



Newsletter Autumn 2010

Brainwave gives hope to an Autistic child and his family.

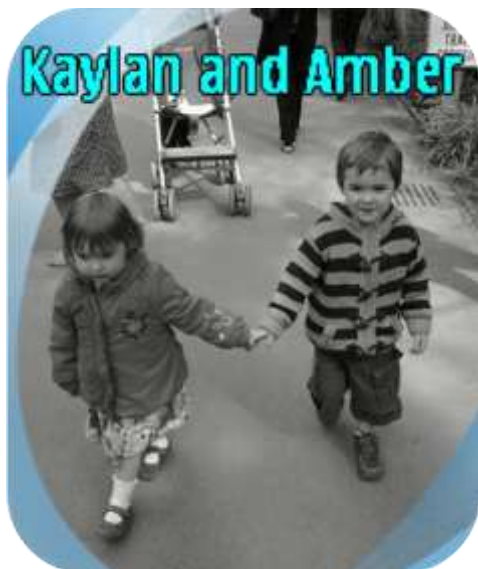
I am a Family Coordinator for Brainwave, and wanted to tell you about one of the families I see. I visit and support families who attend one of the three UK Brainwave Centres; specialist facilities where children can be assessed and allocated an individually designed Brainwave Programme. I see children before their assessment and then visit six to eight weeks later, which gives me the wonderful opportunity to witness any progress made.

I recently returned to a family who has a little four year old boy with Autism. My first visit was spent talking to mum Rosemary, during this time, four year old Kaylan wandered around the house in his own little and lonely world. Kaylan had appeared to be developing normally until he was diagnosed with Autism at the age of two years. Rosemary explains,

"Kaylan's diagnosis is one of classic autism. At fourteen months he had stopped responding to verbal commands, he stopped speaking and there was no longer any eye contact. He couldn't walk properly as his motor skills had slowed and he also developed seizures."

Following Kaylan's two day assessment visit to the Brainwave Centre, a personalised programme was designed for him consisting of small exercises and tasks for him and the family to carry out daily, in the comfort and familiarity of their own home. I returned to the family to discover the amazing changes that had taken place. Rosemary greeted me with a wonderful smile and excitedly told me about the remarkable changes.

"I cannot believe the change in my son! He is more confident and loves doing his Programme activities with us. He has become so much more happy and comfortable in his own skin and he is now more aware of what his body can do. It had been suggested that I should grieve for my lost son but my son is coming back to me"



Rosemary saved the best news until last when she informed me that Kaylan now kisses both his Mummy and Daddy. Every parent cherishes that first kiss from their child, but when that kiss hasn't been forthcoming because your child has autism it becomes something really special when it finally happens. Rosemary says, *"I want everyone who has a child with Autism or other problems like Cerebral Palsy or Developmental Delay to know about Brainwave. The charity has made all the difference to my son and to us as a family and I can't recommend them highly enough."*

I returned home smiling and felt very privileged to be witness to such a special time in that family's life. They now have hope and a positive future to look forward to.

by Ceri Collins Regional Family Coordinator (South East)



Keeping relatives & friends informed

A website is available to enable relatives to set-up a page prior to a child or loved one going into hospital; which can be updated regularly with information on the patient's progress. This avoids the family having to answer endless phone calls, etc. Photos can also be added. Each individual has a website name created by the family and is only given to those they wish to have access to it. The service is quick, easy and free and can also be accessed by iPhone or mobile.

Website: www.caringbridge.org



DotCommunity c.i.c. is a not-for-profit Social Enterprise providing a one stop online resource and directory for finding out about community services, care information and social interactivity for adults and children with a learning or physical disability within your local community.

www.dotcommunity.org.uk (only 1 "m")



AbilityNet

Reg Charity No. 1067673

Visit: www.abilitynet.org.uk

A "national charity helping adults and children use their computers and the internet by adapting and adjusting their technology".



Website: <http://ryasailability.org.uk>

This is "a charity of the Royal Yachting Association which offers people who think they can't get on a boat, let alone sail it, the chance to have a go".

There is a branch in Bristol which offers powerboating to adults and children with "physical, emotional and sensory disabilities" so it may be worth checking out your own area!



Cerebra's Lending Library

Amongst other services Cerebra has a lending library with books & sensory toys for children with ASD & brain injured children. They offer free postage both ways. Check out their page on: <http://www.cerebra.org.uk/parent-support/Library/>

Brainwave Needs You!



As you know, Brainwave is appealing to everyone to save your stamps (UK and foreign), spare coins, postcards and cigarette cards and bring or send them to your nearest Centre. Money raised from the collections will help fund the work which Brainwave does with families and their children. Please ask all your friends, family and work colleagues to do the same, as this will really make a difference.

There is another easy way to raise money for Brainwave that does not involve you parting with extra cash or extra time.

Everyclick.com has launched a new way to donate called "Give as you Live".

You get great search results from Yahoo!, content from leading shopping providers and access to all eBay auctions. Every search creates a donation to Brainwave.

Just go to: <http://www.everyclick.com/brainwave>

www.dft.gov.uk/adobepdf/259428/281009/bluebadgescheme.pdf

Those with Blue Badges need to ensure you are aware of your Rights & Responsibilities updated in April 2010. Blue Badge holders are **not** automatically given free parking in car parks. "It is up to the car park owner to decide if you can park for free." Check the above link for your Rights.



www.toughfurniture.com

Furniture made to withstand abuse from children with behavioural problems.



Join your local freecycle group. If you have an item that you no longer need, but it is still in good working order, don't throw it away in the skip. Offer it to another family in your area! Anything is considered, particularly childrens' items and the list is endless!

Visit website: www.freecycle.org



SAY NO TO 0870!

Say no to premium rate phone numbers by using this website to find local rate numbers, free phone numbers or normal dialling codes which don't charge a premium from your mobile. However, do compare to the rates charged by your own provider first!

Website: www.saynoto0870.com.search.php



Check your housing/council tax benefits

www.entitledto.co.uk is another website where you can check your entitlement to housing/council tax benefits, tax credits & any other benefits you might be entitled to.

Could you be a Volunteer Ambassador for Brainwave?

Christine Cryne, our Chief Executive has introduced an ambassador programme initiative to raise awareness of Brainwave and elicit support. We are looking for parents or carers as ambassadors to assist us in a number of areas:

- To assist Brainwave at events
- To help Brainwave gain support
- To act as spokespeople for the Charity

We appreciate that not everyone feels comfortable about doing certain things, but you could help in a number of areas:

- Talk to the media about your experience
- Undertake speeches in front of large/small audiences
- Provide written endorsements on Brainwave
- Talk to companies/trusts/potential supporters on your experience
- Willing to attend events and chat to the public
- Become a nominated contact in your area

In return we will provide a small presentation pack; a proper briefing before any engagement; training for spokespeople; send quarterly email newsletters; invite ambassadors to annual meetings at your closest centre; reimburse any pre-agreed expenses incurred e.g. travel costs.

If you are interested in exploring this further, even on an irregular basis, please contact your Regional Family Co-ordinator who can take it further on your behalf and put you in touch with the appropriate member of the fund-raising team.

Our recent ambassadorial presentation at the House of Lords was very successful!



Exercises are fun



Will Aid November 2010

During the month of November many solicitors across the country will draft you a will at no charge through this scheme, albeit in return for a voluntary donation to charity.

This isn't forced and there's no fixed price, but a minimum £75 is suggested for a single will or £110 for a pair of wills. There is yet no requirement to donate. To book an appointment visit their website: www.willaid.org.uk and enter your postcode to find your nearest participating solicitor and explain you would like wills drafted as part of the WillAid scheme.



www.eczemaclotting.com

They supply pure cotton clothes, with flat seams and no labels. They do sleepwear, school uniforms, underwear, etc. They obviously target eczema sufferers, but it could be good for children with sensory issues who are driven mad by labels, etc., touching their skin.

cool2care
for families with disabled children

www.cool2care.co.uk

This is an organisation (not nationwide yet) which trains people who want to work with children with disabilities and match them to families who need support. It is compatible with the Direct Payment scheme, although only available in some parts of the country at the moment.



[Part of the Elizabeth Finn Care Family]

Charity #: 207812.

An organisation that helps people access the money available to them: through welfare benefits, grants and other help.

Their free, accessible website has been designed to help you find appropriate sources of financial support, quickly and easily, based on your particular needs and circumstances.

Their free and confidential helpline is open 8am-8pm, Monday to Friday:-
Tel: 0808 802 2000

Their website is: www.turn2us.org.uk.

You can also join their Facebook page for news, events, real-life stories and a growing community where you can discuss topics of interest and share information on their discussion board.

Brainwave has a number of new leaflets including one for Educationalists. They are available on our website: www.brainwave.org.uk or pick them up at any of the Brainwave Centres.



Reduced rates for Blue Badge holders

The AA offer reduced rates to those that hold a Blue Badge. For any child above 2 years old you should be able to obtain a Disabled Parking badge for your car allowing special parking rights (free parking in many car parks and parking on single and double yellow lines for limited periods). Contact the Social Services Department at your County Council for application forms.

<http://www.lissencephaly.org.uk/resources/benefits.htm>

Keep in contact with Brainwave by joining our Facebook Group:
<http://www.facebook.com/#/group.php?gid=28318351852&ref=ts>



Free/ Exchange Websites

When entering these sites, please check if there is a membership fee. Brainwave does not necessarily recommend these services, but provide them for your information purposes only.

JumbleAID (www.jumbleaid.com)

If you have anything in good condition that you no longer want, help a charity at the same time. It's free to post items on the site. Instead, you pledge a donation to a registered charity which will be forwarded, should your item be taken.

Plant-swapping site (www.plantsreunited.com)

Look out for local seed-swapping events or plant swapping - rather than buying plants, why not grow your own?

Trade Your Talents!

(www.u-exchange.com/barter-uk)

If you're brilliant at IT, but can't put up a shelf, why not try trading your talent in return for something you need?

Avoid cash changing hands

(www.uk.bartercard.com)

More than 4,000 business members swap their services and regularly do around £5 million worth of cashless business per month.

Tourist Board Website (www.enjoyengland.com)

Not strictly free, but a good avenue for discount coupons. If you're planning a holiday in the UK, their website can often tell you where to get discount coupons for upcoming events, restaurants & hotels.



Free childcare while you train: supported by Department for Children, Schools and Families

A Government scheme to help increase employment prospects for parents with a child or children aged 14 or under (18 or under for children with disabilities).

There are lots of great courses available (only up to NVQ Level 3 equivalent) and most will fit easily around your day-to-day life. For total peace of mind while you learn or train, you can choose the childcare you trust based on your child's individual needs. To make it easier, this scheme pays the childcare provider direct with up to £175 per child/per week (£215 in London boroughs).

Who can apply?

- You're a parent of a child or children aged 18 or under for children with disabilities
- You are not in any type of paid employment
- Your household income is £20,000 or under in the previous tax year
- You are in a family where your partner works (no minimum/maximum hours)

Further information and impartial advice on suitable courses from freephone number: 0800 121 8989
Or visit website:

direct.gov.uk/freechildcareforlearning

A leaflet ref: LSC-P-NAT-090091 is available by calling 0845 602 2260.



A small national charity providing training to enable independent mobility for young wheelchair users so they can enjoy the same activities as their able-bodied peers. Free courses offer unique, practical and fun skills and support including extra spare wheelchairs available allowing parents/carers, siblings and friends to join in with the fun and games! Their patron, Ade Adepitan (former Paralympian and well-known TV presenter) learnt his wheelchair basketball skills with Go Kids Go!

To find out more, ring 01273 606404 or visit www.go-kids-go.org.uk where you will find details of 33 skills courses in the UK.

KEYTOOLS
making IT easier

www.keytools.co.uk

For switches, touch screens, all sorts of input devices and software to enable people with individual needs to have full use of the computer.



Gymnasium at Bridgwater

The gymnasium at Bridgwater does not belong to Brainwave and is known as the Avalon Sports & Fitness Centre. BW families can book to use it during their stay but it would be after 5.00pm as they will be with their child throughout the day's assessment. As at June 2010, the cost of one session for "pay as you go" is £6. If any BW family is interested they can phone the Gym to book.

Call Avalon on: 01278-425699



Adept Adventures provide activity holidays for families with disabled children. On the site of BBC soap 'Eldorado' they have everything from swimming to horse riding. They offer respite and full care with vetted English staff.

£600 per week (including food and horse riding, excluding flights and transfers) for the person with the disability and £450 for carer. Same price all year round."

Visit: www.adeptadventures.co.uk



www.widgit.com

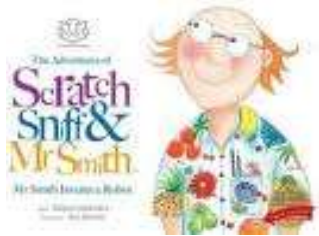
Design products to develop literacy using pictures, symbols and words. With over 25 years experience in the educational software industry, Widgit has pioneered the worldwide use of symbol software.



Free Mobile Calls for Benefit Claimants

From 18th January, calls to DWP contact centres from benefit claimants are free to the majority of mobile phone users. The Department has reached agreement with the major mobile phone companies to end charges for people calling the 0800 numbers to make benefit claims. For full details see:

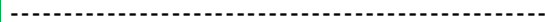
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/newsroom/press-releases/2010/january-2010/dwp007-150110.shtml>



This series of books was recently reviewed by Cerebra. These books try to “bring a whole new dimension to the reading experience by engaging this lesser used sense (smell), and creating excitement around the activity of reading. They use real smells in their books to encourage children to read with enjoyment.”

www.smellybookcompany.com

They are on sale for £4.99 on the website and there are stickers to buy too.



www.semerc.com

For special needs teaching materials, demos and activity sheets. This site has some very good resources for developing language.

Parent Carer Involvement in Hertfordshire

Carers in Hertfordshire are being funded to support the involvement of parent carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities in the development of health and social care services.

The parent participation structure consists of

The Parent Carer Involvement Network (PCIN)

This offers parent carers the opportunity to keep in touch and have their say about services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

Parent carers are invited to relevant focus groups and events and will receive a regular e-bulletin and the Parent Carer Voice newsletter. Training will be offered to all members.

The Parent Carer Involvement Board (PCIB)

This is the steering group for parent carer participation and a channel for the voice of the Parent Carer Involvement Network. Board members are volunteers who live in different parts of the county and who represent a wide range of views and experiences across different disabilities and ages.

Get Involved



If you are a parent carer and you are interested in signing up to the Parent Carer Involvement Network, joining the Parent Carer Involvement Board or finding out more about parent participation in Hertfordshire, please contact a Parent Carer Involvement Worker at *Carers in Hertfordshire* for further information:

Name	Area	Contact Details
Maria Kiely	Dacorum, St Albans, Three Rivers and Watford	maria.kiely@carersinherts.org.uk 01442 253344
Sara Kent	East Hertfordshire and Broxbourne	sara.kent@carersinherts.org.uk 01992 586969
Kay Lowney	North Herts, Stevenage, Hertsmere, Welwyn and Hatfield	kay.lowney@carersinherts.org.uk 01992 586969



Bicester Drumming Festival

A good time was had by all at the drumming Festival. Brainwave Cbit and Cerebra joined together to put on this lovely family day. There was a bouncy slide, duck race, tombola, treasure hunt, professionals tent for information and our fabulous Face to Face face painters. A sensory tent provided by North Abingdon Children Centre. Tyler the dog from Pets for therapy was a great hit and of course we had the wonderful Kaya Drums and their tepee. Simons ice cream van turned up later for free ice creams and Bean Around the World provided hot bacon rolls and other lovely snacks. Round Table Lions Club and Rotary Club all helped to fund the day and enabled everyone to attend free of charge it was such a success we are considering making it an annual event.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this day happen and to the volunteers who worked tirelessly!



Sainsburys, Co-op, Army, Round Table Lions Club and Rotary Club. Pets for Therapy, and the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Bicester for making the day a success.

The Volunteers



Also thanks to **Adele and Lee Swann** for raising £2244.00 and **Bob Urch** for raising £359 for Brainwave

BICESTER DRUMMING



North Herts Centre for Voluntary Services Breakaway

Breakaway, run by the NHCVS, provides children and young people with special needs a chance to escape and enjoy vital play opportunities and make friends.

Aimed at children between the ages of 5 and 19, Breakaway is run to engage their interests and develop social skills through peer interaction and fun.

Breakaway runs Saturdays from 10am to 3pm in Letchworth with places bookable on a termly basis. Each day costs just £8.

For more information or for an application pack Please contact:

Katie Lake

01462 689406

respiteplayschemes@nhcvs.org.uk

Also why not check out our

website:

www.nhcvsbreakaway.org.uk

OXFORDSHIRE

OXFORD COFFEE and CHAT

The phone number has changed to contact Rachel Williamson regarding Coffee and Chat. Her new number is 01865 240033.



TERRY GILLIGAN'S SPEECH & LANGUAGE EVENINGS

AUTISM, ASPERGER SYNDROME & SEMANTIC PRAGMATIC DISORDER.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, 6.30pm to 8.45pm

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN.

Wednesday, 6 October 2010, 6.30pm to 8.45pm

ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER.

Wednesday, 20 October 2010, 6.30pm to 8.45pm and other children.

The fee for each evening is £16

Matthew Arnold School, Arnold's Way, Oxford, OX2 9JE.

Further details www.talkingmatters.org.

terry.gilligan@virgin.net or call on 01480 466495.

Letchworth



A new group for children with special needs at Chestnut Tree Children Centre.

10.00 am -11.30am

Last Friday of each month

The group will be shaped very much by those who attend. Lots of fun toys and equipment available for the children, parents can play alongside their child whilst having the opportunity to chat with other parents over a coffee. There shall be guests visiting the group i.e. health professionals, Stepping Stones music etc if parents request it.

All ideas and suggestions for the group are very welcome!

No need to book just turn up!

For further information call 01462 681334 and ask for Hannah



SHIFT

Support group for families who have a child with Autism have moved to Dunmore Primary School, Abingdon. They meet alternate Thursdays or Fridays. Look on the website or e mail Sally if you would like to attend.

I recently visited the group and was made very welcome. It is a really friendly group. The big bonus was Sally's wonderful cake. Highly recommended!



contact

Sally Foulsham -sally@shift-abingdon.org.uk

Web site www.shift-abingdon.org.uk

Fun Run for Basketball Wheelchairs written by Fiona O'Donovan



Penny Thatcher and I (and a few hundred other people) ran/walked/huffed/puffed the Penn Fun Run. Some fitter and slightly less sane people ran the Penn 7 earlier in the day.

I'm not usually given to running anywhere unless I'm chasing my unruly children or running away from something big and scary. The latter one has only ever happened in my dreams thankfully.



PJ, one of my unruly children, trains with **The Aces wheelchair basketball team**. This year the organisers of the Penn 7 & Fun Run chose The Aces to be the charity they would support, The Aces club is growing fast and they need more wheelchairs, especially little ones. The benefits for a child with a disability being able to join in a team sport and be the same as all the other players are huge. Self confidence and esteem grows, social skills improve. They make friends and realise they can go fast, crash, fight for the ball and generally have a lot of fun. Competitive spirit appears too, this is wonderful to see until you have to drive the child who wasn't on the winning team home. I guess learning to lose gracefully is also an important skill to learn.

The atmosphere on the day of the run was fantastic, The Aces turned out in force and there was a chance for everyone to shoot a few baskets. They raised somewhere in the region of £10000. One of the Aces players did the run in his chair, no mean feat over gravel paths! Penny and I both finished but she got to the end first. I'm not even fussed that I was beaten by numerous under 10's and a bloke in a banana suit. I finished! (and raised just over £130.00).

If you would like your child to attend Wheelchair basketball they have sessions

Term time every Friday
6pm-8.pm
Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium
Harvey Road
Ayelsbury

They take children from the age of 6 years. Children can take their friends or siblings along, and if there is an available chair they play too!

I went to see Theo and PJ play in July.

It was wonderful to watch them and see the children of all ages joining in and having fun.



Buckinghamshire

One of our Brainwave mums recently started using Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) on her little boy who has HSP. She said, *'My son plugs into his DS or ipod whilst I plug the FES onto his legs and he'll sit for 30 minutes whilst his feet rise and fall . Effortless physio. For now we're just building his tolerance to the fizzy feeling the pulse gives. It's not doing any harm and 30 minutes of heel cord stretches where I'm not wrecking my knees on the floor is good in my books. We can't tell what, if any, residual effect this is having but we're living in hope. I'm positive enough about it to say I'd buy a unit if they took this one away from us (but they'd have to fight me for this one).*

FES have good/great success rates and it's improved the mobility for people with HSP. Keep everything crossed!

<http://www.odstockmedical.com/patientsSite/Home.html>

Please note this is for your information and is not an endorsement from Brainwave

Bedfordshire face2face

Parents supporting Parents of Disabled Children

are about to start a second round of training for parents of children with special needs who would like to become volunteer befrienders to support other parents.

If you are interested please call Tel: 07736 730978

or email: fiona.burton@scope.org.uk

www.face2facenetwork.org.uk

University of Hertfordshire 01707 285739 Free termly meetings for anyone working or living with and caring for someone with Aspergers Syndrome (and ADHD). Suitable for adults only.

Welwyn Garden City

There is a multi Sensory Room available for use at **Hertfordshire Action on Disability**

Woodside Centre

The Commons

Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire

AL7 4DD

Just call and book the time you would like to use it.



01707 384260 (Terry Stevens Centre)

Northamptonshire

Inclusive multi-sports club at Greenfields School

A new, inclusive multi-sports club has started Greenfields School, Prentice Court, Northampton NN3 8XS.

The sessions will run fortnightly from 2.30pm to 4.00pm in the school sports hall. Each session will include 2 different activities run by fully qualified coaches.

The sessions will be free, and are open to any young person with a learning, or physical disability.

If you require further details, please contact Graeme Wilson on 01604 237953 or email gwilson@northamptonshire.gov.uk

There is also a new countywide programme for siblings of disabled children being set up by Action for Children. If you'd like more information on this you can contact 01327 705063.

Winston's Wish

the charity for bereaved children

0845 2030405 Support for parents/practitioners, in relation to bereavement. Young person's 6-18 support is also available at weekend special days, based across the UK.

Merlin's Magic Wand is a worldwide charity for children, aiming to provide magical experiences for those who are seriously ill, disabled or disadvantaged.



<http://www.merlinsmagicwand.org>

Northamptonshire Support Groups

Hunny Bees at the Family Centre on the Staverton Road 01327 708819

Special Friends Group on a Monday 1.30-2.30pm in Brackley

Woodford have a **Special Needs Group** on Thursdays 10.30-12 and a **Little Signers Group** from 10-11.00am - you will need to call and book.

There is an **Autism Concern** group at Headlands Thursdays 9.30-11.00am fortnightly and a **Deaf/Hearing Impaired Group** on a Weds 1.00-3.00pm

Irthling Borough has a group for children with Autism Thursdays.

You can find the contact details of all the children's centres in the county at

<http://childrenscentresfinder.direct.gov.uk>

Angels support are holding open evenings as follows

30th September 2010 in Stevenage 7 - 9pm

Strawberry Fields Children's Centre,

Whitehorse Lane,

Great Ashby, SG1 6NH

2nd December 2010 in Hitchin 7 - 9pm

Bluebell Children's Centre, (in the grounds of

Highbury School),

Standhill Road, Hitchin, SG4 9AG





Brainwave Mum wins ‘Supportive Mum of the Year’ award

Sheryl Carty, mum of Emily, was delighted when she won this award. She enjoyed a glamorous day out in London at the star-studded awards ceremony and met a host of celebrities and were wined, dined and pampered

Emily contracted a strain of Meningitis called Group B Strep.

Subsequently Emily had with some brain injury causing physical disability. She’s also visually impaired and has learning difficulties, which means she can only communicate now through sign language.

Sheryl is a founder member of Social Eyes, a charity based in Milton Keynes and the only one of its kind in Buckinghamshire. Social Eyes supports local families and children who are blind or visually impaired. It also organises days out for children and their parents and it has created a teenage youth club.

Over the time I have known Sheryl I have witnessed her energy, patience, dedication and love for Emily and so pleased that she received recognition for all she has done. Congratulations Sheryl!



Regional Family Coordinators



Left to right: Sally Preston, North West 07725 956011; Carly Silvey, North East 01482 668517; Alison Penman; Joanna Sladden, West Midlands 07725 956012; Gail Thurley, South East 07725 956013; Ceri Collins, East Midlands 07894 424312; Georgina Rhymes, Essex 07850 930244.

Brainwave has a team of Regional Family Coordinators who support families in most regions of the UK. Family Coordinators are available to help and advise in any way they can. They can provide the latest avenues of information and advice for our Brainwave families e.g. benefits, allowances, grants/funding, equipment.



“I am the Family Coordinator for Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Oxfordshire.

‘ I hope you found this newsletter useful. If you have any stories, support groups or tips that you would like me to include next time I would love to hear from you’

Equally, if you have any questions about Brainwave please give me a call. ”

Ceri Collins
07894 424312





Clothing

www.eczemaclotting.com	01772 331815
www.able2wear.co.uk	0141 774 8000
www.seenin.com	01434 634457
www.racketys.com	01538 381430
www.revolution-underwear.com (Nightwear & vests)	0116 2775316
www.drylife.co.uk Swimming nappies	0121 200 3336
www.incywincy.net/atcatalog bibs	0118 3773 581
www.babykind.co.uk (Bandana)	0845 094 2275
www.eczemaclotting.com	01772 331815
www.gilbert-mellish.co.uk Footwear/splints	0121 475 1101
www.ostomartstore.co.uk swimwear/underwear	

Toys

www.sensetoys.com	0845 2570849
www.acorneducational.co.uk	01536 747485
www.specialneedstoys.com	01299 827820
www.kapitex.com chewy tubes for children who like to chew things	01937 580211
www.stepscharity.org Borrow switches and special toys or have toys adapted	01803 214124.

Services

 www.brainwave.org.uk Home therapy for children with Brain injury, Developmental Delay, chromosome abnormalities and genetic conditions	 01278 429089 01376 505290
www.cafamily.org.uk Contact a Family	0808 808 35555
www.ncb.org.uk/cdc Council for disabled children	020 7843 1900
www.mto.org.uk more than one severely disabled child	
www.cerebra.org info and advice site	
www.fledgings.org.uk free product search service	
www.go-kids-go.org.uk Offer UK-wide free wheelchair skills mobility courses	01273 606404
www.ipsea.org.uk	0800 018 4016

Charity offering independent advice for parents on the special educational needs	
www.crelling.com jenny@crelling.com Car harnesses for the Disabled Ltd	01253 852298
www.safespaces.co.uk	01706 816274
www.spacekraft.co.uk	01274 581007
Equipment	
www.cotswoldcots.co.uk specialist cots and beds	01933 842885
www.dlf.org.uk useful gadgets	020 72896111
www.disabledcycling.f2s.com Bike stabilisers for older children	01248 713624
www.keytools.co.uk Switches, touch screens, devices, software for computer	
www.semerc.com Teaching materials, demos and activity sheets for developing language	
www.widgit.com Design products to develop literacy including symbol software	
Holidays	
familycarersupport@hft.org.uk	0117 930 2600
info@mencap.org.uk	0808 808 1111
info@3hfund.org.uk www.3hfund.org.uk 3H Fund UK holiday grants	01892 547474
www.personsholidayfund.org	020 8657 3053
www.Groomsholidays.org.uk	0845 658 4478
www.fhaonline.org.uk Family Holiday Association	020 7323 7280
www.calvert-trust.org.uk Calvert Trust Adventure holidays for children with disabilities	017687 72255
www.harriet-davis-trust.beacon.co.uk Harriet Davis Seaside Holiday Trust Three adapted properties in Tenby	01874 730500
www.scoutbase.org.uk/hq-info/holhomes 12 adapted caravans in England/Wales	020 8433 7100
www.nhfcharity National Holiday Fund. Offers 2-week Florida holidays for 8-18yrs	01341 280486
Charities	
www.dctc.org.uk Dream Come True Charity	0800 018 6013
www.happydayscharity.org Happy Days Children's Charity	01582 651234

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