

# S. U. News

The newsletter for Ealing Service Users

## CAFE now open Sundays !

The Social Cafe is now open every day from Friday to Monday as promised when it opened back in August. BoB now has enough trained volunteers to open on this important day.

On Sundays the Café is open from 12.00 - 4.00p.m. (the same as Saturdays). All are welcome to pop in for the usual toasties, tea, coffee and a chat. However, on Sundays there is now the opportunity to join in a Zumba class which was great fun and a brilliant way to exercise. The teacher was very patient (thank goodness) and the music was great. All those who joined in are getting their trainers polished in time for next Sunday. As if that wasn't enough after Zumba finished at 1.30p.m. Chris Waite welcomed SU's to a music workshop. Lots of instruments including keyboard and guitars were available along with tuition. Anyone who has a musical talent or can play an instrument should come along and join the fun. Having said that even those who don't play, yet, should definitely come along and who knows what they will be able to pick up. Don't forget the activities available on other days such as Art and Photography. You can also make appointments for hair and nail pampering.

Although there is lots going on please remember it is still a place that you can come too to relax, chill and have some safe quiet time. Anyone who wishes to help on any of the opening days by becoming a volunteer should pop in and speak to Linda Chan the Café Manager. Hope to see you soon.

## Housing Support

Many service users have issues with their housing, or lack of it, which can clearly affect their recovery. Katy Greenslade outlines some of the services available and has agreed to be at the Social Cafe next Tuesday 11th of March (see service user voice) to discuss housing support queries service users may have:



When an individual is accessing RISE and is assessed as having a housing need or need of support, advice or advocacy around housing and/or independent living skills they will be referred internally to the RISE Floating support team or signposted to our drop ins which take place in the EAST, WEST & Abstinence Hub once a week.

RISE Floating Support is a service that provides housing related support to clients (over 18) to enable them to maintain their independence in their own home, support in preventing eviction and advocating to find more appropriate accommodation. We support individuals across all tenures in the community. We are not able to provide housing for clients, however we

will support, advocate and empower clients to access the housing provision available to them.

To access the service clients must meet the below criteria;

- Have a housing related issue
- aged 18 and over
- Living in the borough of Ealing
- A client of RISE services
- Entitled to claim welfare benefits

The type of support we can provide;

- Maintaining a tenancy or accessing more suitable accommodation
- Help with form filling
- Managing finances and dealing with benefit claims
- Gaining Access to other services in the community
- Advice, Advocacy and Liaison
- Religious and cultural needs
- Accessing leisure activities
- Community involvement
- Personal safety
- Neighbour issues

An individual's support is personal to them. Floating Support Workers have a range of support tools and approaches to cater to a clients individual needs and preferences. Clients lead in their own Floating support planning and determine areas of support that they would like to focus on around their housing and independent living, identifying what individual goals and aspirations they might want to work towards.

RISE also host a RELEASE legal surgery which also offers some housing support, particularly for those with legal problems

relating to housing and a rent deposit scheme for those clients that are eligible.

EACH also provides housing support that includes services for people who are not RISE clients, e.g. ex service users.

### Service User Voice

The monthly Service User meeting for all Ealing RISE Service Users is held at the Social Cafe on the 2nd Tuesday of each month 2-30pm to 3-30pm (£5 voucher for attendees).

The next three dates for your diaries are:

- 11<sup>th</sup> March
- 8<sup>th</sup> April
- 13<sup>th</sup> May

### Free Social Activities

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> of March** at a time to be Confirmed, **Cinema Tickets** at Vue Park Royal

10 Places

Call Sean Kelly on 07858400543 for more details, to book a place and to get confirmation of dates and times.

### About Your Newsletter

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