



Zone-Info!

The-Zone! newsletter, free for those who want to know what we do for local families with additional needs

www.The-Zone.org.uk

Issue 3

September - December 2014

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Get in touch

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Teen Zone

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www.facebook.com/TheZoneASD

Twitter: #The-Zone!

Get involved!

The-Zone! needs you!
Committee meeting/AGM
on Wednesday 12th November
at The-Zone! 6 - 7pm

(this will follow-on from the After School Zone session)

It is really important that as many of our members attend as possible as we have major changes happening and desperately need an active committee! Please consider coming along and becoming more involved with the running of The-Zone! If we cannot find volunteers then we will have no alternative but to close down the charity.

Please do get in touch if you cannot make the meeting but wish to volunteer - we need all the help we can get!



Huge thanks....

One of our mums, Janet Stubbings, who regularly attends The-Zone! with her son, was incredibly brave and abseiled down the side of Guildford Cathedral whilst wearing her zone t-shirt for us and raised a fantastic £490.96!! Although it was terrifying, she had a really good time and is even thinking of doing something just as brave again. Janet, we love you!



Another one of our very supportive members, Jane Baker, has a lovely mum Mary Lambert, who has been making and selling cards and has donated the £100 she's raised to us again - we really appreciate the time and effort you put into this for us.

Guardians Photography @ The-Zone!

Don't forget our photographer Karen Gater @ Guardians Photography-

www.facebook.com/GuardiansPhotography twitter.com/Guardians_Photo

October 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
X	X	1 Zone-In! After School Zone 3 - 6pm	2	3	4	5
6	7 Zone-In! Coffee Zone! 9am - 12pm	8 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	9	10 Teen Zone-In! 6 - 8pm	11 Zone-In! Saturday Zone 10.30am - 2.30pm	12
13	14	15 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	16	17	18	19
20	21 Please note: NO Coffee Zone	22 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	23	24	25 Zone-In! Saturday Zone 10.30am - 2.30pm	26
27	28	29 Zone-In! Fun Zone! 10.30am— 2.30pm	30	31	X	X

November 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
All Zone-In! sessions are at: The-Zone! Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College, Ballantyne Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 8SS.				X	1	2
3	4 Zone-In! Coffee Zone! 9am - 12pm	5 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	6	7	8 Please note: NO Saturday Zone	9
10	11	12 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm Committee meeting 6 - 7pm	13	14	15	16
17	18 Please note: NO Coffee Zone	19 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	20	21 Teen Zone-In! 6 - 8pm	22 Zone-In! Saturday Zone 10.30am - 2.30pm	23
24	25	26 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	27	28	29	30

December 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2 Zone-In! Coffee Zone! 9am - 12pm	3 Zone-In! After School Zone 3 - 6pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	11	12 Teen Zone-In! 6 - 8pm	13 Zone-In! Saturday Zone 10.30am - 2.30pm	14
15	16 Please note: NO Coffee Zone today	17 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	18	19	Have a very Merry Christmas! See you in 2015...	

January 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Happy new year everyone!			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	8	9	10	11
12	13 Zone-In! Coffee Zone! 9am - 12pm	14 Zone-In! After School Zone! 3 - 6pm	15	16	17 Zone-In! Saturday Zone 10.30am - 2.30pm	18

Fun we've had!

Snippets from some of our Summer holiday entertainment...



Bocketts Farm

We began our Summer with a day out at the farm; feeding the animals, watching the pig races, panning for gold, donkey rides and more. It was great fun and the sun shone for us all day!



Donutting

On Monday 4th August we went to Alpine Snowsports for an hour of donutting fun! It was brilliant seeing so many of the parents joining in the fun of whizzing down the slope with their children.



Bowling

We headed off to Farnborough Bowl on 11th August for a fun session bowling and hoping to get plenty of strikes. It was lovely to see so many enthusiastic families having a great time without any stresses.



Laser-Run

It was that time again, when everyone in the Laser-Run arena got very hot and sweaty running around like a loon... on Monday 18th August, we had the whole arena for an hour and made very good use of it too!



Ceramic painting

On Friday 29th August we headed to Just Ceramics in Fleet and created various masterpieces. From cups and plates to dolphins, teddy bears, dragons and unicorns! It was a lovely calm session (and the look of concentration on some faces was amazing but we avoided taking any photos!)



Fun Zones and Cuddly Cavies!

Our the Summer our Wednesday Fun Zone sessions were amazing fun; from the laughter on bouncy castle, the squeals of delight on the go-karts and the smiles from those exploring the tubs of pasta and lentils. We were honoured to be joined by Cuddly Cavies at our last session. It was brilliant to see so many smiling faces whilst holding the guinea pigs. Thank you www.cuddlycavies.co.uk



Gateway Cards

If your child lives in Hampshire or attends a Hampshire school and you haven't got a Hampshire Gateway Card please complete a form at www.hants.gov.uk/gatewaycard or ask us for a form at The-Zone! To view activities available across Hampshire to Gateway card holders, go to www.hampshiregateway.info

Once you have your card, please let us know your Gateway card number.



Zone-In!

at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College, Ballantyne Road, Farnborough, GU14 8SS
At The-Zone! we have tea, coffee, juice and biscuits but donations of supplies are always welcomed. Please note the timings - we politely request that you do not arrive before the start time and that you leave by the end time as our setup/pack up routines are safer without children around.

Parents/carers remain responsible for their children at all of our sessions & events!

Zone-In! sessions

This is the name for all sessions we hold at The-Zone! We will have all of our indoor equipment; games consoles (XboxOne, PS4, PS3, Wii's, Xbox360, handheld games; PSPs, DSIs, 3DSs) laptops, Ipads, Android tablets, arts, crafts and beads, Lego, Duplo, wooden train track and HappyLand sets (and probably more too!) We have plenty of tea, coffee, juice and biscuits.



Saturday Zone

Now only on one Saturday per month, 10.30am - 2.30pm. Check out the calendar pages for the dates or look on the website/Facebook group for up to date info. The cost is £2.50 per child and you are very welcome to bring along a packed lunch and stay for the whole session.

After School Zone

Every Wednesday after school during term-time, join us from 3 - 6pm. The cost is £2 per child. **We have taken the decision to cancel the Thursday sessions as they were not as well attended as the Wednesday ones.**

Fun Zone

Wednesday during October half-term, 10.30am-2.30pm. The cost will be £2.50 per child and you're are welcome to bring a packed lunch with you. If the weather is nice we will have the outdoor space with the outdoor toys, a bouncy castle, go-karts & trikers too.

Coffee Zone! for parents

Our drop-in coffee sessions will be held once a month and are for you to come along to at any point and have a coffee, chat and take a look at the branch library. You can stay for as long or short a time as you like. There's always plenty of biscuits! Pre-schoolers are always welcome - there's usually a couple of babies/toddlers there each time.



Hampshire
County Council

Hampshire funded activities!

Huge thanks to Hampshire Short Breaks
Inspiring You funding as without their help we
couldn't run these Zone-In! sessions!



Please remember our Zone Rules available on our website and in all previous newsletters -
you are responsible for your children at all of our activities and
you must supervise them at all times!

Have your say on future of Hampshire's Short Breaks service

A consultation on changes to the way short breaks for disabled children are provided in Hampshire opened on 19th September until 12th December 2014.

Of the total budget for children with disabilities (£19.7m), it is proposed that £1.85m (9.4%) of savings could be made by making changes to how open access short breaks services are currently provided.

Please take part and make your opinion count! You can complete the questionnaire online at

www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/specialneeds/disabled-children-consultation.htm

Alternatively, paper copies can be requested by emailing: disabledchildrenconsultation@hants.gov.uk or calling 01962 846370.

Hampshire Local Offer

On 8th September the Hampshire Local Offer website was launched - it is hoped that this will become the one place you'll need to find up to date information about services and support for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years with special educational needs and disabilities.

Take a look at www.hantslocaloffer.info If you can't find what you are looking for then email parentvoice@roseroad.org.uk or call 0300 303 8603.



Facebook

On Facebook we have a page that is for anyone who is interested in what we do. To join, go to www.facebook.com/TheZoneASD and click  Like

If you are a parent/carer of a child on the autistic spectrum or with similar issues, then join our closed Facebook group (only members within the group can see what you post) at www.facebook.com/groups/TheZone2014

Teen Zone!

Teen Zone-In!

These sessions are especially for those aged 11 years and over who want to come along and socialise with those who are a similar age. On one Friday each month, 6 - 8pm we will have all the Zone-In equipment, as well as the Hexbugs! You may bring 12+ rated games but they must be approved by a committee member FIRST. The cost will be £2 per child. Parents need to stay at these sessions but it's a great opportunity to talk to others who understand life with a teen on the spectrum. Please note: There WON'T be a tuck shop at the sessions, but you are welcome to bring snacks and drinks along with you (just nothing with nuts!)

Teen Zone-Out!

Due to the lack of funding for these events at the moment, these need to be self-funding activities. If you would like to organise a session, please feel free to see who else is interested on the Teen Zone Facebook page and go for it. A meal out or a trip to the cinema just needs a few teens each with a parent to be a success!



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We're on the web:

www.The-Zone.org.uk

Make sure you let us
know if you move or
change your e-mail
address.

If you don't, we can't
get this newsletter to
you!

Special Needs Information Day 2014

This year the Special Needs Info Day is on Saturday 11th October 2014 at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Wessex Close, Basingstoke RG21 3NP.

These free events have been organised for many years, giving families and practitioners the opportunity to gather information about support and services available across the county.

Visitors can come along at any time between 10am and 3pm to browse the exhibits and to chat to representatives from voluntary organisations and statutory services about a wide range of special needs and related issues.

Alongside the exhibition there are a series of workshops and information talks on offer, and visitors can pre-book their free places on the sessions of their choice.

Topics include:

- The Children & Families Act - what does this mean for families?
- Climbing a Mountain: Facing & overcoming obstacles with Asperger Syndrome
- Communication skills when managing challenging behaviour
- Dyslexia Awareness
- Fulfilling Potential, Maximising Opportunities - working with your children to prepare them and you for their adult life

There is ample free parking at the school. Refreshments and sandwiches will be available during the day (for which a small charge will be made). There will also be some entertainment for children attending the event with their parents/carers (we've heard Mr Giant will be in attendance again this year as well as the Honey-pot Playbus and Caterpillar Crafts!), as well as a pre-bookable childcare service.

Places can be reserved by:

- following the Survey Monkey link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/57HN3GF>
- contacting the Parent Partnership Service by email -
enquiries.pps@hants.gov.uk

Don't forget to visit the "drop in" rooms which are situated in the same block as the workshops and talks. Find out more about the changes in the SEND legislation, and try out the new Local Offer website - no need to book.

Any other queries, please contact the Parent Partnership Service on 01962 845870.

This is the newsletter of The-Zone! a local charity (charity no. 1156806) for special needs families in North East Hampshire.

Views expressed in this newsletter are for information only and reference to specific services or approaches to autism does not imply endorsement.

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