



support & housing assistance for people with disabilities

SUPPORT AND HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

SHAD - VOLUNTEERS' WEEK!

SHAD volunteers, we are happy to let you know that last week 1—7 June 2007 in the whole of UK was the national volunteers week and SHAD participating fully. Wow!

What does this mean to me as a volunteer? This is a historical annual event and this is the 23rd year of this celebration. It is a week when the nation as a whole recognize, appreciate, celebrate, reward and put a smile on the faces of our volunteers. SHAD will be issuing an award certificate to all our volunteers. We appreciate you all and we say a big "well-done" for devoting your time to volunteer. **To know more about this years celebrations you can visit the Volunteers Week website at:**

www.volunteersweek.org.uk

Welcome Ambreen

We warmly welcome our new Volunteer Manager, Ambreen Raza who has taken over from Rebecca Muirhead who left SHAD at the end of May.

We also use this opportunity to welcome new volunteer, Verity Berry, who started on 7th June 2007. We wish you an exciting period during your placement. We can confidently say to you that "SHAD is THE place to be".

NEW LOOK SHAD OFFICE (but not completely new!)

The basement of the SHAD office is still undergoing refurbishment. It was hoped the work would be complete by Friday, 8 June but is now expected to take a further week. As a result, interviews and reviews will continue to be held in a different part of the office and our usual hospitality involving offering of tea/coffee to volunteers will remain affected to some extent. **Watch this space!**



Volunteers' Week

Volunteers' Social evening. What's up!

Yea. The last volunteers' social evening, first of many, was held at 11 Chaplin House. Hosted by Laura, with support from Rumiko, it was reported to be a huge success.

The event was well attended by volunteers who were not on duty that evening. It was supported by SHAD. Many thanks to all who attended and to those volunteers who added colour by bringing food and drink.



The occasion was used to welcome Bwalya and Verity who joined recently and to send forth Sohrob who has successfully completed his placement.

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Editing:

**Vitalis & Ambreen
Volunteer Managers**

Important bits

Energy costs!

The cost of running the volunteer flats continues to soar and we plead with volunteers to try and always remember to turn off radiators and lights when not in use.

Please do not use radiators to dry your clothes!

Savings made not only enable SHAD to reduce its carbon footprint by saving greenhouse gases but monetary savings will enable the organisation to provide extra resources that can benefit our volunteers.



Summer is here!
Turn off heating and lights!

Smoke-Free Wandsworth!

From July 1 2007, all enclosed public places in England will be smoke-free.

Some places such as cinemas and public transport are already smoke-free areas, but other premises, for example, pubs, cafes, nightclubs, offices, factories, workplaces and communal lifts and lobbies in residential accommodation will join the list of areas that must be smoke-

free. The total ban on smoking will extend to all enclosed public areas. Smoking will be permitted in private homes and exemptions exist for

places such as care institutions and hotel rooms.

Goodbye !

We express our profound gratitude to **Sohrob, Hannah, &**

Joyce who recently completed their placements with SHAD. We wish you the best in your future endeavours!

**Recommend a volunteer to SHAD
and (if they obtain a placement)
win a token!
Call Vitalis or Ambreen for details**

More important bits!

Cover! Cover! Cover!

SHAD is always keen to hear from volunteers who have the availability to carry out cover shifts in addition to their normal sessions.

Cover shifts are often required when volunteers are on leave or unwell, are a way to enhance the experience of a

placement at SHAD and an opportunity to supplement the standard allowances.

If you are interested in additional shifts please notify either Vitalis or Ambreen who will be keeping a list of people to call when the need arises.

Please be aware SHAD will ensure volunteers do not infringe health and safety policies and procedures by over-committing themselves to additional shifts.



How do I become a volunteer?

**Call Vitalis or Ambreen on
020 8675 6095 or see our website
at:
www.shad.org.uk**

Even more important bits!!

The whole ethos of SHAD is that service users run their projects with the support of their volunteers along with back up from the staff team.

Since it was set up SHAD has relied on the close working and trusting relationships of service users and volunteers to ensure the delivery of top quality support. The system will only work if service users and volunteers are able to honestly and openly discuss any problems or issues before they get out of

hand and become a problem. Service users recognise it is their responsibility to train and support volunteers on their projects and to deliver clear and concise instructions as to the tasks volunteers are expected to carry out on a daily basis.

Volunteers are not mind readers and should expect an appropriate level of direction to enable them to carry out their duties. Similarly, volunteers should not take lack of direction as a reason to avoid the performance of duties (i.e. to sit and

watch TV in a service users home!) or to act without a degree of initiative. If in doubt, volunteers should ASK for guidance or direction from their service user who, in turn, should ensure volunteers are fully instructed at all times.

Vitalis and Ambreen are available to assist where required and Jakki can be contacted should the need arise.

Communication, flexibility and understanding are key to SHAD services

General Information (Continued)

Continued from Page 1

Volunteers social evening!

Some volunteers have shown interest in organising more volunteers social evenings with SHAD's support. **All we can say for now is the next one will be coming up soon. We welcome interest from people in other volunteer flats to host this exciting evening. So please call the office if your flat would like to host the next event.**

Staff Meeting

The next staff meeting will be on Tuesday 26th June 2007. Please note that the office will be closed between 10.30am and 12.30pm and all telephone calls will be directed to the answering service.

Cover-shift Forms

Please note that from now on, whenever you do a cover shift, you need to obtain a cover shift form from the office. This must be completed and signed by you and your service user or their family



The new SHAD newsletter is fun filled and informative!

member or care advocate. It is not possible for SHAD to settle cover shift allowances until forms are correctly completed and signed off by services users or their representative.

Flat Cleaning

There are still many flats where the washing up has been left to pile up and the vacuuming has been left undone. Let us remind you that cleaning your flat is part of your agreement with SHAD.

Cold Callers

If sales people from utility companies like gas, electricity or telephone companies should call at your flat please don't let them in. Refer them to the office and do not sign any agreement whatsoever!

Yet more information

Guests in volunteer's flats

Please note that guests are only allowed to stay occasionally for short periods of time (up to a maximum of five days) and only with the permission of the Volunteer Managers.

Please show some consideration for your flat mates. Having guests stay over on a regular basis without informing the

office is in breach of the License Agreement signed by all volunteers when they move into a SHAD flat.

Again, this is not only a Health and Safety requirement but also has impact on our insurance policies.

Next Payments

The next date for payment of allowances will be Wednesday 27 June 2007, when volunteers will receive £120 personal allowance plus any cover shift payments and other expenses.

***Enjoy & let others enjoy the flat!
only with the permission of the
Volunteer Managers are you
allowed to bring a guest into the
flat!***

"Fun corner! Enjoy London"

Making the most of London.....

For a free guide to the London night scene check the following sites:

www.clubseekers.com

<http://www.viewlondon.co.uk>

There are loads of great films out, too many to mention – see Time Out for details.

The latest copy of Time Out will be in the office from this afternoon. Please feel free to come and browse. There are lots of free and cheap events going on throughout London. You can use the office photocopier to copy any information you find of interest.



Ha! Ha! Ha! Have you been to the zoo?



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**SHAD is supported by
Wandsworth Borough Council**

We're on the Web!
www.shad.org.uk

Jakki's Bit

It's great to be back! The last time a 'Jakki's bit' appeared in a SHAD newsletter was back in December 2004! Way before, it seems to me, some of our volunteers were born! Oops no, that's not quite right but the years have passed and I'm pleased this publication has returned to bring information, news and gossip to all who read it.

Vitalis and Ambreen are the Editors in Chief of the newsletter but they have kindly given over this part of the back page to me to bring both light hearted and (on occasion) serious comment to the proceedings. I hope my ramblings will be of interest and amusing and although not the official organisation 'line' (other areas of this newsletter are for that) some bits may be informative.

Whether I can write something every two weeks or so remains to be seen but I will try!

As I write this the G8 Summit is in progress, England is playing the West Indies in a cricket Test Match, David Beckham is back in the England football team and the TV programme Big Brother is, once again, courting controversy. All of these merit a detailed mention but as space does not allow I will comment on just one. Why do the most powerful people in the world not recognise that this planet has to maintain and support billions of people not just for now but for eons to come. Do they not feel a duty to protect and nurture the Earth, to feed its people and maintain the peace? Talk of ICBMs once again being targeted at European cities fills me with dread and foreboding—what about you?

I am to be a grandparent for the first time at the end of this year (yes, I know I don't look old enough!) - what will life be like for future generations?

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Organisation

**This issue is also available in other formats
for visually impaired readers.**

And Finally...

A wheelchair user has been taken for a high-speed ride along a US highway after his handlebars became tangled up in the front grille of a lorry.

The back of Ben Carpenter's wheelchair was scooped up as he passed in front of a lorry leaving a petrol station.

The driver was completely unaware that he had a new passenger, kept in his wheelchair by a seatbelt.

Passing motorists told police, who found the man unhurt - but still attached to the front of the truck.

Police in the town of Paw Paw, Michigan, said Mr Carpenter had told them "it was quite a ride", but complained only that he had spilled his soda.

The lorry reached speeds of 50mph (80km/h) as it drove down the Red Arrow Highway.

After several miles the driver pulled over at the depot of a trucking company where police then told him about the man on his front end.

He refused to believe there was a man in a wheelchair stuck to the front of his truck until he saw it for himself, police said.

"It's fast, I know that," Ben Carpenter told local Wood TV.

"I was probably thinking that he [the driver] is going to keep going, not stop anywhere, go 50-60 miles somewhere".

"I mean I would have been dead way before that," he added."

© BBC MMVII

*Footnote:
Jakki does not recommend this as an idea
for volunteers to adopt for their Service Users!!*



ADVERTISING

Rates are available on request.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

SHAD is looking for people with appropriate skills to help further develop the organisation.

For more information please contact:

The Secretary

SHAD

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