

Case Study

Promoting Opportunities for All

Introduction

Noah's Ark

Children with special needs from Noah's Ark play scheme were given free rides on the fun fair at Meadow Park, Borehamwood.

Noah's Ark play scheme caters for children aged three to 16 years old with varying degrees of special needs. The play scheme is open for four weeks during the summer holiday and can also take care of siblings to give parents total respite. This event has been running for seven years. Noah's Ark receives revenue funding each year to support the continuation of the play scheme.

Mencap



Amer Funfair opened its gates to Mencap for two hours of free rides and refreshments in King George Recreation Ground in Bushey. Hertsmere Council has a close relationship with Watford Mencap and has been organising this event for several years.

Shaz Setoudeh, Hertsmere Council events officer explained: 'We love delivering this kind of service. Our whole principle is about being inclusive and we like to offer activities accessible to all parts of the community'.

Over 150 people turned up, and were treated to a burger and drink before enjoying a variety of rides.

Councillor Jean Heywood also turned up to support the day explaining; 'I support all Watford Mencap and Hertsmere events. This is the fourth year I have been to the funfair. It's fantastic to see everyone and the smiles it puts on their faces.' Watford Mencap's Leisure Together scheme, which runs in Hertsmere aims to enable adults with learning disabilities to enjoy social events.

Mencap Social Club

The Mencap social club, for Borehamwood residents with learning disabilities, was granted funding of £600 to enable the club to purchase two snooker tables.

Elstree, Borehamwood and Radlett Mencap

This group received a total of £3,500 from Hertsmere Borough Council's Ward Improvement Initiative Scheme (WIIS) to put on the show at The Ark Theatre in Borehamwood.

Cllr Morris Bright (Elstree) said each of the Councillors were delighted to pledge the funding for the show: "The event will showcase the theatres well as song, dance and other talent groups while raising awareness of the work of this important charity. Elstree and Borehamwood local branch of Mencap has been running for 40 years and I think this is a wonderful way to celebrate."

Key Achievements

Since the free funfair has been running children have been given exclusive access to the entire funfair free between 11am and 12.30pm

A number of play areas across Hertsmere have been improved. Equipment installed includes an agility course and give aside goals for older children; a wide slide which can be used by disabled children.

