

# Spelthorne Committee Access Now



[info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk](mailto:info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk)

[www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk](http://www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk)



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## 30th Anniversary Edition 5 - July 2022



Sponsors for Newsletters 2022-2023

## TfL ULEZ Expansion Consultation – from

<https://www.disabledmotoring.org/news-and-features/news/post/782-tfl-ulez-expansion-consultation>

Wednesday, June 22nd, 2022

Transport for London (TfL) is running a public consultation until Friday July 29th to gauge public opinion on the proposal to expand the Ultra-Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) to cover most of Greater London.

Drivers of vehicles registered in the disabled taxation class will now be exempt from the ULEZ until October 2027 according to the consultation document. However, Blue Badge holders driving vehicles not in this tax class will have to pay the ULEZ charges.

DMUK will be submitting a response as the organisation representing disabled motorists. If you would like to submit your own response you can do so by visiting <https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/cleanair>.

## The History Of The Baywatch Surveys – Regular Surveys are made by Disabled Motoring UK (DMUK) to Monitor The Abuse Of Parking Bays For Disabled People.



The Baywatch campaign was first launched in 2002 when no supermarkets were committed to ensuring that accessible bays were not abused.

DMUK started with just the 'Big Four' Tesco, Morrisons, Sainsbury's and Asda, and the public were asked to record and submit details of the levels of disabled parking abuse during a specified period. DMUK then published a 'league table of the major stores' performance. The first survey revealed that one in four disabled bays at supermarkets were being abused. Asda ran a trial in 2007 introducing £60 fines for abusers of the spaces at some of its stores and a small survey undertaken 3 months after the fines were introduced revealed that abuse fell to just 3%.

In 2017 the surveys were expanded and returns were accepted from shoppers who used Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose, Co-Op and M&S, though it was hard to draw comparisons between the stores when Tesco had many more responses returned than Ald.

The Coronavirus pandemic forced a change to the format of the surveys and DMUK instead asked the public to send in their general parking experiences over the previous 12 months. This was repeated in 2021, but DMUK have yet to issue details of what they will do in 2022. The results of the 2020 and 2021 surveys can be viewed on

<https://www.disabledmotoring.org/baywatch-2021/baywatch-2021>



## **Creature Dis Comforts** – taken from Leonard Cheshire Disability website and still images by Aardman Animation

In this newsletter the serialisation continues of extracts from the advertising campaign, on behalf of Leonard Cheshire Disability, that was launched on line at [www.creaturediscomforts.org](http://www.creaturediscomforts.org) and in print in November 2007. Then in January 2008 the campaign was launched on tv and radio with the intention of changing attitudes towards disability. The cast of Creatures was then extended later in 2008.

Based on the Aardman Animations' Creature Comforts series, the '**Creature Dis Comforts**' animations have the voices of disabled people describing, in their own words, the negative attitudes and barriers they experience. Each animation ends with the message "**Change The Way You See Disability**".

In each of these commercials there are animated 'Creatures' talking to camera. There is also a microphone slightly in frame which indicates that an interview is being conducted and they are being recorded.



**TV Ad 4 - 'Sweet shop'** Tim is standing outside a sweet shop. In the background we can see two small tortoises (his children) playing on the steps behind him. He needs crutches to help him get around. Tim talking about living with his disability. (Tim): "*I tend*

*to only go to places that are accessible. Recently came across places which aren't, which are a bit difficult for me. I only wanted to buy some sweets for my children. And I went down to a sweet shop and couldn't get in. It makes me feel a bit cross - yeah, frustrated more than anything. Now I lose the will to get sweets.*"

**Tim** voiced by Ian who has multiple sclerosis and lived at a Leonard Cheshire Disability residential service in Cardiff, South Wales. He enjoys getting out to the local shops with his wife and children, but often finds access a problem. "*A couple of months ago, I went to a sports shop to buy some clothes and the aisles were so close together, it made it difficult to move. The shelves and clothes were so high up that I couldn't see anything. It was ridiculous!*" And people's attitudes are sometimes a barrier.

*"There are certain people who would talk to my wife and not me. People need to think it's not the wheelchair, not the disease that's causing problems... Talk to me, not to my position. See the person, not the disability."* Future ads feature; Millie – Mouse and Roxy - Rabbit, Callum - Chameleon, Ozzy - Owl, Cath - Cat and Sonny - Shrimp.



## Accessible Holiday Cottages

In 2018, SCAN's newsletter included a review by Paralympian Tom Aggar as he went in search of a truly accessible holiday cottage. The review was published in The Independent in January 2018

*As a wheelchair user, I often find myself making compromises to get the right holiday. Sometimes, that means compromising on accessibility. Competing and training for a Paralympic Games I sometimes find I stay in accommodation that has little or no adaptation for a chair user. But although I've got used to doing it, you shouldn't have to compromise when it comes to a holiday.*

*Luckily, at Kernock – a collection of five cottages, sleeping anything from two to 10 on a farm near Saltash – I didn't have to. Our cottage combined all mod cons with a homely vibe, perfect for an escape from the city. Kernock is around 25 minutes' drive from Plymouth, on the outskirts of the Tamar Valley, inland from Looe. The Eden Project is 50 minutes away, and Dartmoor National Park is about the same. The north coast is about an hour away.*

*Everything here has clearly been thought through. Only someone with the keenest eye would notice the subtle height reduction of the solid oak kitchen worktop, or the widened doors around the property. With a footprint of 1000sq ft, the cottage feels large, and there's plenty of space around the master bed to move without having to rearrange the whole room to make it wheelchair-friendly. **The author (Tom Aggar) stayed as a guest of Premier Cottages.***

### Travel essentials

Premier Cottages. [www.premiercottages.co.uk/](http://www.premiercottages.co.uk/)

We have a wide range of accessible holiday cottages suited to guests with different access requirements; from those who have visual or hearing impairments to those who require full wheelchair access. We've made it easy to find the properties which match your requirements by using our search facility, clicking on the "Filter Results" button, and scrolling down to the Accessible tab, where you can choose the category which suits your requirements.

Visit England's National Accessible Scheme to identify those properties which meet specific access criteria, meaning you can be sure that those properties with the relevant "yellow badge" will meet your requirements. This link has an explanation of each logo. [www.premiercottages.co.uk/accessibility/](http://www.premiercottages.co.uk/accessibility/)

If you're struggling to find the right cottage for you then please get in touch with our reservations team by calling 0117 325 8810 or email us at [feedback@premiercottages.co.uk](mailto:feedback@premiercottages.co.uk)



## **National Accessible Scheme**

The National Accessible Scheme (NAS) is a national scheme which helps you find accommodation to suit your needs, independently assessed by trained assessors against demanding criteria.

Assessed properties will have facilities such as handrails, ramps, level-access showers, hearing loops and colour contrast. Using the NAS could help make the difference between a good holiday and a perfect one! If you have particular mobility, visual or hearing needs look out for our National Accessible Scheme. A list of our NAS logos and explanations are shown below.

The ratings are split into 3 categories for:

Mobility impaired and older people

Visually impaired and blind people

Hearing impaired and deaf people

Download a list of all accommodation in the National Accessible Scheme, last updated February 2022

[https://www.visitengland.com/sites/default/files/national\\_accessible\\_scheme\\_participants\\_feb\\_2022.pdf](https://www.visitengland.com/sites/default/files/national_accessible_scheme_participants_feb_2022.pdf)



## **Kew Gardens Walking Tours for People Living with Dementia, Sight Loss or Hearing Loss (incl. BSL)**

Kew have started to run their walks around the beautiful setting of Kew Gardens that are designed to be accessible for people living with dementia, sight loss or hearing loss.

All walks start from Victoria Gate and last around 60 minutes. The walks are led by their volunteer walk leaders. Support workers, friends or family are very welcome and will also receive free entry to the Gardens. They plan to run the Monthly series of walks up to and inclusive of November 2022. Please Check with Kew for any changes to the schedules

### **Forthcoming BSL Tour Dates**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022 11am - 12pm

<https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/monthly-british-sign-language-tours>

### **Forthcoming Dementia Friendly Tour Dates**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 11am - 12pm

<https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/health-walks-for-people-living-with-dementia>

### **Forthcoming Sensory Tour Dates**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022 2pm – 3pm

<https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/sensory-guided-walking-tours-for-visitors-with-sight-loss-and-their-carers>

Walking tours have a limit to the number people who can participate for any of their Events and Walking Tours so it is

essential that you register in advance for ALL walks and events at Kew. Email [discovery@kew.org](mailto:discovery@kew.org) or Telephone 07341 114533.



## **“Only Disabled Actors Should Play Richard III”, Says Outgoing Artistic Director of Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) – edited from Skynews May 2022**

Gregory Doran has announced he will be stepping down as artistic director of the RSC. Mr Doran’s late husband Sir Antony Sher played the notorious English king Richard III but the outgoing artistic director has said that choosing able-bodied actors for the role "would probably not be acceptable" now.

Richard III, often referred to in the Shakespeare play as "cheated of feature" and "unfinished" has historically been played with a hunchback or a cane. Sir Antony, a two-time Laurence Olivier award winner, gave one of his most memorable performances as Richard III in the 1984 RSC production in Stratford-upon-Avon.

In his first interview since Sher's death from cancer in December 2021, Mr Doran said: "Tony's performance (with hunchback and crutches) would probably not be acceptable now. When white actors stopped thinking of Othello in their repertoire, because it was not acceptable to have blackface any more, until the level playing field is achieved. "It's the same with disabled actors and Richard."

Earlier, this year the RSC announced that in its 2022 production, the medieval king, who is believed to have had scoliosis, will be portrayed by disabled actor Arthur Hughes, who has described the role as a "dream come true". "I'm thrilled not only to be playing this title role at the RSC, but also that a major production is putting disability centre stage," he said.



## **Able-Bodied Actors Should Tell Our Stories Too**

In 2019, Blind actor & comedian, Chris McCausland wrote an article for the Independent, after an announcement that ‘able-bodied’ actor Bryan Cranston, had taken on the role of a disabled man for his latest feature film, The Upside, and in doing so stirred up an ongoing controversy: should able bodied actors be taking on roles of disabled characters, or should such roles only be awarded to disabled actors?

Chris believes ‘*able-bodied actors should tell our stories too*’. He says ‘*I’m a stand-up comedian and actor who has benefited from the desire of a very small number of writers, producers and directors, to not only increase the on-screen visibility of characters with disabilities, but also to authentically cast disabled actors in these roles. I’ve played a few blind guys on the telly and I am*

grateful for those opportunities. In spite of this though, I do not believe that all characters with disabilities need to, or should be played by actors with that disability, and to be honest, I find the outrage surrounding this issue to be quite ridiculous”.

He continues “the bottom line is that actors act. They take on roles that are outside of the scope of their own life experiences”. If however, profile or vast experience is not a consideration when casting a disabled character, then yes, it would be greatly appreciated if disabled actors were considered for as many of these roles as possible.



## Staines Shopmobility

making staines accessible



**Two Rivers (West Car park), Mustard Mill Rd,  
STAINES, TW18 4BL.**

**Telephone 01784 459416**

*The service will be available Monday to Saturday from 9.30am until 4.15pm, with the last equipment hire time of 3pm.*

*All equipment is to be returned by 4.15pm.*

[stainesshopmo@btconnect.com](mailto:stainesshopmo@btconnect.com)

[www.stainesshopmobility.com](http://www.stainesshopmobility.com)

[www.facebook.com/stainesshopmobility](https://www.facebook.com/stainesshopmobility)

### **Membership Charges**

*Membership is available on a daily or annual basis. Please contact manager for details*

### **Holiday Hire**

*Wheelchair- Overnight, Weekend, Week, Fortnight - maximum hire period of 6 weeks.*

**A Cash Deposit Of £50 Is Required.**

*Scooter - Overnight, Weekend, Week, Fortnight - maximum hire period of 4 weeks.*

**A Cash Deposit Of £100 Is Required.**



**Freedom**

**Accessibility**

**Independence**

**Confidence**

**Charitable  
Incorporated  
Organisation  
(CIO) 57628**



## Spelthorne Para Sports Club



Aimed at young people aged 5-25 and their siblings, Spelthorne Para Sports Club provides opportunities to play a wide range of sports as well as offering sport specific coaching for those interested in developing skills.

All sessions are overseen by enthusiastic volunteers although parents/guardians are encouraged to stay on side during the sessions. No need to book - come and try - first session free!

**Where** - Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Knowle Green, Staines,

**Cost** - £3 a session (£2 for siblings) payable on the day.

**When** - 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month 10:15-11:45am (term time)

For more information please visit the council's web site

[www.spelthorne.gov.uk/parasportsclub](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/parasportsclub)

## **Spelthorne Boccia Club**

Boccia is a disability sport that is similar to bowls and petanque. The aim of the game is to propel leather balls, coloured red or blue, close to a white target ball (the jack). It is played from a seated position and the ball can be moved with players' hands, feet or an assistive device eg a head or hand pointer.

Our club is aimed at people aged 16+ with disabilities (young people aged 14+ may join with an adult carer present)

**Where** - Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Knowle Green, Staines

**When** - Every Thursday 6pm - 6.55pm

**Cost** - £3 per week (no need to book, just turn up and join in)

For more information please visit the council's web site

[www.spelthorne.gov.uk/boccia](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/boccia)



**You Don't Look Sick' – *I thought I just had bad posture until I found out my muscles are wasting away***

In 2019 there were 13.9 million disabled people in the UK – and many of them have an invisible illness. When you look at someone with a hidden condition, you would have no idea they are ill, but they suffer debilitating symptoms and can face judgement for using disabled facilities because they '**don't look sick**'.

You Don't Look Sick was Metro's weekly series about living with an invisible illness or hidden disability. They have spoken about living with their condition and the judgements they face because you can't always see that something is wrong

Chris Stennett, 26, from Felixstowe, Suffolk, has Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy (FSHD) which is a genetic muscle-wasting condition that causes muscles to weaken and waste over time leading to increasing disability. It affects the muscles of the limbs, shoulders and face and the level of impact varies between people with the condition.

For years people would say things like 'pull your shoulders back' or tell him he has bad posture. He explains: '*These are things I have heard repeatedly all my adult life. I then realised that my*



*chest muscles had vanished as well as any kind of scapular stability in my back. I went to physio but the typical exercises for bad posture made my issues worse so I went without and managed it myself with less pain and improved strength over time, but still without having “proper posture” or chest strength / size.*

Chris has found support through talking about his condition online in support groups for people with FSHD, but he found it much more difficult to discuss it in real life. He adds: *‘Talking to other people online definitely helped me overcome the shock of the diagnosis – they get it. We have a great online “family”, that support one another emotionally and answer curiosities. ‘In real life, some people have said they have never noticed, which is odd because my posture is horrible.*

*‘Me “coming out” as such with this disability to somebody who is neither close to me, a healthcare professional or someone else with FSHD, is only something I have done. The only reason was to highlight why I am raising money for Muscular Dystrophy UK, before this I was still dealing with it personally.’*

[metro.co.uk/2019/07/28/dont-look-sick-thought-just-bad-posture-found-muscles-wasting-away-10462807/](https://metro.co.uk/2019/07/28/dont-look-sick-thought-just-bad-posture-found-muscles-wasting-away-10462807/)



## **Who Put That There” (WPTT) *The Barriers for Blind and Partially Sighted People - Edited from RNIB.org.uk***

How would you react if you didn't feel safe walking to the local shop, taking your dog for a walk or visiting friends nearby? How would it affect your mental health and physical wellbeing?

Unfortunately, people with sight loss face challenges getting around their local area every day. Over two million people live with sight loss, and with someone starting to lose their sight every fifteen minutes this number is set to rise to four million by 2050. Instead of our streets becoming more accessible, they remain a daily obstacle course for those who are blind or partially sighted. Getting to the GP surgery, shops or accessing local services can be like running the gauntlet, with increased fear, anxiety and a real risk of injury.

In a survey conducted by RNIB, a third of people said they had been injured during a three month period when walking around their local area. Some people even said they were so intimidated by the risks outside they ended up staying at home and becoming isolated. This is simply not good enough.

RNIB want decision makers to engage with local blind and partially sighted residents, creating a clear set of policies and practices which are informed, shaped and delivered by those who have sight loss. If government and local authorities truly want to enable blind and partially sighted people to fulfil their potential, as the Office of

Disability Issues (ODI) state that they should be, then they need to ensure that this starts with a street environment that isn't a fundamental barrier to their progress and independence.

For further information on the campaign visit the RNIB web site [www.rnib.org.uk/campaigning/current-campaigns/my-street](http://www.rnib.org.uk/campaigning/current-campaigns/my-street)



## **Talking Products** – *Originally featured in SCAN's 2005 Newsletter for their 'Talking Labels'*

Talking Products Ltd was established in 2002 and is part of a Group of companies, which consists of three small companies. Joining Talking Products Ltd in the group is REXCOM Europe Ltd and Talking Promotions Ltd. With input from all three companies, the Group is able to design, manufacture and distribute a wide range of products to a number of different markets worldwide.

They are a UK based company that welcomes all International visitors and they ship orders worldwide. Their customers range from individuals wishing to record and send a personal message in a greetings card, through to school teachers who use our learning resources in their classrooms to develop speaking and listening skills.

*We design products for people living with low vision and Dementia and we also assist creative agencies with brand marketing campaigns. The majority of our products are designed in-house here in the UK. Our Talking Label technology has introduced us to many new and exciting applications. People with low vision and Non-English speaking members of the community will find our Talking Labels invaluable for everyday life. Our famous Talking Tins have proved to help children develop important speaking and listening skills.*

*Established logistics and proven distribution channels complete the BRS Group profile. We are a proactive company with a keen focus on new product design, growing with strength based on effective planning, skilled personnel and a sound business strategy.*

<https://www.talkingproducts.com/collections/independent-living-aids-resources>



**'Talking' ATM's for Visually Impaired People.** *Compiled and part edited from RNIB's 'Make Money Talk' Campaign news* SCAN's former member Bill Guest wrote, in one of our early newsletters over 25 years ago, about the problems that 'automated cash dispensers' presented for Blind people. His description then was *'for a totally blind person the modern cash dispensers are distinctly user unfriendly. The only slightly helpful thing about them was that they occasionally beeped, but this could not always be*

*heard above the external noise of everyday life.*

Britain was the first place in the world to install a 'hole in the wall' cash machine, in 1967 in Enfield, North London. But this achievement hasn't helped Britain's two million people (2011 estimate) with sight loss.

RNIB wrote in their 2011 'Make Money Talk' campaign document. *'The ATM network is difficult or impossible to use. Britain sadly missed out on providing the first "accessible" cash machine. Canada made that breakthrough in 1997.*

The 2011 RNIB report also said that the USA already had over 100,000 (one in four) Talking ATM's' as a result of a series of high profile negotiated agreements between the industry, individual disabled people and disability organisations and the Federal Government and a new accessibility standard came into force on 15 March 2011. All new ATMs had to comply with the requirements from March 2012. In 2011 the UK figure for talking ATM's was just 69 (about one in a thousand). A host of other countries including Australia, Canada and India are way ahead of the UK. This stark failure by the banks to implement access to ATMs is needlessly denying people with sight loss the levels of service that sighted customers expect as standard.

Northern Bank were the first bank in the UK to introduce talking ATM's in 2005. The audio software was initially only on internal ATMs which were safer for visually impaired customers. Then after consultation with RNIB they rolled out more audio software to external ATMs that can be accessed 24 hours a day.

Personal security has not been an issue for their customers who use these machines. It has given so many customers freedom to take cash out of their accounts whenever they choose. A visually impaired customer can change their PIN to a number known only to them and therefore their PIN is not compromised.

By 2017 the 'Make Money Talk' campaign was able to report that *'Barclays and Nationwide have 98% of their ATMs talking. PayPoint, who provide ATMs to convenience stores, has managed to make just over half of their 4,000 ATMs talk.*

Also in 2017 it was reported that HSBC UK was rolling out more than 1,500 talking ATMs across the UK to help blind and partially sighted customers. They (HSBC) had also launched voice recognition technology a year earlier so that customers can use their voice as their password.

<https://www.rnib.org.uk/rnibconnect/welfare-and-money-accessible-banking-guide>



## AccessAble – The New Name Of DisabledGo

AccessAble, originally called DisabledGo, was set up in 2000 by Dr Gregory Burke as a result of his own experiences as a wheelchair user and disabled walker. Gregory was frustrated to find that the best-case scenario when he looked for accessibility information was a few unhelpful words that only resulted in more uncertainty.

*“How many times have we been told that there is level access in theory, only to find that there are two steps up in practice?”*

*“How often have we found that the “accessible toilet” is anything but accessible when we have gone to use it?”*

*“How can we know in confidence, how far we are truly going to have to walk?”*

Working alongside over 100 different disability groups Gregory launched DisabledGo's first website in 2002. Since then the organisation has grown and developed, continually meeting and listening to its user community.

By 2020 AccessAble.co.uk was used by over 1.8 million people.

We can't be a 'best kept secret', we know our work makes a massive difference, and we need to reach more people. The name AccessAble is just one of the ways we are looking to do this, we are a service for every disabled person and carer, regardless of impairment.

We also want to help people who face access issues for other reasons.

### AccessAble uses 33 Accessibility Symbols

You can find details of what each Accessibility Symbol means below, as well as some of the common terms we use to describe access to and around a venue.

<https://www.accessable.co.uk/access-symbols>

If you have further questions, please take a look at their help page or alternatively please feel free to contact them directly at

[hello@accessable.co.uk](mailto:hello@accessable.co.uk) .



### Advice For ‘Hall’- Extract from SCAN’s Archive of Newsletters



Reproduced below is part of an information sheet issued by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) on making Village Halls accessible.

### Good Management Check List

- ✓ Good management is a key element in ensuring safe and easy access in a village hall. Starting outside and working in:
- ✓ Keep the car park clear and ensure spaces for disabled people are not used by others.

- ✓ Maintain doors so they open easily.
- ✓ Keep passageways, and fire exits unobstructed.
- ✓ Check alarm systems regularly.
- ✓ Check lighting regularly.
- ✓ Arrange for floors to be cleaned regularly with slip-resist cleaners
- ✓ Check worn areas of flooring which could result in someone tripping.
- ✓ Think through new decoration schemes to ensure they are as helpful as possible.
- ✓ Arrange for regular maintenance of the loop system for hearing aid users.
- ✓ Keep signs well maintained
- ✓ Talk to users of the hall, for ideas and feedback but allow for the fact that people with apparently similar disabilities may have very different needs.
- ✓ Ensure hirers of the hall are aware of their-responsibilities, how many attendants they must appoint and what to do in the event of any emergency.
- ✓ Prepare a well thought out evacuation plan for use in emergencies.

SCAN considered this "Good Management Check List" to be excellent advice to all premises managers - how often have members found a ramp or door partially blocked or parking spaces being used by non-disabled drivers!. <https://acre.org.uk/surrey>



## Disability Rights UK (DRUK)



### Disability Rights UK Helplines

Our helplines are operating as normal:

#### Personal Budgets Helpline

Opening hours: 9.30am-1.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Telephone: 0330 995 0404 [personalbudgets@disabilityrightsuk.org](mailto:personalbudgets@disabilityrightsuk.org)

#### Disabled Students Helpline

Opening hours: 11am-1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Telephone: 0330 995 0414 [students@disabilityrightsuk.org](mailto:students@disabilityrightsuk.org)

#### Welfare Rights Helpline for Member Organisations

Opening hours: 10.30am-12.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

Telephone: 0203 687 0779 [ken.butler@disabilityrightsuk.org](mailto:ken.butler@disabilityrightsuk.org)

**PLEASE NOTE** – *The amount of relevant news being received from **Disability Rights (DRUK)** and the **Surrey Adult Social Care Information & Engagement Team** has become too extensive to continue to include all of it as part of the main SCAN newsletters and will now be distributed as separate documents that will be enclosed with each monthly SCAN newsletter and will only be sent*

to an abridged mailing list.

If you are interested in reading the news in a paper copy of these bulletins and have not received copies, please contact me by sending a text message (with your name and postal address) to 07859 639025 (Please Note our New Number). If your preference is for an electronic copy then please either email me on [info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk](mailto:info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk) or use the 'Contact SCAN' form on our website pages at [www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/](http://www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/)



## **Wheels For Wellbeing** **Removing barriers to cycling**

Since becoming a registered charity in 2007 (no. 1120905), 'Wheels for Wellbeing' have

worked with Disabled children and adults who face barriers to taking part in any physical activity. Informed by life-changing personal experience of disabled trustees, staff and volunteers, we're determined to show that anyone can enjoy cycling, given the right equipment, support and environment.

### **Mission**

Wheels for Wellbeing exists to enhance disabled people's lives by ensuring that anyone can access the physical, emotional, practical and social benefits of cycling.

### **Vision**

More disabled people in the UK will cycle for everyday journeys – transport, leisure or exercise – and cycle routes will be inclusive and accessible. Our work will transform attitudes to disability and ensure a healthier population.

### **Values**

We follow a person-centred approach based on the Social Model of Disability. We work to remove or overcome any barriers that prevent an individual from cycling.

We aim to be accessible to all, regardless of age or impairment

We change attitudes and create positive perceptions of disability (and cyclists)

We are user-led and a voice for disabled cyclists. All our work is informed by practical experience of disabled people discovering, using and enjoying cycling

### **Priorities**

To provide direct support to more than 1,000 disabled people a year to discover or rediscover cycling, targeting a growing number of new participants each year – by keeping the wheels spinning at our drop-in and outreach sessions in SE London.

To ensure the ongoing quality of our service offer and to share best practice – by improving the way we measure and communicate the impact of our core sessions.

To ensure that the unprecedented investment in cycle infrastructure across London from 2015 improves routes, facilities & conditions for disabled cyclists – by providing expert advice to Transport for London and local authorities.

To raise wider awareness of disabled cyclists and to build the support they need – by working with local, national and international partners (charities, businesses, government) to influence attitudes, policy and standards.

<https://wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk/about-us/>



## **Disability Empowerment Network – North Surrey & Surrey Wide**



Administration and management of the North Surrey Disability Empowerment Network (DEN) is arranged by the Surrey Coalition of Disabled People (SCDP) and covers the areas of Runnymede, Spelthorne, Woking & Surrey Heath.

### **All Empowerment Meetings Continue To Be Held Via Zoom**

North Surrey DEN meetings Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – 1pm

Surrey Wide DEN meetings Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – 6pm

Please contact Yasmin Broome, Engagement Officer at Surrey Coalition email: [Yasmin.Broome@surreycoalition.org.uk](mailto:Yasmin.Broome@surreycoalition.org.uk) Telephone or SMS text 0745 5267424 for details of how to participate in meetings remotely.



## **SCAN and Spelthorne Physical, Sensory & Cognitive Disabilities Forum (SPSCDF)**



The meetings bring together service providers and users to influence the solutions to any problems or access issues encountered by people with

physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities.

Our Next Meeting will on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022** from 11am in the Goddard Room at the Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines. however we have made arrangements to run a Zoom session (technology permitting) as well from the Goddard Room for anyone who is unable to attend in person. Please text 07859 639025 or email [info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk](mailto:info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk) for the meeting's access details. Local groups and service providers should Send your news or reports to [info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk](mailto:info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk) or use the '**Contact**

SCAN' form on our website pages at [www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/](http://www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/)

Further details for Spelthorne's Physical, Sensory and Cognitive Disability forum are on SCAN's web site at [www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/news/scan-news/spscd-forum/](http://www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/news/scan-news/spscd-forum/)



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary For SCAN

The review of the archive of newsletters at the beginning of 2022 has uncovered a number of new projects and campaigns that have more than made up for anything in the archive that couldn't be traced. Space in each of the paper editions of the newsletters is naturally going to be limited, but we will be trying to secure additional funding for a new newsletter project to run from April 2023. Our web site will be able to cover anything that could not be included in the printed newsletters.

Anyone who has a connection with disability is welcome to send me their comments on any of the articles published or to send me details of your own experiences. Either fill in the '**Contact SCAN**' form on our web page [www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/](http://www.spelthorneaccess.org.uk/) or email me at [info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk](mailto:info@spelthorneaccess.org.uk)



**EasyFundraising** - Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to **Spelthorne Committee for Access Now**, If you haven't signed up to

support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started!

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/spelthorneaccessnow/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/spelthorneaccessnow/)



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