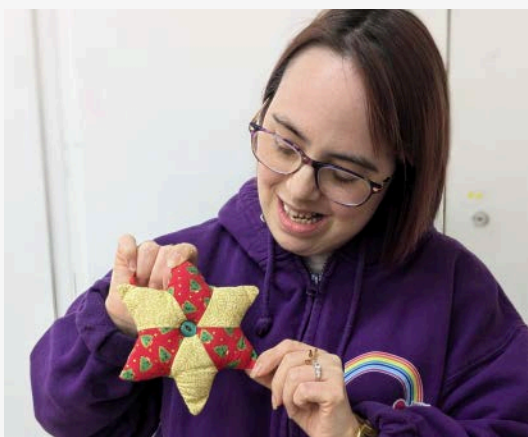
We have been sharing our feedback and suggesting new images and wording to improve it



Natalie said we raised over £1000 at the Fashion Show and Pre-loved Clothes Sale on 20 August at Holy Trinity Church in Margate

Thank you to everyone who supported us and to all the amazing volunteers

It was a fantastic event and I loved being part of it



Amy said we will be raising money this Christmas with our Star Appeal

Donate £10 and receive a beautiful star made by our amazing team of crafty volunteers and I am one of them

Louise Topping will be in touch soon with details of how you can get a star

News



Emma said Vicki Wilks Senior Support Worker at our Herne Bay Hub won the Putting People First Award at the Kent Integrated Care Alliance (KiCA) Awards

I enjoyed going to the awards with Holly and meeting new people

Vicki said I never thought I would be awarded for something I love doing



The ScrapStore has received £16100 from the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

This amazing support means The ScrapStore will be opening every Friday and from Saturday 2 November it will be open every Saturday too

If you have any free time to volunteer on a Saturday please get in touch with elizabeth.cake@eastkentmencap.co.uk



Thank you to Thanet District Council for funding the six week Arabian dance classes at the Margate Hub

Amy said it was a great new experience and I enjoyed the dancing



Kelly Forrest Herne Bay Hub Coordinator said we held planning meetings for upcycling and crafting events in Ashford

Thank you to everyone who came and shared their ideas

More updates will follow soon

News



SGN
Your gas. Our network.

We are excited to announce that we will be working in partnership with SGN to provide energy safety information to people with a learning disability across East Kent

We will be launching our partnership on Friday 25 October at the Swale Hub and Members Committee representatives Amy, Paul and David will be attending

Becky Walker is our Project Coordinator and will be visiting all our services to share information soon



Mark said Swale Hub held a community beach clean-up at Sheerness Beach

Thank you and well done to the litter picking group and volunteers who came and helped



Please try to keep our community tidy by putting your rubbish in the bin and stop throwing litter on the floor as it is harmful to the environment and wildlife and our planet



Patrick said GOLD (Getting On with Learning Difficulties) celebrated the end of our Looping The Loop social singing sessions with a show at Foresters Hall to family and friends

If you are thinking about joining a choir I say go for it as you will enjoy it and rejoice in being part of a group and you will make friends easily



To watch our interview with Ramsgate Radio visit www.ramsgateradio.com/socialsinging

News



Senior Support Worker Vicki Wilks said Herne Bay Hub had a great time at the Herne Bay Carnival

Everyone loved the whole process from creating the beautiful decorations to being in the parade

It was a team effort and it was amazing to be part of such a fantastic community event



Della Heaton Housing and Community Manager said thanks to the team for supporting this holiday, it was a great opportunity and fun was had by all

Gary said I think Butlin's was fantastic and the staff were very supportive and we had lots of laughs

Alison said I liked the dancing and shows



We were very touched that the late Mandy Williams daughters chose to donate money to The ScrapStore in her memory

Thank you to everyone who donated it will make a huge difference to The ScrapStore

If you would like to set up a donation in memory of someone please email louise.topping@eastkentmencap.co.uk



Louise McAlpine Herne Bay Hub Coordinator said join us on Friday 29 November for our Christmas market from 2pm to 4pm at the Herne Bay Hub

Come and celebrate the festive season with us

Autumn photo gallery



Get in touch

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