

THE VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER



PASS-AWARD WINNING SCHEME

The Camden Society were delighted to receive an award at the Pro-Active Sport Awards London, held at Chelsea Football Club on Friday 14th March.

This was the first Pro-Active awards and was held to celebrate everyone that contributes towards sport and physical activity in London.

The award winning project was the Peer Activity Support Scheme (PASS). On this scheme volunteers buddy up with a participant who is interested in becoming more active.



Members of the PCT and Camden Society staff and volunteers receiving their award at the Pro-Active Sport Awards London

The scheme is funded by Camden Primary Care Trust, who recognised the need for people with learning disability or mental health issue often required extra support and motivation to become more active.



You can check <http://www.passgo.org.uk> for further information or contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator: admin@thecamdensociety.co.uk

WANT TO VOLUNTEER FOR PASS?

This award winning scheme is proving to be very beneficial to its participants, but relies solely on volunteers for its success.

We require no previous experience in this field of work from our volunteers, just an enthusiastic and friendly attitude. We will provide training where necessary, and also pay any travel or lunch expenses that you may acquire whilst volunteering with us. Please take some time to look at the Peer Activity Support Scheme web site:

www.passgo.org.uk to see if you are interested in applying to join us. If you would like any further information please contact:
Volunteer Co-ordinator on 0207 485 8177

PASS NEWS

Che Lopez, participant and Agnieszka Fraszczak volunteer on the scheme attended the Volunteers Fair at the UCL last September and gave a presentation for international students about volunteering opportunities, and how the Peer Activity Support Scheme has benefited them.



Andrew Omoding wants to run half a marathon in the near future.

After participating in PASS with volunteer Jessica Hill, Andrew has decided to join the next marathon in London and run at least half of it!



BOWLING TEAM NEWS

NORTH LONDON AND SOUTHWARK

We are looking for volunteers to help us to set up a competition across the Camden Society's many service users and members of the staff.

For more information, please contact Rachel Halliwell:
rachel.halliwell@thecamdensociety.co.uk



INTERVIEW WITH LUCY COLLINS *an exceptional person*

Lucy's first role as a volunteer at The Camden Society was nearly 20 years ago running a 'Keep Fit' group in the Summer Scheme.

She was then a service user at the Wednesday Club where she stayed until she turned 24, the maximum age of attendance. The manager at that time asked her to stay as a volunteer, helping out members of the staff and she did.

She also volunteered at the Monday and Tuesday Clubs escorting other service users in the minibuses and at the After School Clubs helping with the kids.

In that time, Lucy twice applied to attend a Child Care course. The first time her application was turned down due to her learning disability, but she was finally accepted and with the support of a key worker for her writing and reading, she got the qualification.

Lucy is now a part time member of the staff at the After School Club.

She also provides an invaluable contribution to the Camden Society Peer Activity Support

Scheme (PASS) where she volunteers at the 'Keep Fit' group on Tuesday nights, at the Bowling Team 3 times a week, and at Talacre Centre on Monday nights running table tennis sessions.

In July 2008, Lucy was nominated for the Camden EPIC (Exceptional People in Camden), Sport and Leisure Award 'for her tireless efforts with adults with learning disabilities' by the Camden Society CEO Denise Largin and she won it!

Lucy Collins won the silver medal in the singles category of the bowling competition at the Special Olympics - China 2007

Lucy's career in sports is very impressive too. She has been bowling with other members of the Camden Society for a few years. They have participated in international competitions representing England at the Special Olympics in Glasgow 2005 and in China 2007 where she won the silver medal in the singles category.

This was a very special experience for Lucy. The Opening Ceremony

excited her immensely and she and her family felt very proud of her achievements.

Now she enjoys training other people in the bowling alley and encourages them to try for great accomplishments too. In the near future, Lucy is planning to complete a course in coaching and it is her dream to get a paid job training people in any of the physical activities that she loves. She also wishes to have increased the number of people attending her 'Keep Fit' classes.

Lucy is looking forward to a special trip at Christmas to visit her brother and family in Australia.

Lucy really is an exceptional person.



Photo: Lucy wearing her Olympic medal

DANCE AND GET FIT AT GREENWOOD PLACE

Dancing is a great form of physical activity that has many benefits. You can lose weight and get in shape, feel more confident and meet new friends. Marianne Rouvier-Angeli from the Camden Active Health Team runs the Greenwood Dance Club and the Greenwood Dance Performance Group.

The groups practice dance techniques once a week in the Camden Society's Zen Room at Greenwood Place and Marianne is helped by a class assistant and a volunteer.

Approximately 20 service users from the Camden Society take part in this project every week and since they started in November 2007, The Greenwood Performance Group has performed at the Camden Society AGM, the Camden Summer Dance Festival last July and at Boundless at City Hall in September. Why not come along on a Tuesday for fun and fitness or to perform on stage!



Photo (Left to Right): Members of the Greenwood Performance Group – Diana Malony, Ann Taylor, Keith Shortman, Jill Hunt Smith, Sandy Smith, Jackie Field, Scott Geraghty and Marianne Rouvier-Angeli

If you want to join the Dance Active Group please email Dave Keeling at Community Project: community@thecamdensociety.co.uk

THE CAMDEN SOCIETY EVENING CLUBS

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

We are looking for new volunteers for the Camden Society Evening Clubs that run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 37 Greenwood Place to provide extra support for people with learning disabilities helping the members of the staff and the Club Co-ordinator with the setting up of the clubs and socialise with the club members.

As well as helping create a pleasant atmosphere, volunteers could help with trips out, art groups, cooking and games. Any time you could spare for this friendly clubs would be appreciated.

As well we are looking for volunteers with a creative streak who would be happy to run occasional projects in our social or activity clubs. This opportunity would be ideal for someone unable to commit to regular hours, but would still like to be involved.



VOLUNTEER

WITH THECAMDENSOCIETY



Support teenage city-explorers to get involved in London's cultural scene on our Helter Skelter Holiday Project



Become a job buddy and help a young person to get their first job on our Fast Train to Work project



Help to train people to master culinary delights in our high street cafes



Help people with disabilities to get into sport and use gyms, leisure centres and sports clubs on our PASS project



Turn overgrown patches of land into a contemporary gardens by supporting our garden centre trainees



Multi-task on the Camden Society's busy main reception



Drive our minibuses and vans to support people to get to evening clubs and social events

WHATEVER YOU'RE INTO, WE'LL HAVE A PROJECT FOR YOU

Contact us now for more information: The Camden Society: 020 7485 8177
Email: admin@thecamdensociety.co.uk

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY

GET SKILLS & EXPERIENCE FOR A CAREER CHANGE

MEET NEW PEOPLE & MAKE NEW FRIENDS

GET WORK EXPERIENCE



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

WE ARE ON THE WEB:
www.thecamdensociety.co.uk

