

A Note from Payroll...



Hi! I'm Lynsey King and I work within the Suffolk payroll team as a Payroll & Finance Assistant. I joined NCODP in June 2006 working within Independent Living Norfolk's Admin team and moved to Suffolk Payroll & Finance team in February 2008. I thoroughly enjoy working within the Suffolk team with its dedicated outlook and occasional banter!

In my spare time I enjoy taking time out to spend with my partner, reading true life stories (in vast quantities) and I also volunteer with the Norfolk Appropriate Adult service. Thank you for reading and I look forward to assisting you in the future with any enquiries that may arise.

We have written to every Service User regarding the increase in our charges and the VAT increase in January 2011. If you have not received this letter or would like to discuss the charges please get in touch.

We wish to remind you that we may need your timesheets in early to ensure we process your payroll in time over the Christmas period. If so, we will send you a letter at the beginning of December. The reason for this is Bank Holidays do not count as working days as far as banks are concerned and sometimes we need to run payrolls up to 7 days in advance.

If you require any further information please contact the payroll team on (01473) 225278. Please also bear in mind the post could take longer during the Christmas period, so you may wish to send in your timesheets/invoices by fax: (01508) 491223, or e-mail scanned documents to timesheets@ncodp.org.uk.

If you have an idea for an article or any other comments about the newsletter, please contact Natasha at:

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1 Bath Street
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Suffolk Independent Living News

Issue 8
Autumn/Winter 2010

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of SIL News!
 There is lots in the news recently about cuts and changes to services. Here at SIL, we believe that personalised services such as personal budgets and direct payments are the way forward, giving people much more choice and control over how resources are spent to meet their needs in a cost effective way. As well as direct payment support SIL is taking part in a support planning trial to assist people with their personal budget support plans—give us a call for more info. As this is the last Newsletter of the year I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Lee Evans

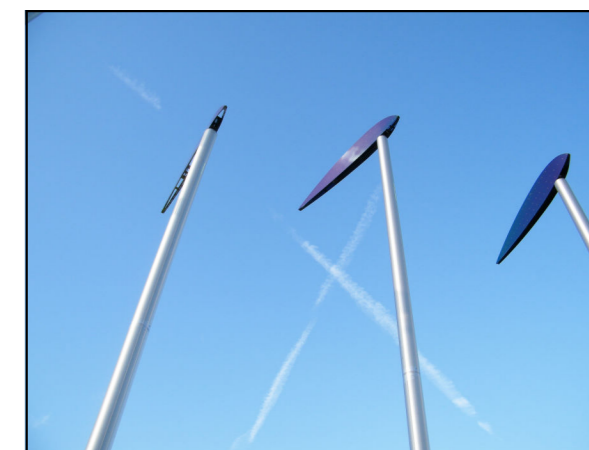
Service
Manager

SIL's Photography Competition... We have a winner!

A BIG thank you to everyone who entered our photography competition. After a lot of arguments in the office (there were both tears and tantrums!) we have finally decided on a winner.

Drum roll please...

Mr Gerald Gardiner, with his winning photo shown on the right!



Getting A Little Extra Help,
by Gerry Gardiner

Suffolk Coalition is on its way!

Alex Smith, the Development Co-ordinator for Suffolk Independent Living (SIL), has been working together with us and the Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People (NCODP) to set up an organisation that is led by disabled people. At the first Development Conference on 17th September, representatives of twelve disabled people's organisations gave a mandate to the setting up of a Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People (SCODP).

The SCODP Steering Committee held a Conference at Suffolk Deaf Association attended by interested groups including ACE, Disability Advice Bureau, Suffolk User Forum, Suffolk Deaf Association, Ipswich Ataxia Support Group, Ipswich Blind Society, Gate Opener, Lowestoft DIAL, SIL and NCODP.

The aim of SCODP will be to create a united voice of disabled people in Suffolk, so they can influence the way services are developed in a meaningful way to increase our independence and life chances.

The 'Journey So Far' was presented by the Steering Committee: Shaun Crisp, Janice Croucher, and Leah Jordan. Mark Harrison, CEO of NCODP, gave a presentation placing the need for a SCODP in context, finishing with questions and answers. Attendees' ideas were aired in two workshops. Mike Adams, CEO of Essex Coalition of Disabled People, then gave his presentation which centred on setting up Disabled People's Organisations. The Steering Committee has invited Patricia Riggs from the Ataxia Support Group and Ian Finch from Suffolk Deaf Association to develop the ideas that came from the conference.

The conference gave SCODP a mandate to form, giving all disabled people in Suffolk a united voice to campaign, to confront the Government's cuts and challenge the reform of Social Care in Britain.

The next steps for the Committee are to put in place a work plan leading to the next conference. SIL and NCODP will support this initiative.

SCODP Committee

Meet The Team...

Carol Spurgeon, Admin Assistant

Hi, my name is Carol and I have been working at Suffolk Independent Living since October 2009 as an Admin Assistant. Previously, I worked for Aviva Insurance as a Claims Handler and then as a Commercial Underwriter for over 20 years. I applied for this job as I wanted a change of career.

Outside of work, I enjoy reading, going on long bike rides or walks with my husband and two kids, travelling and socialising with friends. I'm also partial to playing Lego games on Wii and PS2 – the latest game being Harry Potter!



SIL's Bulletin Board!

Did you know?

The minimum wage increases from October 2010 from £5.80 per hour to £5.93 for workers over 21 years old.

Do you employ a Personal Assistant?

This is a reminder that if you employ, you will need to have employer's liability insurance, which must be renewed annually. Please contact us for more information.

Congratulations to one of our Advisers at SIL. Daniel Lummis and his partner had a baby girl on 4th June 2010 and have named her Maicy Joan Lummis



Would you like help with funding for training? The Suffolk Brokerage could help!

The Suffolk Brokerage is a non-profit making organisation which secures funding for Social Care training across Suffolk. As a Direct Payment recipient who directly employs staff to deliver your care, you are known as a micro-employer, with the same responsibilities to your staff as any other employer. However, it also means you have the same right of access to funding as any other employer.

Undoubtedly you will want to ensure the care provided to you is delivered by people who are well trained and competent to do the job. You may be concerned about the cost of training or are unsure what training is best for your employees. This is where Suffolk Brokerage can help you.

This year we can offer funding towards mandatory training including Food Hygiene, Moving and Handling and First aid. We can also offer substantial funding towards NVQ 3, NVQ 4 and Leadership and Management in Health and Social Care.

If you would like more information, please visit our website: www.suffolkbrokerage.co.uk or call us on 01449 720400.

Louise Whitley

Workforce Development
Manager, Suffolk Brokerage

