



Wirral Society of the Blind and Partially Sighted

News Letter

August 2020



Reg. Charity No.

Charity No: 1147170 Company Limited by Guarantee No: 07982870

Dear all

We hope you have all been well during this very difficult time. We have continued to provide support and services to our members with the help of funders who have provided the Society with the support needed to enable us to set up distant provision. We are now working towards re- opening Ashville Lodge and have provided details on the procedures that have been set in order to do this.

We are all facing challenging times and will continue to work together to ensure our services start to return using guidelines and advice. We are taking a positive approach and look forward to welcoming you back to Ashville Lodge with confidence that we can provide support and keeping us all safe and well. We have learned a lot through this period and will continued to apply new ways of ensuring services return safely.

With our very best wishes.

We look forward to welcoming you back to Ashville Lodge.



Dear Members and Friends

We are very happy to inform you all that we now have our plans in place for the re-opening of Ashville Lodge.

Unfortunately, we are not able to run the social groups at this time but hope that once things settle we can re-introduce the social elements of the Society. We will obviously keep you all informed of this.

For the time being we are only running the tutor-led courses and because of the Covid-19 we must impose certain restrictions so as to maintain the health and safety of all our members and staff. Anyone attending the centre will be required to wear an appropriate face covering and if necessary, gloves.

The courses will run for 10 weeks and all members wishing to take part must enrol by calling 0151 652 8877. We have had to restrict the numbers to 6 for each course so you are advised to call as soon as possible. The cost per session will be unchanged at £3.00. Each session will last for 90 minutes and will not include a break however, you are welcome to bring your own refreshments.

Unfortunately, we can no longer accept drop-in visitors. Anyone wanting advice or assistance regarding Low Vision Aids or Advocacy must book an appointment.

We can assure all members that Ashville Lodge has been certified Covid-19 safe to return but we must insist on these procedures to ensure your safety.

If you have any questions please call on 0151 652 8877.

The course start dates are as follows:

5 August	1330 – 1500	Craft	Jo
6 August	1030 – 1200	Art	Jo
6 August	1330 – 1500	Craft	Jo
7 August	1400 – 1530	IT	Keith (By appointment)
11 th August	14.00 – 15.30	History	Keith

The pottery classes will commence as follows:

19 August	1030 – 1200	Pottery	Clare
21 August	1330 -1500	Pottery	Clare



During the last months we have had a time of sadness. We are all so desperately sad to lose a friend and colleague, Teri Holmes.

Teri put her heart and soul into the Society for the past 30 years and she made a positive difference to the lives of many people. She was instrumental in setting up and running numerous projects including a Community Interest Company VISABLE (Visually Impaired Students Accessing Business, Learning and Enterprise. From this, she created many opportunities to support students in building skills and confidence to choose their own development pathways; this led to winning an award for business enterprise.

Teri was a Director right to the end. She was not just a colleague but also a mentor, Matriarch and most of all, a very dear friend. She loved Ashville Lodge and all it stands for and we love and respect her for the support and guidance she gave to us all.

Teri was and still is part of the Fabric of Ashville Lodge and we will never forget the huge influence she had on building the Charity with her positive approach to everything.

We will never forget this remarkable lady.

Remembered always with love.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following organisations for the kind support given during the COVID19 crisis. This support has helped us to continue services and keep the Charity going.



LCR Cares - COVID 19 Community Support Fund



Crisis Grant Support

Charities Aid Foundation COVID19 Emergency Fund

Tesco Bags of Help COVID-19 Communities Fund

Thomas Pocklington Trust

Wirral Borough Council





We would like to pay our respects and remember two of our members who we sadly lost during this time.

Mr. Peter Melling **April 2020**

Mrs. Teri Holmes **July 2020**

They will be missed and always remembered by all their friends and colleagues at Ashville Lodge.

With our love.

