



We Are Wakefield Newsletter

November 2022

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY
NEWS AND OFFERS
FROM THE
WAW COMMUNITY

Contact us on our new email address
newsletter@wearewakefield.co.uk

HELP US TO HELP THOSE BATTLING FUEL POVERTY THIS WINTER

Due to the cost-of-living crisis and escalating energy prices, there are thousands of people living in fuel poverty across the Wakefield District. People who spend every hour in bed just to keep warm, and working families forced to choose between feeding their children a healthy meal and heating their homes, because their wages simply don't go far enough.

The Community Foundation Wakefield District's 'Give the Gift of Warmth' campaign raises funds to provide Emergency Winter Fuel Grants for these people.

Wakefield and the Five Towns is a hard-working district but there are several areas that are high in deprivation. This year, we have seen the price of practically everything soar whilst wages have remained stagnant; this has led to more and more demand on such as food banks and community hubs, which are all working hard to alleviate poverty. People's support systems are already stretched, which will leave individuals, families, and the elderly in extremely vulnerable situations this winter.

Together with our partners, Wakefield District Housing (WDH), The Reed Foundation and Wakefield Council, we will provide Emergency Winter Fuel Grants to people in need of support. The grants will be distributed through the Wakefield Council's Welfare Department to help ensure that those struggling to meet their fuel bills can afford to keep warm this winter.

Campaign Aims

Our target this year is a minimum of £25,000, which will help to provide Emergency Winter Fuel Grants (averaging £25 each) to over 1,000 households throughout Wakefield and the surrounding areas. The grants will help prevent families and individuals from spiralling into debt during winter and may open the to other support services that could help them in the longer term.

Last year, as a result of our Fuel Poverty campaign, we provided more than 70% of the grants allocated by Wakefield Council's Welfare Department. This year, the issue has become even more desperate, and many more people need our help.



This is where you come in...how can you help

The business community in Wakefield could make a huge difference to the lives of local people in need of support. We are once again running Challenge 25 to raise as much money as we can for this very worthwhile cause.

We're looking for at least 25 teams to raise as many multiples of £25 as they can, over 25 days (or less). Challenge 25 is a great way to encourage team building and to help your staff feel proud that they're doing their bit for their friends, neighbours and peers. It's also an opportunity for you and your team to have some fun whilst doing good. Let your imagination run wild!

You could arrange a sponsored bike ride amongst staff members, a darts tournament, or re-enact your own version of the British Bake Off or Come Dine with Me. Install a swear-box in your office, hold a raffle for a day off for one lucky employee, arrange a quiz night – or come up with your own fundraising idea.

We have run our Fuel Poverty campaign for many years, and never has the issue been as pertinent nor affected so many. As the saying goes, 'there's always someone worse off than you', and it's these people we're striving to help.

If you'd like more information about becoming one of our Challenge 25 teams, email diane.hall@wakefieldcf.org.uk. **We already have a couple of We Are Wakefield members on board – will your company join them?**

ENERGY PRICE CRISIS EMERGENCY GRANTS - *IS YOUR BUSINESS ELIGIBLE?*

ENERGY PRICE CRISIS EMERGENCY GRANTS PROGRAMME



£1million fund which will help businesses towards their energy bills.

Businesses in our region are being hit hard by the rise in energy costs and we want to do what we can to provide immediate help, whilst also working with them to improve their energy efficiency in the longer term.

The Energy Price Crisis Emergency Grants Programme is a £1 million fund which will help businesses across a wide range of sectors this winter. It will focus on providing practical support such as help to buy a more efficient boiler or install new low-energy lighting.

The scheme will be delivered by West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Business Support Team.

Businesses are encouraged to register their interest via the form via the read more button & WYCA will be in touch: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/helping-west-yorkshire/support-for-businesses-and-organisations/the-energy-price-crisis-emergency-grants-programme/>

Anthony Brook from Challenging Leaders hosts a Masterclass every 2 months. The next one is 'Personal Power' delivered by the worldwide force of nature that is Marcus Child on 5th December at Virgin Money in Leeds & it goes something like this:

Would you love to suppress your imposter syndrome, dream bigger, decide what you actually want with/from your life, business, organisation, team etc & put a credible plan together to achieve some/all of it?

Marcus has helped '000s of people to do these things - without the need for snake oil, smoke, mirrors, magic etc.

The capability is already within us all - it's called Personal Power – surely, it's time to tap into it.



To book or for more information, click on www.challengingleaders.co.uk/masterclasses

More Masterclasses coming up in West Yorkshire:

17th January - *How to Hire on CHARACTER*

15th March - *Negotiation Skills*



With millions of carers, most of them age 45+ leaving the workplace every year due to caring responsibilities at a cost of billions to employers can you really afford not to support your most skilled workers in the prime of their careers?

Christine Edge an accredited carers coach with over 10 years' experience and Nicola Roberts an experienced coach and workplace trainer are on a mission to help carers across Wakefield to remain in employment.

We would like to offer you a golden nugget of an opportunity to work with us to:

- *Raise staff awareness of working carers and how you can support them.*
- *Support your working carers with 4 free 1:1 coaching sessions.*

We are offering 3 forward thinking and supportive companies the opportunity to access all of this for

FREE!

thanks to funding from Carers Wakefield and District in return for shared support, testimonials and joint publicity.

Are you in?

Please contact us at:

info@workingcarerschampions.co.uk with any questions you may have and to express your interest in working with us.

The three successful entrants will be pulled from a hat on

30th November 2022

and we will be in touch soon.

We look forward to helping you support your working carers.



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or call us on **07790 753852**

*WAW Members receive 10% off any Commercial Shoot.
Just use the code WAW-RRP when you book!*

Challenge 25 - original songs for businesses



This November I am helping raise money for the Community Foundation Wakefield District as part of their 'Give The Gift Of Warmth' campaign. I am doing so by writing lighthearted, original songs about businesses in the Wakefield District. The idea is to create something unique that showcases what businesses do and the personalities behind the businesses, and for them to then go and use the songs on their social media channels to start a discussion and raise the profile of the fundraiser. All I'm asking for is a minimum of a £50 donation to the campaign. You can view all the songs written and shared so far on my LinkedIn page: [Jenna Fan | LinkedIn](#)

The Community Foundation gives out £25 grants to people most in need and many Wakefield District residents struggle with fuel poverty each winter so it really is a worthy cause. If you'd like to have a song written about your business there are just a handful of slots left, so please get in touch and we can organise a chat. Alternatively, if you'd just like to donate, here is the Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/challenge25-jingles>

Thank you.

Jenna Fan

Help to Grow: Management Programme

SPECIAL OFFER
for
**We Are
Wakefield
Businesses!**

Leeds Beckett University's next Help to Grow: Management Programme is starting on 24 November 2022. We are offering a great opportunity for We are Wakefield members interested in participating in the Growth Management Programme to get in touch and see whether they may be eligible for a bursary to allow their fees to be paid to attend the course.

Help to Grow: Management is a 14-week programme, delivered by a consortium of business schools across the UK. The course has been accredited by the Small Business Charter (SBC), and is financed by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). With 90% of the programme costs funded, businesses pay a symbolic fee of £750 to secure a place on this sought-after three month course.

The ambitious targets set by the Chartered Association of Business Schools (CABS) and BEIS seek to support 300,000 SMEs nationally over the programme's lifespan. The course dates and topics for the next cohort are here: [Leeds Beckett YH Cohort 8 - Small Business Charter](#)

You can read more about how the Programme has been supporting the region's SME's in George Lancaster's blogpost

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/research-enterprise/2022/11/from-strength-to-strength-with-help-to-grow/>

To find out more about the Programme and if your business might be eligible for a bursary, please contact Fran Parkinson, f.parkinson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Free IT Audit

Free IT Audit for all We Are Wakefield members from Hamblett Consultancy!



WE ARE
WAKEFIELD

 01134842010 / 02081610130
 hello@hamblettconsultancy.com



#WHATSUPWAKEFIELD

WANT TO BE PART OF AN ART PROJECT
ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH?

THEN SEND US YOUR IMAGES, SOUNDS OR WRITING!



IT COULD BE A PHOTO OF A PLACE
THAT MAKES YOU FEEL SAFE & HAPPY



IT COULD BE A POEM ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT
OTHER PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

 TAG @LOOSESCREWFILMFESTIVAL #WHATSUPWAKEFIELD

 OR EMAIL LOOSESCREWFILMFESTIVAL@GMAIL.COM

SUBMISSIONS WILL BE SHARED ON OUR INSTAGRAM
A SELECTION WILL BE SCREENED AT ARTWALK WAKEFIELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER
ALONGSIDE FOUR ARTIST FILMS DURING THE LOOSE SCREW FILM FESTIVAL AT THE ART HOUSE

LOOSESCREWFILMFESTIVAL.CO.UK

More than 130 people packed the room at the inaugural Wakefield Business Awards by We Are Wakefield on 10 November, sponsored by Wakefield First.

The awards had been put together by WAW MD Claire Sutherley & Awards Writers Founder Louise Turner, to celebrate thriving SMEs from across the district, and the night itself, hosted at the sparkling CAPA College, didn't disappoint.

With 31 finalists from all corners of the district across categories spanning growth, new business, sustainability, best employer, community contribution, and innovation, the trophies were hotly contested.

ITV's Christine Talbot anchored the night, which saw Solupak take home two trophies – for Thinking Sustainability and the We Are Wakefield member award, which was given to the member entry with the highest number of points across all categories.

We Are Wakefield's Managing Director Claire Sutherley said: "We had this crazy idea of setting up some awards earlier in the year because we really believe in championing Wakefield businesses and providing a platform for them to show off their amazing work.

"It was incredible to listen to so many success stories and hear the judges' comments about our worthy winners.

"We worked hard to create a really robust process with every entry judged three times and scores kept separate, so all of the winners can be really proud of their achievement."



The winners on the night

Innovative Business of the Year

Tagtiv8

Large Business Growth Success Story

Quest Waste Management

Medium Business Growth Success Story

MINT Support

Small Business Growth Success Story

RV2 Power

Thinking Sustainability

Solupak

Outstanding Community Engagement

Frickley Athletic in the Community Foundation

New Business of the Year

The Hive Wakefield

Entrepreneur of the Year

Chelsy Holland of True Beauty Academy

Large Employer of the Year

Elis

Medium Employer of the Year

TWO WINNERS

Bluebird Care Wakefield

&

Kirklees and Northern Media

Small Employer of the Year

Juice Personnel

We Are Wakefield Member of the Year

Solupak



Exclusive We Are Wakefield Member Offer



Are you a member of We Are Wakefield? I have 10 places available, exclusively to WAW members, to benefit from 3 months of full membership to The Alternative Board. Call it my Christmas Bonus to this outstanding business community.

This is at no cost to you financially, and you will get:

- 🔗 Full access to online business planning and strategy tools
- 🔗 A monthly in-person peer board meeting to get support, guidance, and accountability from fellow business owners
- 🔗 A monthly one-to-one session with me where I can help you on any area of your business you wish to focus on

You might be worried about navigating through the current climate, want help planning for 2023 or need accountability to get stuff done over the next 3 months. This TAB membership will help you achieve goals and feel supported as we head into the New Year, making all the difference to you and your business.

All that is required is your commitment to attend the board meetings once a month, which is 4 hours dedicated to working on your business. Your hourly session with me is once a month, where we'll use online tools to help you set goals and develop a plan and strategy for 2023 if needed.

At the end of the 3 months, you can choose to end your membership or carry on, at which point the monthly membership fee will kick in. There is no obligation and no risk, but a great deal of benefit from the level of support and guidance being a member of TAB can offer. A fantastic 'Test Drive' if this is the first time you've been part of an advisory board to see what it's all about.

If you are interested in grabbing one of the gifted places, don't hesitate to contact me. We'll have an initial chat over the phone/zoom for 15 minutes to discuss the details. This is limited to 10 We Are Wakefield business owners and is strictly on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact me at:
tcalverley@thealternativeboard.co.uk

Specialist
Services for
Children and
Young People

I thought I'd share this activity sheet so you can see how we tailor drumming to meet each child's needs. We also share these with parents so they can recreate their child's favourite activity at home!

Alex, Children and Family Support Worker


sense



Festive Drumsticks

Decorate your own drumsticks in festive style... then drum along

Equipment you will need:



- Wooden spoon(s)
- Paint
- Paint brushes/pots
- Collage materials
- Glue
- Glitter



What to do:

- Choose the colours you want your drumstick to be. Explore the brush. Is it rough or smooth, does it tickle? Does it feel nice on your hands?
- Use the paint brush or your hands to paint your drumstick (wooden spoon)
- Explore the collage material: is it shiny, is it soft, is it scrunchie?
- Stick your chosen collage materials to your drumstick
- Enjoy your festive drumstick. Once it's dry let's get drumming! What can you tap to make a noise?



As Thomas' Support Worker, it was lovely to see how much he loved the drumming activity at Sense's Christmas Family Day. It might be difficult to understand why drumming would be a good activity for Thomas, who has no useful hearing (he was born without a fully developed auditory nerve, so even a hearing aid wouldn't help). But we were able to get Thomas into a position that meant he could feel the vibrations when he banged on the drum. It's loads of fun - but it's also important to Thomas' development.





Last year's in-person Christmas Family Days were much smaller than normal, as many families chose not to attend large in-person events due to the risk of coronavirus on their vulnerable children - which is why our virtual Christmas Party was so important to reach all the families.

This year we'll be continuing the virtual event, but we're also excited to be welcoming many more families to our in-person event so they can feel, taste and smell all the amazing Christmas activities.

Thomas managed to attend in-person last year and loved all the sensory activities - meeting the goat, baking the rice crispy cakes, getting crafty (you can see his handprint Rudolph below!) and of course, opening his gift! We thought carefully about what toy would be right for him, so I'm so thrilled he still plays with it.

I really hope you'll help us put on an amazing Sense Christmas Family Day again this year - we couldn't do it without you!

Alex,
Sense Children and Family Support Worker



If anyone feels that they would like to know more about our work locally or help, please do contact Angela 07801893359 or angela.court-johnston@sense.org.uk. I'd really love to hear from you."



Event at Snozone

Castleford WF10 4TA

28th November 2023

12-2.00pm


Come and join Sense hear the inspiring stories of veterans from the Armed Forces Para Snowsports Team (AFPST) and see them in action, practicing for their worldwide competitions.

Feel inspired and understand first-hand the barriers facing those with disabilities. Could this kickstart start and encourage your disability confident employer journey?

Please contact:

angela.court-johnston@sense.org.uk

by Nov. 24th for your limited space.

 www.sense.org.uk

Charity number 289868



About Sense

We support everyone who is deafblind or has complex disabilities to communicate, experience the world and live the lives they want each and every day. We put disabled people and their loved ones at the heart of everything we do.

About AFPST

We support the recovery of our wounded, injured and sick military personnel and veterans. Together we can break down barriers of discrimination.

It's easy to subscribe to the WAW newsletter – just follow this [link!](#)

Get in touch with the WAW community! All our members are listed [here](#)

