



PAG FAMILY FESTIVAL

Every February half-term we have a one day festival for disabled children and their families. It is a totally interactive day of music and art. Near the end we have a very colourful, very noisy festival parade. Everyone gets involved and has a great day.

Like all our activities, we ensure we have the best tutors possible, supported by experienced and energetic volunteers. Throughout the day complementary therapists are available to give short treatments to both adults and children.

The Festival finishes with a music performance by David Jackson and his Tonewall. David uses computer programmes and equipment that allows the most profoundly disabled children to interact and make music. It has got to be seen to be believed. Especially when David plays two saxophones at once!

A specially invited audience comes towards the end of the day to take part in the parade and watch the performance. This usually includes the Mayor of Rushmoor, Rotary and Lions groups, as well as local business representatives.

If you would like to be part of that audience, contact us via our website.

The festival costs £2000 approx.

A huge amount of voluntary hours are spent organising, publicising and running all these events and activities. The nature of events for special needs families involves a greater sensitivity towards individual needs, more people power to ensure enough support and a good deal of fundraising.

The PAG Committee takes part in and runs a stall at community events throughout the year, including Northcamp Fayre and Rotary Charity Bazaar. None of the family events would happen without the support of local businesses and charity groups, or the tremendous amount of time given by volunteers who are all local people.

Contact details:

www.pagforspecialplay.co.uk
pag.specialplay@googlemail.com

Secretary
 Chairperson
 Treasurer
 Heather Chalkey
 Debbie Morgan
 Karen Flackett
 07847273238
 01252 377623
 01252 651167



'Every child has a right to play'

Can you or your organisation help Special Children and their families to access the local community?

PAG is a local charity for families with disabled children. We have a committee of 10 parents who each have at least one child with a disability. Our aim is to create more and better play opportunities for disabled children, in Rushmoor and the surrounding area. We do this through campaigning, fundraising and organising! We would like to share some of our success with you.

PAG would like to offer you a simple opportunity, to be linked with a dedicated and hard working local community group.

Interested?

Please read on . . .





Special Needs Christmas Pantomime

This event has become a well known date marked on peoples calendars. Going to see a pantomime is a tradition that we look forward to as a child and love taking kids to as an adult. Special needs children often miss out. These are some of the thoughts that go through the minds of parents: "Will my autistic child be able to cope with the noise or the crowds - over £10 per head is a lot if you have to leave after 5 minutes!", "Do I feel confident enough to cope with people staring or making comments because my child is in a wheelchair?", "How embarrassing will it be having to explain why my child is making strange noises or will not sit still!?"

PAG aims to build parents confidence by offering them a safe way to access what most of us take for granted. For the past 3 years we have bought a performance of the Pantomime from The Princesses Hall, Aldershot. We sell over 400 tickets to families with special needs children at a very reduced rate. Every child has a free lightup toy, every family has a free programme and every individual has a drink and ice cream. It is a fantastic experience, involving 15 volunteers on the night and a whole lot of fundraising throughout the year!

Your organisation can become a well known name linked with the event.

Total Cost Approx £5000

'Every child has a right to play'

PAG'S MADD CLUB

Music, Art, Dance and Drama club for 9-16 year olds with special needs. Most of our children are not able to access social groups and activities in the same way as their more able peers. A big part of their social learning as they become young adults is missed through lack of opportunity. One parent of a physically disabled boy pointed out that "It is not always appropriate for Mum to be there, when they are hanging out with their friends; Thanks to grant funding we have successfully run this club for two years. Skilled tutors and enthusiastic volunteers have come together with special needs young people, to take part in weekly groups for dance and drama, a monthly group for music. The young people wanted the opportunity to 'Show What They Know', on a proper stage to a proper audience. We endeavour to do this once a year. It gives them all a tremendous boost in confidence and gives us a fantastic sense of achievement.

Each half-term costs approx £700
 MADD CLUB for one year costs £2100
 Show What You Know' costs £600

We have a team of upto 8 dedicated volunteers. Training opportunities are offered and references. A great camaraderie is felt amongst the volunteers who work hard and play hard together! Can any of your team become a PAG volunteer?

