

# Disability Awareness Day June 2009

# Disability Awareness Day July 2009

Having Fun Together

Having Fun Together



Report

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## Appendix 2

### Disability Awareness Day Visitor Survey

#### Gender

Male	Female	Total
42	54	96

#### Age

Under 18	18-40	41-60	60 +	Total
24	31	27	14	96

#### Ethnicity

Asian	Black	White	Other	Total
36	16	44		96

#### Disability

Physical	Learning	Sensory/ Autism	Parent Carer	No Disability	Total
19	27	20	15	15	96

#### Referrals ( including self referrals)

Carers Support	Autistic Spectrum Disorder Support Group.
5	3

## Appendix 1

### List of organisations who took part in the day

Slough and District Sports Association for the Disabled.

Slough Autistic Syndrome Disorder Group

Carers Support

United Voices

Slough Community Transport

SNIPs

Special Voices

Slough Council for Voluntary Service

Age Concern

Speedwell

Joanna Scott, Artist

Slough Community Leisure

Disability Matters

Slough LINKs

Two Left Feet

## Introduction & Background

The Disability Awareness Day came about as the result of work undertaken at the November 2005 “What’s your Vision?” Community Care Forum, by a Physical Disability and Sensory Needs Workgroup. The workgroups ultimate vision was to make Slough the accessible town.

To move the vision forward the workgroup agreed to run an awareness day which would raise the public’s awareness about Physical Disabilities, promote the services and activities available to people with a Physical Disability and to inform the general public that having a disability is not a barrier to participation.

The workgroup agreed that in order to reach as wide an audience as possible and to engage on a meaningful level with members of the public, a first step towards realising the vision would be to create a disability focused annual event in the centre of Slough which would:-

- Inform the Disabled Community in Slough of the support services, leisure and social activities which are available to them in the borough.
- Showcase some inclusive activities in which both disabled and non-disabled people can enjoy together.
- Raise the profile and awareness of disability

The first Disability Awareness Day in 2008 focused on Physical Disability and Sensory Needs. After that event it was agreed that the 2009 event would be widen in order to include Learning Disabilities and Autism.

## Summary & Recommendations

Over 500 people participated in one way or another in the 2nd Annual Disability Awareness Day held in the Queensmere Shopping Centre on Friday 26th June. Fiona MacTaggart, Member of Parliament for Slough, welcomed Slough residents to the day. The Mayor of Slough, Councillor Joginder Singh Bal, also came along to support the event and joined a seated exercise session.

The purpose of the day, which was organised by a partnership of Slough Council For Voluntary Service, United Voices, Age Concern, Montem Leisure and Slough Borough Council, was to raise awareness of the range of services and activities available for people with a disability and to inform the general public that having a disability is not a barrier to participation.

Activities showcased on the day were:

Seated exercise sessions

Tai, chi

Art workshops

Dance demonstrations

Dance workshops

A number of local voluntary organisations participated in the day (see appendix 1)

104 people spoke to stall holders and took information about services ( see appendix 2)

### Recommendations

To build on the success of the day the planning team are considering:-

- Holding the 2010 event mid to late November to bring the event to an even larger audience.
- The public enjoyed the dance demonstrations and participated in the workshops. Next year we will run two demonstrations.
- To involve younger people from either Arbour Vale or Slough Young Peoples Centre in the day.



The event generated a lot of interest throughout the day

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Slough member of Parliament Fiona MacTaggart and Liam Toner, Planning Group member



Everyone getting involved in the fun



The Mayor of Slough Councillor Joginder Singh Bal, with Liam Toner

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### Art Workshops



Many people took the opportunity to display their artistic skills in the Art Workshop assisted by local artist, Joanna Scott.

### Seated Exercises

Members of **Slough and District Sports Association for the Disabled** put on their distinctive track suits and have fun joining in the seated exercise sessions led by instructor Annetta Dendie.



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The refreshment stall staffed by volunteers and members of United Voices, which was very popular on the day.

Crispy Crème provided subsidised donuts for the event. United Voices provided the other refreshments.

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Representing Slough Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS) were Mary Kelly, Community Care Development Worker and Sara Willcocks, Compact and Participation Worker.

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### Tai Chi Demonstration



Members of **Age Concern Slough and East Berks**, demonstrated that age is not a barrier to enjoying exercise. Members of the group, led by instructor Joan Ponton thrilled the audience with a wonderful demonstration of the timeless art of Tai Chi.

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### Bollywood dance demonstration

The dance group **Two Left Feet** gave a Bollywood dance demonstration.



“And now it’s your turn”



The dance instructor, Nikita gave everyone the opportunity to learn how to shimmy like Bollywood stars.

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### Speedwell stall holders and United Voices members



Speedwell Enterprises ran a stall on the day. The stall offered a range of useful gadgets. Speedwell’s role is to help people with disabilities learn skills which provides them with the confidence to find employment.