



Bristol Area Down's Syndrome Support

October 2009 Newsletter

This newsletter has been mailed to you because we are required to send the AGM papers in this way.

If you have not been receiving regular newsletter, we may not have the correct information on our database.

The majority of newsletters are now emailed to your designated email address as this saves a lot of money in postage.

If you want to change how you receive the newsletter or your designated email address, please contact Andrew on 0845 64 22377 or email info@badss.org.uk

15th November - Family Fun Day & AGM at Action Indoor Sports, Whitchurch

As well as a family fun-day from 11am - 2pm at this great venue (with sports, bouncy castle and entertainer laid on), it's our Annual General Meeting at midday - whilst the kids are being entertained!. Bring a packed lunch - the bar will be open for hot & cold drinks and we will provide squash for the kids; soft play area for younger members and space for the older ones to exert themselves in complete safety, simply come along for a chat an update of events happening, or simply just to exchange advice. Meet the committe and suggest things you would like us to organise, as well as hearing about previous events. We would like to invite members to join the committe, especially those with young children as we feel they are under-represented at present.

Welcome back after the Summer Holidays.

We saw a variety of popular trips to Legoland, Cotswold wildlife centre and Horserworld to name a few. The week long acting course for the Junior Down to Earth group proved so successful that we have started a Sunday group meeting in St Paul's and working with the same practitioners. For details, please contact Betty on 0117 956 1915 or bettyhumphries@sky.com

Annual Holiday

The Annual holiday to Ruda proved equally successful and we will be running a further holiday with provisional dates 4-7 June 2010. I have 10 left!! Price is the same as last year at £150 (which includes the BADSS subsidy). Additional caravans for family members will be £240 and will be subject to availability. We will need a £20 deposit per caravan immediately with further payments due in November and in the spring. For those who would like to extend their holiday to a full week the additional cost would be:

7 Nights 31st May - 7th June £429.00 - Because it is half term!!

7 Nights 4th June - 11th June £159.00 - So almost the same as last year.

Please use attached slip.

Important Information received from the DSA - Starting school or pre-school in 2010?

Hopefully by now you are well on your way to finalising your child's Statement of Special Education needs. A Statement is an invaluable and legally enforceable document which protects your child's education and makes sure they get the support they need in school. The Downs Syndrome Association recommends that all children with Downs Syndrome should have one once they enter the education system. You need one whether your child is educated in mainstream school, special school or at home. If you don't know what a Statement is, been told that you don't need one, been refused an assessment or are having any problems, then contact the Downs Syndrome Association helpline on 0845 230 0372 and ask to speak to the education advisor. There is a very useful website with good sample letters at www.ipsea.org.uk and we recommend that parents get a copy of the SEN code of practice which you can get for free by calling 0845 60 222 60. You can also get help from SPSC local parent partnership who can be contacted on 0117 9897725.

If any parent is having trouble with their child's statement please let us know and we will put you in touch with someone local who will be able to help.

Friday Friends meet every Friday at Hop, Skip and Jump 12pm – 2pm.

Drop in for a chat and a coffee whilst the children explore soft play, sensory room and toys.

Dates for your diary

31st October – Hallowe'en Party

Once again we will be having a kids Hallowe'en party at Frenchay Village Hall from 2-4.30pm. We will provide the entertainment, decorations and drink. You bring the fancy dress and a plate of food. There is no charge for this event. Anyone that would like to help set-up and decorate would be welcome from 1pm.

7th November – Heart to Heart Charity Ball

A special evening in aid of special children. On Saturday 7th November at The Bristol Hotel, Prince Street, Bristol 7pm till 1.00am Drink on arrival, 3 course dinner and coffee. Disco, raffle and auction price £37.00 per person. For tickets, please contact Helen England email Heng279683@aol.com or call 01179774778. A great evening and for those that have partners that don't dance, or cant find a babysitter we do have special Ladies only tables!!!!

13th December – Christmas Party

A date for your diary, this years Christmas party will be on 13th December at Keynsham British Legion 3 – 6pm more details in November's newsletter.

Theatre Tickets

Betty has tickets for "Over the Rainbow" based on the life story of Eva Cassidy. They are priced at £18.50 for Monday 22nd February performance. Please use the reply slip making cheques payable to Lloyds TSB by the 15th of December. **Please use attached slip.**

Christmas Panto at Redgrave Theatre 4th December 2009

The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School are putting on a production of **Dick Whittington** at the Redgrave Theatre. Tickets will be £10.00 on Friday 4th December at 1930. Requests for tickets, accompanied by cheques made out to BADSS, should be sent to me Patricia Stevens, 21 Parsonage Road, Long Ashton, Bristol BS41 9LN. **Please use attached slip.**

Cinema Trip

Junior Down to Earth Group Trip to the cinema on Monday 26th October - meet at the Vue Cinema at Longwell Green. Film to be advised week b/g 19/10/09 and a meal at Nando's. If you are interested in coming please contact Jane Powell 01179562706 or email jepowell@tiscali.co.uk. I will email once I know what films are available.

Committee Member Contacts

Chair [Zoe Warman](#) 0117 9701839
Treasurer [Paul Simson](#) 01454 311964
Secretary [Andrew King](#) 01454 315469
Minutes Secretary [Jane Yeoman](#) 0117 904 2807
Sibling Support [Nikki Fish](#) 0117 9665744
Down to Earth group [Sandie Davis](#) 01179708324
Newsletter Jane Powell 01179562706
Special Activities [Maggie Saunders](#) 0117 9096163
Theatre Tickets [Betty Humphries](#) 0117 9561915

Over the Rainbow	
Name:	
Address:	
No of tickets: (£18.50 each)	
Cheques made payable to Lloyds TSB . Send to Betty Humphries, 1 Quarry Road, Frenchay, BS16 1LY	

RUDA 2010	
Name:	
Address:	
No of Caravans: (deposit £20 each)	
Cheques made payable to BADSS . Send to Andrew King, Fourwinds, Cotswold Lane, Old Sodbury, Bristol, BS37 6NE	

Dick Whittington	
Name:	
Address:	
No of tickets For person with DS: (£0.00 each)	
No of other Tickets: (£10.00 each)	
Cheques made payable to BADSS . Send to Patricia Stevens, 21 Parsonage Road, Long Ashton, Bristol BS41 9LN	