High Peak CVS Celebrating People winners are the fantastic community group COGS. Community Organising Green Space is certainly a group that can be proud of an amazing achievement for the benefit of Furness and the surrounding areas. 10 years commitment and hard work by local folk was recognised at our AGM in October. From a neglected, uneven and boggy space, the Furness Vale field is now a superb football pitch, children’s play area, outdoor gym, picnic site with tables and benches, an even and accessible perimeter path, flower beds, a mosaic trail. You’ll really have to go and see this one! The group haven’t had it easy, with delays due to boundary disputes, lease issues and all the work to achieve QE2 status, but there’s so much to be said for not giving in, clearly!

Terry Watson, COGS chairman said, “We have all worked so hard for the last 10 years and finally our efforts are bearing fruit. To have all our efforts recognised by Fields in Trust is a huge bonus”

Sandy Schofield group fundraiser said, “This success is so great after all the hard work and problems we’ve had to overcome, we are delighted”

QE2 status means that the field is protected forever and can not be used in the future for development, so this is a great reassurance to funders that their investment is to last. Even more importantly, it’s a real gift to the community and generations to come. A beautiful community space to play and grow up, to socialise, get fit, chat and make friends, keep connected, smell the flowers, organise events, take a walk, take the dog, watch the world go by.

Such great community work!

High Peak CVS wish a very HAPPY 2018 to all the fabulous small groups across the whole of the High Peak. We hope all your wonderful efforts continue to provide a rich and diverse range of support, activity and resource for the lovely people of our communities.

Well done and big thanks to all of you!

Winners again!
(and this time it’s a national award!)

‘Most Improved Site’ Award 2017
Terry and Sandy could hardly have sat down after their Celebrating People success before they were off to the Lords Cricket Ground in London. They were invited to take part in the Fields in Trust ceremony and COGS won again! First prize for ‘Most Improved Site 2017’ Sandy and Terry are again pictured and as the COGS representatives accept this really prestigious award from Jaquie Oatley MBE and Paul Robin, the Lords Taverners.

Sandy Schofield and Terry Watson accept the Celebrating People Award from general manager Nigel Caldwell at the High Peak CVS 2017 AGM

Sandy Schofield and Terry Watson accept the Celebrating People Award from general manager Nigel Caldwell at the High Peak CVS 2017 AGM
**Update from G52**

We have been very busy putting together more than a hundred bags full of Christmas treats and goodies, these have been distributed to local residents. In addition, we have had our Festive Community Meal, on the 29th of December, which was really well attended bringing families, young people and older people all together. In the New Year, we will continue supporting our community, with a range of volunteering experiences, information days and our home support service. As part of this, we intend to run a one day information day to prepare residents for the introduction of Universal Credit, which will be rolled out in September. Many thanks to all our amazing volunteers who all work hard to make Gamesley such a good place to live.

For more information on all this activity call Pat 01457 858035

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**Happy New Year from HEADStogether!**

This weekly support and social group for people with a brain injury, meet at the Glossop Central Methodist Church. Thanks to recent funding from the Glossop Rotary and further success with the Self Care grant (The Bureau in Glossop), this group have big plans. They are now expanding to include people who have had a stoke, in recognition that these people often have to join a waiting list to access any peer support. They are also planning to train able members in first aid skills and as usual will have a whole years worth of exciting trips and activities in mind.

To find out more call Michael at the Methodist Church 01457 852422

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**2018 cheers from Glossop Men’s Gang!**

This lovely picture of the Glossop Men’s Gang committee members was taken at their Christmas meal at the Wren’s Nest Glossop, (nice Christmas jumper Peter!) As usual there were at least 30 older gents sitting down to enjoy a lovely festive meal and a good chat with their friends, old and new. No ladies allowed so I didn’t stay long, just long enough to congratulate them on their fantastic and successful group, ensuring the older gentleman of Glossop have their own warm and welcoming peer support and trips to look forward to.

Another group successful with the Self Care grant managed by 'The Bureau' means they can confidently plan their meetings, outings and activities for 2018. Well done guys, keep on showing us just how it’s done!

To find out more;

call Owen on 01457 855636
The Glossop VIP group had a great 2017 and rounded things off with a really successful stall at the Glossop Christmas market. Group Chair, Paul Kiddy said, “This was such a great opportunity to make some money for the group and also raise awareness of sight loss issues in the community.” They raised £278 with a raffle, tombola and bric a brac! With funding from Greggs Bakery the group have just delivered an amazing 12 month programme of activities to stimulate the non-impaired senses. Visits to garden centres, a theatre trip, pottery sessions, armchair yoga, Glossop Band Room, the sensory garden at Manor Park…. and more! They are also pretty fabulous at linking up with the other VIP groups and regularly get together with the Peak VIP group (Buxton) for a quiz or entertainment, meaning events and resources benefit even more people. We’ve also just had confirmation that the brilliant folk at Foundation Derbyshire are funding this group to deliver their next great project ‘Opening Doors on Darkness’ where trained group members will visit people with a new diagnosis of sight impairment, offer peer support, useful signposting and information and let the person know there is ‘light after the darkness’. If you would like more information on this group, call Paul 07970 014595 or William 01457 867367.

Glossop Blind Social Club

This Whitfield group have really started to thrive as well, with two major successes on funding applications. Less than 12 months ago this group, that dates back to the 1950’s, lost their council funding for transport. Members were really worried they may have to fold leaving many vulnerable members without their weekly social gathering. But they weren’t going to let that happen! The Bureau granted them three months transport from the Self Care health grant money, this meant they could carry on meeting and work with CVS to sort the longer term picture and hoping to keep this valuable resource going. Now the lovely folk at Foundation Derbyshire have covered all transport costs from their older people’s fund this will keep them traveling for 12 months, and wait for it….. they were also voted most popular cause in the Tesco’s bags of help scheme and have been awarded £4,000! This fantastic funding boost will enable them to follow in the footsteps of the Glossop VIP group and deliver a range of activities that stimulates the non-impaired senses, early ideas are supported craft sessions, eating out, gentle physical activity, maybe a sing song and a boat trip. Another group we look forward to hearing from later this year.

Meeting every Monday at Whitfield House.

Tesco Bags of Help

Glossop Blind Social Club bags £4,000 from Tesco’s community grant scheme

Bags of Help is run in partnership with environmental charity Groundwork, and sees grants raised from the sale of carrier bags awarded to thousands of local community projects every year. Since launching in 2015, it’s provided more than £40 million to over 9,700 local community projects. Work will now begin on bringing the project to life. The Blind Social Club in Whitfield will be having a busy year getting out and about and taking part in activities that stimulate the non-impaired senses. Following in the footsteps of their neighbouring group ‘Glossop VIP’

AND DON’T FORGET we have two other fabulous High Peak VIP groups, Peak VIP meet monthly in Dove Holes Buxton and Beyond Macular Group meet monthly in central Buxton. Call CVS for more information on these two.

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The Small Group Project supports small voluntary and community groups in the High Peak and particularly those who are disadvantaged, marginalised or rurally isolated.

The Bureau, in partnership with High Peak CVS, is administering a grant scheme on behalf of Tameside and Glossop Care Together. We are looking to fund activities that bring communities together, help people look after their own health, and help people live independently for as long as possible. We specifically want to fund activities that will reduce demand on statutory health and social care services. Round one went very well indeed and some great and inspiring projects have been awarded the health cash boost they needed to deliver on some brilliant health and wellbeing focussed projects.

In mid February 2018 round two will be launched so keep a look out for announcements on The Bureau and HPCVS websites www.the-bureau.org.uk www.highpeakcvs.org.uk

Support, advice and more information on either or both of these grants can of course be provided by High Peak CVS, give us a call 01663 735350

Just to let folk know that Peaks and Dales Advocacy are still going, albeit in a smaller way for now. Peter and Anne are still employed part time and have a weekly office space with us at High Peak CVS. Last year they lost out on a big tender process which meant they’ve had to downsize, but with bits of funding from NDVA, DCC and the Allen Lane Foundation they’ve found enough to keep going until summer. Peter says, ‘We were set up 30 years ago to ensure marginalised people in our communities have a say in decisions that affect them. We are still doing this in a range of ways and will continue to do this while ever we can.’

There’s a new weekly support group for parents and carers of children who are exhibiting Autistic traits and challenging behaviour.

The aim of the ‘Connect’ group is to offer support, understanding and to provide an opportunity for parents to come together, exchange ideas and Useful information.

If you would like to know more, call the Children’s Centre in Glossop 01629 531232 or Liz at CVS 01663 736426 and we will pass on your contact details to the ‘Connect’ committee.

On behalf of Public Health Derbyshire County Council, High Peak CVS have been managing the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Grant and a further round to distribute the remaining funds will be announced early 2018, suitable for small groups or organisations delivering activities meeting some or all of the 5 ways to wellbeing. Look out for news in our regular e-bulletin or check the CVS website.