

VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

February 2008

Hallo

We are very pleased to welcome Maria Qureshi to Open Door and to welcome back Marjorie Alleyne. Pearl is now working at the Bridge as well as St. Mildred's.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

....and Goodbye

Although we said goodbye to Brenda Stephens in our last newsletter, her move is taking longer than expected so Open Door people may see her occasionally and as usual she will help out if you need cover. Unfortunately Nicky Buley has to leave Rainbow as she is moving to North London and Becky Swan now has a job so is unable to help the Art group. Thank you to both of them and they will be missed. We have also lost touch with Celsus at Open Door.

AGM

There will be an AGM of the Trustees and members, meeting on Thursday 13th March at 7 pm for 7.30 pm at St Mildred's Community Centre
Bingham Road
Croydon, CR0 7EB

There will be a formal meeting to review the work of the organisation in the year April 2006 - March 2007.

As we will be having a major event later this year to celebrate our 20th anniversary, this will be a tea, coffee and biscuits affair.

Volunteer Training Course

Will all new volunteers please confirm whether they are able to attend.

If you did the course some time ago or perhaps missed one or two of the sessions and would like to catch up, please let me know.

Please advertise this course to any groups that you know - it is not only for our volunteers.

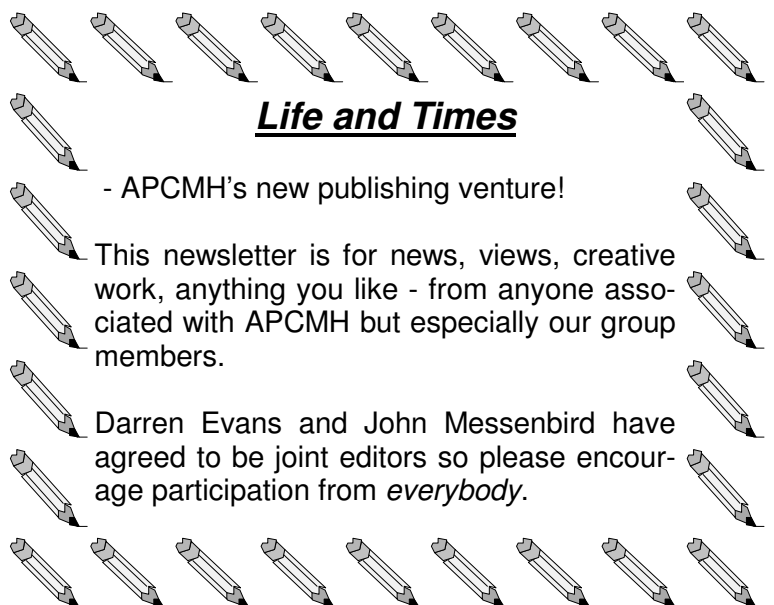
The dates are
April 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and May 7th.

Support/Training Group

The next Saturday support group will be 19th April, 10 am - 1 pm in the Bethlem Chapel followed by a simple lunch.

We will discuss any issues that volunteers want to cover but spend some time on '*Dealing with difficult situations*', which has been requested by some volunteers.

I also want to think about how we welcome new people



Life and Times

- APCMH's new publishing venture!

This newsletter is for news, views, creative work, anything you like - from anyone associated with APCMH but especially our group members.

Darren Evans and John Messenbird have agreed to be joint editors so please encourage participation from everybody.

20th Anniversary

We are 20 years old this year. The Croydon branch of the then APCMI was formed in June 1988.

We will be celebrating with an event on
Saturday 31st May 2008
at St. Mildred's.

We have not decided exactly what we shall be doing
but it will be
from 10 am to 4 pm
and will certainly involve lunch!

Please put the date in your diary.

Drop-Ins

Please try and get newcomers to fill in register cards - Esther is good about this at Rainbow and Open Door but please remember at the Bridge.

Registration cards and registers are really boring but also important so that we know how many people are attending and can show that we are attracting the widest group of people we can.

Our existing and potential funders need this information.

Day Care in Croydon

Volunteers may have heard that there are changes planned.

- As far as we know the APCMH drop-ins will not be affected at least in the next year or so.
- It is almost certain that Lantern Hall will close, which will cause some disruption to those who use it.
- There are likely to be some significant changes to the way the Fairfield Club runs but I think it is unlikely that it will close.
- Everybody who is affected by the changes will have their needs assessed, hopefully properly.

We need to be especially supportive about all this.

Please give me a ring if you have concerns or need more information.

St. Mildred's

We are now I hope fairly settled in the new venue. and there are just one or two things to bear in mind.

- We should try to leave rooms as we find them, so if we move furniture into them ensure that it is moved back - any tables or chairs already there should be left tidily.
- The storage area needs to be kept as tidy and unobtrusive as possible so please return things to their designated places. The registers should be in the blue plastic folders in the red Admin. box.
- Please put out notices as soon as possible to guide newcomers.
- Ask new people to fill in register cards.

A Reminder of the Diary Dates

13th Mar	AGM - St. Mildred's
2nd Apr	Training course starts, finishing 7th May - St. Mildred's
19th Apr	Support group - Bethlem Chapel
31st May	20th anniversary celebration - St. Mildred's