

So sorry we have not been in contact for a while.

The charity has been busy over the past few months with a few changes taking place. One of those changes has been a Friends and Places office move to our temporary office at 379 Southchurch Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS1 2PQ. We will be there until we move into our exciting new hub at the end of Feb 2019.

In the meantime, please feel free to pop in for a cup of tea. Just remember to phone Jay or myself to see if we are in before you do.



Funding News

There has been some great news for the charity. We have been awarded funding for 3 years from the Big Lottery. This contribution is to help us bring in more young people to our service. This fund is also what helped us secure our new premises on the top floor of Victoria Shopping Mall -which will be our hub base. There will be more news coming out about this in the New Year when we will be hosting a DIY, SOS style weekend - so watch this space!

Trustees

We now have 3 new trustees who have been recruited and are hands-on so you will see them at many of our events. Lisa Hawkins is from a banking background and used to be chair of victim support. Roy Orsmy is retired from a senior management position in a London Local Authority and he has links to family members who use the service. Wendy Barnett is a parent who wants to help make more people aware of our charity and what we do. We are also recruiting trustees who have IT specialist knowledge, HR or legal expertise and marketing skills to complement the team. We will keep you posted on this.

Party Time

You are invited to our Christmas party at Westcliff hotel on the Saturday 22 December – from 7.30 till 10pm.

We will be providing food and there will be a paid bar. Cost to carers and people who use our service is free.

With the help of Asda customers and our fundraising meal we have managed to offer this free event and we will be giving out Xmas presents during the night. So, come along and let your hair down - all Christmas jumpers are welcome.

Friends and Places Together, 20 Crowstone Road, Westcliff-On-Sea SSO 8BA t: 07796 678 939

ww.friendsandplacestogether.org.uk **e:** info@friendsandplacestogether.org.uk Company Registered Number 8554307 Charity Registered Number **1**159584



As I have not sent out a communication in a while, I would like to take the time to formally introduce Friends and places together's new under 18's coordinator Jay Hennessy (07904271027).



Jay is responsible for building friendship links for our under 18-year-olds as well as support staff who help with our clients.

Dan Barnes is our over 18's coordinator whose role is to organise all our over 18's events.



I will still be responsible for holidays and respite so if you have any ideas for next year please come back to me.

Mandy is our community fundraiser and social media organiser, she is also a parent who uses our service and supports some clients.



Mandy is always on the look out for for great photos, so if you have any please share.

Natasha is our new administration officer and she supports the organisation in all our HR, accounts, invoicing and keeping all our systems and processes up to date. Natasha works Mondays and Thursdays from home and also works some evenings.

Michelle is our volunteer coordinator and she will be helping recruit volunteers and supporting volunteers with the people we support.



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Although it is hat and scarf weather now, we are looking forward to spring through to summer and have booked some fun trips.

They are: -

- Centre Parcs for the second week in July.
- We will be scheduling a long weekend in Butlins in May.
- There will be a day trip and a short break to Stubbers.
- Our over 18's group are going to Turkey in May for a lad's week away
- A 3-day break in Ibiza has been booked. We have been asked to book a euro Disney trip in March, if you are interested just get in contact.



We want 2019 to be the best year yet for the charity and that having a central base, systems and structures and hands on trustees will highlight that we are here to stay.

Wishing you all peace, health and happiness for 2019.

Deni Nygate