

News from the North (Montgomeryshire that is!!!)

Christmas seems a million miles away now, but it was so good for so many of us to get together to share a Christmas dinner and disco at the amazing Metropole in December.

It was stunning to see so much effort to dress up for the occasion - suits and sequins all round.

It was a wonderful start just to roll up and walk along the red carpet to get into the hotel. Food was enjoyed by all, crackers fabulous, and then on to an excellent disco with brilliant dancing. I think we could actually have gone on for quite a bit longer as everyone was having such great time. It would be good to have your views on this and maybe a repeat next year?



A Note From Christine From The Rekindle Project

Rekindle and Powys Carers Service have been working in partnership in order to provide a chill club for young carers in the Newtown area. Rekindle specialises in working with people who are suffering from mental health problems, therefore giving their staff greater insight into the problems faced by young mental health carers. Chill club gives young carers the opportunity to enjoy themselves in the company of friends. The aim of Rekindle young people's project was to introduce young mental health carers into the general population of young carers, attempting to lessen the stigma attached to mental illness.

Unfortunately the funding for this project is coming to an end and Rekindle will gradually start to withdraw from the formal partnership forged with Powys Carers' Service. I will be conducting an evaluation of the service, with the aim of producing statistical evidence, to show that the project was valued and needed. Hopefully in the future other partnerships will be formed and young mental health carers will have the support they desperately need.

I would like to say a big thank you to Jane Keay for your support and friendship and a really big thank you to all of the young carers that attended the chill club; you are an inspiration to us all.

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Santa Run

This years' Santa Run was much wetter than previous years, but there were still 4000 of us wet or not !!! I still managed the route albeit slower than my record last year. Thanks to all of you who turned out on the day to support me, and to those who sponsored me also.

Drop In

Drop in at Welshpool High School is in lunch hour, every Wednesday, opposite Kay Jones' office. This is a great opportunity to have a natter and share news, especially for those of you who live out in the wilds and find it hard to make meetings and clubs- Just drop in !!!

Thanks

Thanks to all those who came and spoke on behalf of all Young Carers at the Funky Dragon meeting in Llandrindod Wells. I hope that there will be some positive outcomes from this.

After School Clubs.

After school clubs meet weekly for a chat and a de-stress session, in term times.

Always lots of food and friends and sometimes much more.

Congratulations

To Ben Jones who was very happily married this month to Lowri Jones in Newtown Registry Office. Our very first Young Carer to get married, I feel quite Cilla Blackish!!! And no, I didn't wear a hat!

Condolences

I would like to pass on our condolences to Leah and Nonny Thomas and family, for the loss of their mum, Deborah. Known and loved by so many of us, and admired for her strength and fortitude in her long fight against illness.

Llanidloes High School

Llanidloes High School has enlisted our help and Jane is at present taking several sessions of P.S.E. to help promote and raise awareness of Young Carers issues, especially in school. Thank you Rufus Fairweather for inviting us in.

Recess Club Recess club continues to meet regularly between 4pm and 6pm on Wednesdays at the Youth Club, in Welshpool. In addition to our usual social meetings we also had three popular trips to cinema taking in The Chronicles of Narnia, The Harry Potter

Movie and King Kong, plus a Chinese Food night just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays. Many, many thanks to Danielle for supporting us with each week with such caring and humour, without whom I could not run the club.