

# Our new Lunch Club



We have been told that some people would like to meet others for lunch but don't have anyone to go with. So we want to set up a Lunch Club which will meet once a month, and which goes to a different pub or restaurant each time. (People will pay for themselves).

The dates and places we have planned so far are:

Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 at The Diamond Tap, Newbury

Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 at The Swan, Thatcham

Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 at The Bacon Arms, Newbury

Please call Maggie on 01635 36044 if you would like to come.

## Final Saturday Drop-In

Our Saturday Drop-In at the Waterside Centre, which has run since June 2008, had its last session on March 19<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to John Crisp who has run the Drop-In every fortnight since it opened. We are very grateful for all the hard work he put into it and we look forward to seeing the members of the Drop-In at other It's My Life activities.



## Newsletter co-editors



Roger and Sandy are our new newsletter co-editors. They will be in the office at Bolton Place on Monday mornings between 10 and 12. If you have any news items you would like to see in this newsletter please either drop in to the office or email [info@itsmylifewestberkshire.org](mailto:info@itsmylifewestberkshire.org)

If you would like to receive this newsletter in larger type or on an audio CD please email [info@itsmylifewestberkshire.org](mailto:info@itsmylifewestberkshire.org)

Registered Charity Number: 1030678

# IT'S MY LIFE!

Self Advocacy Group

SPRING 2011

Part of West Berkshire Advocacy - WEBCAS

*Making the most of our world*

## The Tuesday Group



For many years Tuesday group members have wanted polo shirts with our It's My Life logo on, to wear at our events. Karen Winter went to the Freemasons of Berkshire to ask if they could help out with the cost. She also mentioned that our printer, which had served us well for many years, had finally packed up! We were so delighted to receive a donation from them of £500! We have bought our shirts (from Link-up, at the Slater Centre) and we are looking forward to going out to buy our new wireless printer. Many, many thanks to the Freemasons of Berkshire for supporting us so generously.

It's My Life is supported by:



# Pub Club quiz night

We had lots of people come to our Pub Club quiz held on St Patrick's Day, Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a close contest but the winners were Becky, Caroline and Pat. Special thanks to Marie Kingston the quiz master, and Shaz from the Coopers Arms, who put on a lovely buffet.



# Pub Club diary dates

Thursday meeting dates for the Pub Club at the Coopers Arms are:

**April 14<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**July 7<sup>th</sup> and July 21<sup>st</sup>**

These dates do not clash with New Horizons. The Pub Club meets between 7pm and 9pm. Support is provided.



# Hate Crime

The Hate Crime Reporting Centre is open for people who may be experiencing a hate crime and are finding it hard to speak up about it. Some people are afraid to go to the police, and others are worried things will get worse if they report it. You can drop in and talk to us and we can make a record of what has happened and report the incident to the police, or we can just sit and listen and offer support if that is what is needed. Our Hate Crime Reporting Centre is open every Wednesday from 10 until 12 at our offices in Bolton Place, Newbury town centre. We are also happy to come and give a small presentation and talk to groups of people about hate crime. Call us on 01635 36044 for more details.



# Partnership Board



Our Partnership Board reps – Rachael, Marie, Maria and Kate will soon be hosting a drop-in at our Bolton Place offices, so our members can meet with them, share concerns and find out about the work of the Partnership Board.

# Our Newbury office



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

It's My Life now have our own large room in the Webcas offices in Bolton Place. Our Friday admin group will start meeting here from April 1<sup>st</sup>. We have tables instead of desks which means we can either hold meetings or work at computers. Please drop in and see us.

# New membership

It's My Life are opening our membership to all adults with learning disabilities in West Berkshire. As a member you will be able to attend our regular workshops and come to our drop-in sessions to let us know what issues IML could be helping with. Other benefits include: Membership card, Elect the Committee, attend the Annual conference, Quarterly newsletter, attend Pub Club and other social activities, Birthday and Christmas cards, and the Christmas party at reduced price. If you would like to join call Maggie or Karen on 01635 36044.



**Karen Winter**  
Membership  
Administrator