

NewsLink

News, news and information from Peterborough Disability Forum

April 2018

Inspire Peterborough on the verge of closure



A disabled veteran is one of many devastated people facing the prospect of losing access to sport and exercise activities in Peterborough after a city charity failed to receive renewed funding. Inspire Peterborough says it is facing the real prospect of going bust in a few months after Sport England decided not to allocate more money to continue helping disabled people in the city.

The charity, which formed after the Paralympic Games in London, is now trying to raise £10,000 to keep it afloat as it seeks new long-term funding. Inspire Peterborough's gym in Amilly House, Stanground, is popular with many disabled people, including wheelchair user Barry Plumb. He said "Coming to the gym is not just about keeping fit, it's about meeting new people and making new friends, "When I became disabled, if I did not make a lot of effort to keep fit my health would deteriorate. At the age of 57 I'm doing my best to keep fit and agile through seated exercise classes. It makes a huge difference to how I feel. It would be a tremendous loss if it was not here."

Barry has now convinced former military medic Andy, who suffered a spinal injury called AS while serving in Iraq, to join him at the gym. Andy (47) from Whittlesey, who did not wish to give his surname, said: "AS responds to exercise. The more you keep fit the better you manage your health. I'm a convert to the gym and I'm in the process of trying to get other ex-military people to come along."

The charity has helped more than 3,000 people take part in sporting activities in the past four years and helped thousands more learn what facilities are available to them. That support includes the annual Sporting Saturday where people with disabilities can try lots of different sports. Inspire Peterborough manager Nikki Griffiths said its affordable activities help people of all ages - whether it be improving the health and confidence of children or getting a 102-year-old to do Tai chi others." Contact Nikki@inspirepeterborough.com if you can help.

Disability Awareness Week at Serpentine Green



“A fantastic week” enthused Disability Peterborough Children’s adviser, Sam Stokes. Sam was one of the locally based charities workers who spent the week talking to visitors who wanted to find out more about the work of Disability Peterborough and how it benefits disabled people in the city.

Serpentine Green Centre Manager, David Wait said, it’s our 2nd Disability Awareness Week and again it’s been a tremendous success. I’m pleased that we can support a much needed initiative”.

Help a neighbour during wintery times, says Barry Plumb



“One of my mates, who happens to be a wheelchair user, has just emailed to tell me about the difficulty he had getting his bin back in during the recent snow. To be honest, the bin men did a brilliant job to get around but occasionally the bins were left stranded.

If you have a neighbour who has problems taking their bin in, give them a bit of help please and move the bin back in somewhere more convenient and easier to access! A neighbour is not just for winter!”

Peterborough Special Olympic Swimming team



Members of Peterborough Special Olympic Swimming team along with chair Joh Roberts were pleased to attend the annual Rotary Club of Peterborough Werrington Sponsored Swim Presentation on Tuesday 20th March 2018 at Milton Golf Club.

A short presentation from the Rotary Club on the work they do was followed by the presentation of cheques to the nominated charities. Pictured above is Joh and the swimmers receiving a cheque for £660 from Rotary Club President Diane Speechley.

A hot and cold buffet was served after what was a lovely end to a very lovely evening. The money will be put towards the swimming clubs ‘KEEP US AFLOAT’ campaign to help pay for pool hire and coaching costs for the year.

Talking Disability-Peterborough just gets busier

Joining presenter Bryan Tyler recently on Talking Disability- Peterborough was two of the city's leading citizens, David Wait, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Cllr John Fox, Mayor of Peterborough. David is about to embark on a series of extreme challenges on behalf of local disability groups and Cllr Fox was discussing his year in office and raising funds for Sea Cadets and Shopmobility, organisations very close to his heart.

'It's a disgrace to British airports'



A BBC journalist has accused Heathrow Airport of having a 'casual disregard for disabled people' after staff lost his wheelchair and left him stuck on his plane. Frank Gardner claims he was left stranded for '100 minutes' before he could get off his recent flight from Ethiopia. The security correspondent says staff delivered his wheelchair to the terminal building instead of the plane door, leaving him 'stuck on an empty plane'.

Mr Gardner, who has been in a wheelchair since he was shot six times by militants in Saudi Arabia in 2004, took to twitter to slam the airport. It is the third time the journalist has experienced problems at London airports this year after similar incidents happened at Gatwick in January and Heathrow in February.

He wrote: 'I am so utterly sick of Heathrow Airport ground staff 'losing' my wheelchair. Over 70 minutes after landing back from Ethiopia I'm still stuck on an empty plane while they try to find it. Just when is UK's premier airport going to stop treating disabled passengers this way?'

A social media spokesman for the airline replied: 'Hi Frank, we are really sorry to hear that. Are you able to DM us with further information?'

But Mr Gardner replied: 'Apology not accepted. You do this every time. You 'create a case number' then it happens again the next time. This casual disregard for disabled passengers is a disgrace to British airports.' The furious exchange ended with Mr Gardner telling his 80,000 followers: 'Finally off after 100 minutes. I've had better treatment in Djibouti'.

A Heathrow spokesman said: 'We apologise unreservedly if the service Mr Gardner received today fell short of the experience we aim to provide to our passengers. We are working with the responsible airline to investigate what went wrong in this case.'

Trials that give hope to millions

Researchers have identified 12 drugs undergoing clinical trials that could slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease from mild symptoms to full-blown dementia by up to 50 per cent.

All of these drugs under development are intended to fight the disease, not just relieve symptoms, as is the case in existing drugs.

The main category is those that target the sticky beta amyloid proteins that build up as a plaque in the brain of an Alzheimer's patient. Some attack the plaque by stimulating the brain's natural immune response – others break it up through a chemical process.

A second category is anti-inflammatory drugs. One surprising inclusion on the list is the diabetes drug insulin.

Another drugs undergoing trials is one that attacks tau, a substance that builds up in Alzheimer's disease and damages brain cells essential for learning and memory

Taxi driver refuses Guide Dog



A taxi driver refused to take a guide dog in his vehicle because he claimed it had licked the vehicle's gear stick. Zaman Khan refused to take Martyn Richardson and his guide dog, Janet in his Hyundai i40 estate. Mr Richardson had called ADT asking them to take him, two friends and Labrador Janet home after a night out

Mr Richardson said he got into the taxi's front passenger seat with his guide dog sitting in the footwell. He added: 'I had phoned ADT and told them I had Janet and two friends and there would be three drop-off locations. When I got in the taxi, the driver said he didn't want the dog in his car and said he was scared of dogs. He said "no dog, no dog!" I said "shall I get out?" and he said "yes" I might have said "I'm scared of you as well". It was meant as a sarcastic comment. I had only sat in the taxi for a matter of five or 10 seconds. I didn't want any fuss and thought I'd just walk home. I just wanted to get away from the situation.'

Khan pleaded not guilty to refusing to take Mr Richardson and his guide dog, an offence under the Equalities Act. He was found guilty of the offence and ordered to pay a £400 fine and £400 towards prosecution costs. Khan will have to re-apply the licensing committee before driving a taxi again.

Sainsbury in Parnwell ignore disabled customers



Several disabled shoppers with Blue Badges have contacted the Disability Forum about the lack of consultation or consideration from Sainsbury in Parnwell. The supermarket has undergone some considerable improvements work recently but in doing so took away many of the much needed disabled parking bays. Disability Forum co chair Barry Plumb said, "I have made repeated requests to see the manager but no one from Sainsbury has even had the decency to respond. Building works are a part of life we all understand that, but to take away the disabled bays causes lots of problems for people with mobility problems"

"RISE 4 Disability" East Midlands: Uniting Disability Services

Event details: Thursday 12th July, 9:30am- 4:00pm. East of England Arena and Events Centre, Peterborough

RISE 4 Disability is the most comprehensive regional disability event within the UK. Our mission is to unite all disability services. Returning for our second event at The East of England showground, This year's event will feature over 100 exhibitors offering advice and products for disability and will compromise of:-

- * The Ability Zone and theatre with local charities and service providers, some exciting guest speakers and our very own mascot the "Ability Bee".

- * The Mobility Zone showcasing the latest accessible vehicles, scooters and wheelchairs on the market.

- *The Housing Zone for home improvements, adaptations and advice.

- *The Sports and Activity Zone, delivered by inspire Peterborough and will include a range of inclusive sports and activities and a skills showcase stage with performances throughout the day!

- *The Networking Zone, 'take the load off', and take the opportunity to network and socialise with over 1000+ attendees throughout the day!

There will be a huge selection of innovative, new and existing products, activities and service to see and try, so anybody with an interest in disability should attend this FREE event Visit

www.rise4disability.com/venues/Peterborough to register for **FREE** or call us on **01268 206251** to find out more information.



Equality delivery event

WHEN: 17th April 2018

9.30am to 3pm

**WHERE: King's House, 245 Amptill Road,
Bedford, MK42 9AZ**

(previously the Crayola Building)

Lunch and drinks will be provided

The East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST) is holding a grading event of our Equality Delivery System (2). This system helps NHS organisations improve the services they provide for their local communities and to ensure these services are free from inequality and discrimination. The system helps us to meet requirements under the Equality Act 2010 and public sector equality duty.

If you have used the ambulance service we are keen to hear your thoughts and opinions on the service we provide. This is your opportunity to hear about what we have been doing and what we are developing. You will be invited to participate in discussions to review our performance and to tell us how you think we are performing and to identify areas and ways that we can improve.

**If you are interested in attending email
amanda.marsh@eastamb.nhs.uk or text 07765 404833 (for
this event only) by 27th March.**

**Please advise if you have any dietary or accessibility
requirements.**

**Please be assured that your personal details will not be
shared and confidentiality is guaranteed.**



THISISEAST

Innovative. Responsive. Excellent. Always community focused. Always patient driven.

Amilly Fitness

Inclusive health and wellbeing centre

inspire
Peterborough
enhancing lives

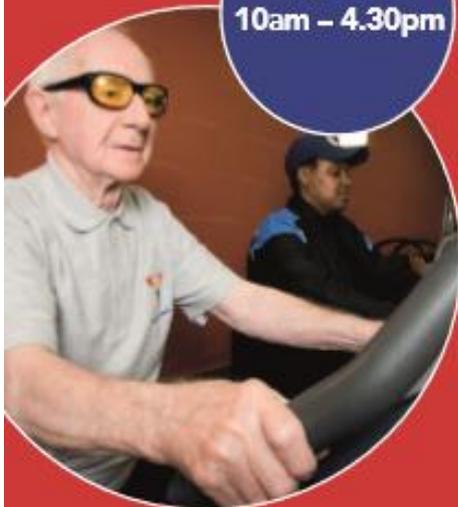


£2 per
session



Mondays and
Wednesdays

OPEN:
10am – 4.30pm



Inspire Peterborough have teamed up with Oak Activities to run an inclusive fitness centre for adults with a long term health condition, special need, physical, mental, sensory or learning disability.

Chair based exercise classes and open gym sessions

Booking essential via
www.bookwhen.com/amilly-fitness
or for group bookings please call 01733 330 815

Amilly House, 88 South Street, Stanground PE2 8EZ

Contact Inspire Peterborough for more information

www.inspirepeterborough.com | [/amilly-fitness](https://www.facebook.com/amilly-fitness)
T: 01733 330 815 | E: contact@inspirepeterborough.com

Disability Peterborough Project/Registered Charity Number: 1089250



And finally.....Some useful numbers

Age UK 01733 564185

Care and Repair 01733 863895

CareZone 01733 575083

Carers Trust Peterborough 01733 645234

City Care Clinic 01733 293800

Child Benefit 0845 302 1444

Department of Work and Pensions (new claims) 0800 055 6688

Disability Peterborough (DIAL) 01733 265551

Fire and Rescue Service 0800 917 9994

Headway Cambridgeshire 01223 576550

Housing Options 01733 864064

Inland Revenue – Tax Credits 0845 300 3900

Inspire Peterborough 01733 330815

Peterborough Association for the Blind 01733 344 844

Peterborough Community Assistance Scheme 0844 4994120

Peterborough Direct 01733 747474

Peterborough City Hospital 01733 678000

Peterborough Pensioners Association 01733 270528

Peterborough Police 101

Samaritans 08457 909090

Shopmobility 01733 313133

St Georges Hydrotherapy Pool 01733 453583

YMCA GYM 01733 313 085