

Being safe in 2022

Newsletter 45

16 March 2022



We need YOU!

We would love to use cards designed by members to celebrate people's birthdays.

Turn to page 5 to find out more.

In this newsletter you will find:





Coronavirus Update 4th vaccine and changes to the rules



If you are over age 75 or at high risk you will be invited to have a 4th vaccine this spring. It is important that you get your top-up jab as soon as you can to keep you safe.



The Government have decided that all restrictions will be stopped on **1st April**.



Most people will have to pay for their lateral flow tests.

Tests for some people who are high risk of getting ill from Covid will still get free tests.



The Government say we must all be careful and think of others.

Just like with colds and flu, if we are unwell we should stay in and away from others.



Opening Doors Covid rules



Management Committee voted to **keep** or **stop** each Covid rule to keep safe.

If you need to come along to our offices and groups you MUST book a place.

This is how we will run until 1 April Ψ





Self advocates' Message board

Dear Friends at Opening doors Mank you for The Newsteller, Word Search and Colouring Sheets. I am Looking FOR word to some warmer weather. Thinking abayet you and hoping to see you LOVE FROM CLAPRE Village Women et . Onward Players Panto



Janet celebrated her Mum's 80th Birthday with friends and family. Janet said "She is the best Mum in the world."



REMEBBER the clocks go forward

Set your clocks forward 1 hour when you go to bed on **Saturday 26th March**.

This means it will stay lighter for longer. Spring is on its way!

Things to do design a birthday card



Opening Doors sends out birthday cards to members, staff and volunteers.

We buy cards from a shop at the moment but we would love to use your designs.



Design a card

You can use paint, felt tips or a computer to design a birthday card for us to use.



Use the freepost envelope

Once you have finished your design, post it to us in the freepost envelope. **Have fun with your design!**



We also need you to colour in some Easter egg pictures for our Easter Egg hunt in the April newsletter.

Send us your colouring in the freepost envelope ©



Energy price rises



From 1st April energy prices will be going up.

This means your gas and electric will cost more money.



If you are worried about your bills going up **Scope** are offering free support. Their expert advisers can help and talk you through your energy and water needs. Call or email for a telephone appointment Disability.EnergySupport@Scope.org.uk



There is some government help available. Please ask for support if you need it.



Here are some tips to stay warm at home without putting the heating on.



Tips on keeping warm at home



Layer your clothing - start with a t-shirt, long sleeved top, jumper, bodywarmer and hat



Use a hot water bottle They keep you warm and help with pain and cramps



Wear 2 pairs of socks One pair of ordinary socks, then a second woolly pair



Wrap up warm and go for a walk to warm you up

Do the washing up! Putting your hands in warm water warms you up



Hot drinks and porridge Drink hot drinks and eat porridge for breakfast



What is on this month

Mon the West The Est Can Monday		Wednesday
April 4	April 5	April Great Yarmouth Group
April LGBT+ Zoom 11 Group 11 Group 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	April Norwich Advocacy 12 Group () () () () () () () () () () () () () (April 12
BANK HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	April 19	April Great Yarmouth Group Group
April LGBT+ Zoom 25 Group	April Norwich Advocacy 26 Group	April 27













Highway code changes

The Highway Code is the book with all the rules about pavements and roads.

There are some new changes to the rules to make the roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

One big change is about who is most important on the roads, who gets to go first and who should wait.

- 1. Pedestrians (most important)
- 2. Cyclists
- 3. Horse riders
- 4. Motorcycles
- 5. Cars and taxis
- 6. Vans and minibuses
- 7. Coaches and lorries (have the most responsibility to keep others safe)

To find out more go to www.gov.uk/ government/news/the-highway-code-8changes-you-need-to-know-from-29january-2022

Things to do - I Spy

Write down the number of things you can see





Management Committee Open for applications



We have some places free on our Management Committee and are open for new applications.



What is the Management Committee?

Opening Doors is run by the Management Committee. This group make decisions and plan our work. Everyone in this group has a learning disability.



Janet, our Vice-Chair says: "It is a chance to do the day-to-day running of the organisation. It helps you take control and feel you are doing something good."



What does it involve?

Meetings are one Thursday each month. We provide supporters and free transport. You need to bring your lunch.



Lots of our Management Committee members come from Norwich.

We are really keen for people from other areas of Norfolk to apply.

We want our committee to cover all our groups and where we work.



If you want to apply call the office to get an application form.



You can fill it in yourself or ask for some support.



Return your completed application form to the office by **Friday 22nd April**.



Management Committee vote on applications on **Thursday 28th April**. They will let everyone who applies know the result soon after.

We look forward to your applications





Save the date

Annual General Meeting

This year our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be on Tuesday 28th June. It will be a chance for us to share our news and have some **fun** together ©



We will be meeting at the **Diamond Centre** in Norwich.

You can come along or join us on Zoom.

More details on how to book coming soon!





Platinum Jubilee

This year, Her Majesty The Queen will become the 1st British Monarch to celebrate a **Platinum Jubilee** - 70 years of service!

To join in the celebrations from 2nd - 5th June we will send out a special Activity Book and hold a colouring competition. **Keep an eye on the May newsletter!**



Local Election

Register to Vote





Councillors are the people that run the council where you live.

Local Elections are when local people get to choose which councillors should run the council.

You must be registered to vote or by 14 April. You can do this online at www.gov.uk/Register-To-Vote

You will need your date of birth and National Insurance number to register.

Voting is very important. It is one of the best ways to have your voice heard. It is a chance to choose who YOU want to run your Council.



Find out more about the Local Election in the next Newsletter.



BALLOT





Cookability online easy read recipes

Cookability is a YouTube channel made by United Response. To find recipes go to www.unitedresponse.org.uk/resource/ cookability-videos/



It is great for our body and our mind to make ourselves healthy meals if we can.

To contact Opening Doors



The Opening Doors phone number is answered Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm





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