



April 2023

Accidents/Incidents reported – 0
Complaints received – 0

This report is written collectively from all staff, with snippets and photos from our busy centre allowing us to share some of our good news stories, successes, achievements, and lessons learnt.

Report from Ellen, April 2023.

Baby Hub and Owl & Owlets both continue to grow and prove very popular groups for our young children to attend. We have also recently seen a number of our older babies move from attending baby hub and joining in with the toddler group. Both are very friendly and welcoming groups and we frequently welcome new faces who quickly become regulars.

I recently sent a survey out to those who attend our baby hub sessions and received great feedback. As well as suggestions and ideas about how, parents would like to see the session develop, activities they would enjoy as well as suggested advice sessions they would like to be part of.

All parents who responded to the survey said they feel welcome during the sessions and that the sessions met their expectations they had before attending. When asked about specific highlights they had from the sessions parents commented upon they enjoyed the opportunity to socialise with other mum's, the different opportunities on offer to the young children and the friendly atmosphere. When asked how we could improve the sessions a number of the responders asked for additional baby hub sessions to be added to our weekly timetable. Followed by all responders confirming they will continue to attend future sessions. Parents also made several suggestions regarding activities and opportunities during sessions therefore, I am planning to incorporate messy play Mondays into the baby hub sessions each half term. As well as researching and purchasing additional resources to use during sessions. This will allow for a bigger play space which is needed due the popularity of the group as well as to ensure that those who attend continue to enjoy the weekly sessions and don't become bored with the activities on offer.



Owl & Owlets toddler session now runs twice a week, and although our additional Wednesday slot started off quiet it is building in popularity, and we often see over 20 children at each session. In March I was able to take 40 children (with accompanying adults) to Dream Big Role play Centre in Grange Villa thanks to funding awarded by the Asda Foundation. This funding was awarded after our centre users and supporters voted each week online. Our toddler group users are very supportive of the sessions and in helping to raise funds to ensure the group continues to run and provide a range of opportunities for the children who attend. Over the Easter sessions parents and children took part in a sponsored toddler circuit session and have so far raised over £190. I plan to use these funds to develop opportunities and activities for the children within



our outside area. Using the outdoor area will allow for a wider variety of play experiences different to those we are already able to offer. As well as give all the children who attend a safe outdoor environment where they can play and explore. I have also linked up with Pelton Library and we have a visit arranged for during one of our upcoming sessions. Children will be encouraged to take part in rhyme and story time and will also have the opportunity to sign up for a library card and borrow books.

As children grow and get older, they are now able to move on through the groups we provide, from birth to 4 years old. However, we have noted a gap in the groups we offer from leaving toddlers (starting school) and attending sessions offered by Room14. Therefore, I have been working on creating an after school club with this age range in mind. The aim of the group would be to provide a warm space for parents and children to come along and support each other whilst completing homework tasks. Families would be able to use resources provided by the centre to complete homework as well as offering additional fun and stimulating activities. Due to already running holiday activities and the toddler group we already have some of these resources available, however there are several items I would like to purchase to help get the group started as well as needing to cover weekly running costs. To raise the funds needed we have approached the Ballinger Charitable Trust with a funding bid that would cover the costings for the setup and running of sessions for the first year.

Over the Easter holiday period we offered 3 activities to our local families. Two of the activities were ticketed sessions that required advance booking. The centre subsidised the cost of the sessions to make them more affordable to families attending.

Due to the popularity when previously booked we invited construction kids back to run another Lego workshop. To allow more children to attend we ran 2 sessions on the day, during session 1 we welcomed 24 children and another 14 during session 2. Deb brought her racetrack with her to allow the children to create and race Lego vehicles. They also made marble runs using base plates and the huge Lego collection provided.

We heard some great reviews about Stars Community Learning CIC who attended to run our rocket science session and they didn't disappoint. All 20 slots sold out and every child attended on the day. Children were given time to design and make paper rockets which were then flown across our main hall in a competition to see who could go the furthest.

The remaining activity was a cinema session that required no pre-booking. We had 5 families turn up on the day to watch and enjoy Paw Patrol the movie at £1 per ticket.





Report from Hyleen,

Our Warm Spaces is continuing to run on Thursdays & Saturday's here at the centre. Although these days are advertised as Warm Spaces, we do actually offer warmth & a cuppa to people every day.

The last three Thursdays have seen 11,13 & 15 people attend. Very few people use the space on a Saturday, but it is there should anyone need it.

On Thursday 6-4-23 through funding by CDCF we provided an Easter fish & chip lunch for 15 people and a chocolate Easter bunny to take home.

We still have funding available from CDCF to continue with warm spaces. Our Thursday group has become quite a social gathering where people enjoy meeting other people & having a good chat and catch up. A lot of reminiscing is also done at these sessions. As the weather starts to warm up we feel that the name of the session

needs to reflect on what we provide as the warm spaces element is not so appropriate. This is something that we are thinking about at present.

As part of "Warm Spaces" age uk are providing Indoor Archery in our main hall at the same time as our Thursday group. The numbers attending is increasing slowly. Initially the group started by using safe arrows with a rubber sucker on the end. Now they are using proper bows and arrows & the targets are pinned on to straw stands. The archery was initially being provided until the end of March. We have recently learned that DCC have further funding available, and the archery provision has been extended until June. We are looking at the possibility of securing funding, to purchase our own archery equipment & run a centre archery club.



The plans for the 50th birthday celebrations are well under way. As part of the whole celebrations it includes:

A Family night on Friday 19th May 6-8pm

A day of Carnival fun 1-4pm on Saturday 20th May

City Swing & Afternoon tea Sunday 28th May 12.30-4pm

A week of special offers in the gym, w/c 15-5-23

A timeline (showing the life & events over the last 50years of the centre) is being constructed in the main corridor with pieces provided by the centre & members of the public. We are still appealing for further information.



Please send me any questions regarding this project by email & I will answer them.



This is our timeline, why not pop in for a good read, or add your own comments and pictures?

Many thanks

Hyleen

Don't Forget:

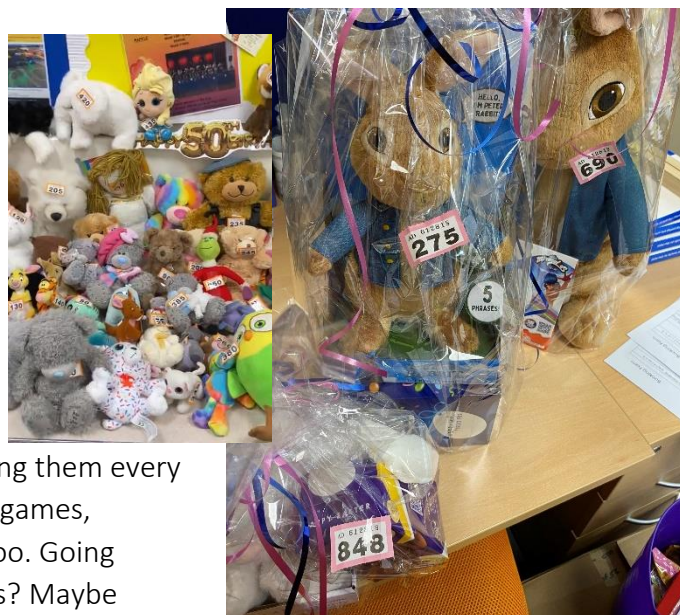
Pelton Community Centre is going to enter Pelton Parish Neighbourhood In Bloom this year and would kindly ask for some community help and support with this, maybe you can spare an hour a week and you love gardening and can help improve our surroundings? The plan is to improve the front of Room 14, our Main entrance, and give our bottom park some much needed TLC.

Who can help?

We will provide everything required we hope.



This month we have had a teddy tombola and an Easter Raffle, both of which did very well. Thanks to donations from the community for our teddy tombola, we managed to raise £93.73. Our Easter Raffle had some fab prizes up for grabs and got a lot of attention. Three prizes altogether and it did really well too...raising £141, over £100 profit. Between two we raised a good amount to go back into centre funds.



Teddy tombolas always seem to do well here, so I think doing them every so often is a good idea, tombolas with kids things in them, games, toiletries etc always do well on the family nights we hold too. Going forward we could maybe raffle off some gym memberships? Maybe putting some tombolas out consisting of the stuff we have in the cupboard every couple of months just to generate some funds isn't a bad idea either. Maybe every now and again raffle off a party voucher..?

Watch this space

Funding Applications:

We worked hard this month to apply for some funding to help Ellen and her early years provision, the funding we have asked The Ballinger Trust for will help with a years provision, adding in a new addition to our timetable which we have talked about for some time now, an after school homework club. Ellen will need time to plan and deliver such a group, and will need funds to provide activities within the session. We can see this group being almost like a warm space for families, in that it isn't just for homework, and not just for children, the parents can come along. They can chat with others, have a cuppa, the children can meet others and enjoy a healthy snack. We can help with printing, craft materials, provide space for group activities. The funding application also included an extension of our existing provision, our Baby Hub and Owlets sessions...we hope to fund these further and allow these to grow over the next year. We are looking forward to meeting Andrew and his Trustees to talk through our plans more.

As always we are continuing to offer food parcels to those in need...you just need to ask.

Community Litter bin can be found in our entrance porch, come and chat with us to find out more.

Regards Clare Robinson and Team





Pelton
Community
Centre

Saturday 20th May 2023
Carnival leaves 1pm
Then returns for a day of fun until 4pm

Please join us to parade around the block, celebrating as we go with bubbles, drums and flags. We can then head back to the centre for a jam-packed afternoon, with Candy Kids facepainting & photobooth, Crafts, The Bubbleman, Tidy Ted, Games, Activities, Buffet, Singing, Performances and full access to Room 14 Youth Project and more.

Why not dress up, wear bright colours and join in the carnival theme!

Most activities are
free, including buffet
and treats!

Funding secured from Cllr Danny Wood, Cllr Paul Pringle and Cllr Alison Batey, Karbon Homes, Coop Pelton and Birtley Depo, Kajima and our own funds, without which this wouldn't be possible.

Pelton
Community
Centre

Chester-le-Street
& District
Area Action
Partnership

50th Birthday Celebrations.

City Swing

Sunday 28th May 2023

£6 Per Ticket - Limited tickets available.

Afternoon Tea, Music & Dancing

Bar Open.

Doors open - 12.30pm

Afternoon Tea - 1pm

Music 1.30 - 2.30pm

Interval

Music 3-4pm.

RAFFLE



Photographer present on the day.

Call 01913700726 for more info or pop in to buy tickets.

Afternoon tea & Admission included in ticket price.

Pelton
Community
Centre

CANDY
Kids Entertainment

CELEBRATE OUR 50TH BIRTHDAY!

FAMILY NIGHT.

FRIDAY 19TH MAY 2023

6 - 8pm

£2 PER TICKET - EVERYONE NEEDS ONE!

FUN & GAMES

BAR OPEN

RAFFLE

ASK 25 POLICY, ALL CHILDREN MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. LIMITED TICKETS
AVAILABLE BUY AT RECEPTION IN ADVANCE. FOR MORE
INFO CALL: 01913700726

May 2023

We turn 50! Can
you believe it?

Come and celebrate
with us, we have
something planned
for everyone 😊