



FAREHAM ACCESS GROUP

DISABILITY DOESN'T
STOP US!

MARCH / APRIL 2005 NEWSLETTER

Tel: 023 9238 8049 Email: lorraine@farehamaccess.org.uk

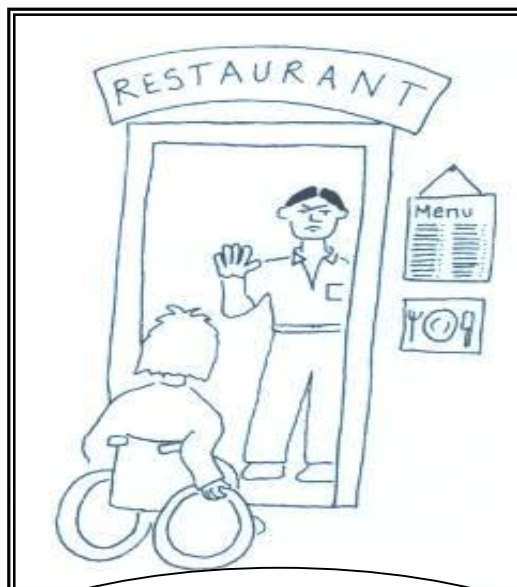
Fareham Access Group has improved and updated their Website, (thanks to assistance from Paul O'Beirne), FCA Chief Executive. Log on to: www.farehamaccess.org.uk With the latest news and useful links to other sites – and more! Please check it out and give feedback on how useful and user friendly you find it, or otherwise too of course!

For more information about disability rights, go to the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) award-winning website: www.drc-gb.org

Businesses, customers and employees - - a flyer is inside to assist you.

Improving life chances for disabled people: a new report, easy read: http://www.strategy.gov.uk/files/pdf/ilcdp_easyread.pdf
Source – FCA e-bulletin No. 45 Feb 05

Easy Access Path – update
Around Cams Hall Golf Course, Portchester. Any day now the wording of the legal document is being finalised. FAG waiting “patiently” for **the letter** confirming the path dedication.



Discrimination Abuse

Is when people say or do bad things to you because you are different from them.

Access to Halifax, Portchester

FAG is working to achieve the best access into the premises, as there is a step at the entrance. Halifax has applied for a ramp with railings, (FAG commenting) but our preferred option is to shape the paving to their threshold.


FBC Civic Offices revamp

The ground floor area is having a total ‘make over’ to improve accessibility. Exciting and important that Fareham Access Group is consulted over the Plans.


The Disability Discrimination Act

affects all businesses and service providers we as users and with the legislation will carry out Disability Friendly Access Audits and Reports.

COUNCIL TAX RELIEF FOR A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY

Since highlighting the possible reduction in the Council Tax Band in the January / February FAG Newsletter..... Lorraine, a quick note to thank-you,  today I had my Council Tax reduced as from 03/02/2005.

Source – Stephen FAG member

 **ANOTHER SUCCESS** - A Sarisbury Green FAG member reported that two more drop kerbs had been completed from the Scarman Trust Feasibility Study of Drop Kerbs in the Fareham Borough, researched by Lorraine in 1999. They are at Locks Road on the footpath that leads to the Day Centre, Doctors, Shopping Centre, etc., and the Super Stores at Segensworth Retail Park to cross from Longacres to access the Stores. Otherwise, it was a long journey right round the outside onto the A27 to gain access from that side; plus the same return journey. Credit to FBC who are consciously working through the Document.

Source – Bobbie FAG member 04.02.2005

If you know where a drop kerb would be helpful contact Lorraine: 023 9238 8049

INDUCTION LOOPS IN ALL HCC LIBRARIES - We are almost complete with installing either new or replacement induction loops in all our libraries. Sometimes fixed counter loops, in others, portable induction loops according to local need. We would welcome any comments from hearing aid users on how well they are working. Contact Mark or Kim Tel: 01962 813 811/2/3



Source – Marcos Frangos HCC Access Team Manager 15.02.05

WESTBURY MANOUR MUSUEM in Fareham - As part of £100,000 to improve disabled access FBC has agreed to spend £80,000 to install a passenger lift and displays to get new look thanks to an access revamp to bring it in line with the Disability Discrimination Act. Hampshire and Fareham will each pay £50,000 for the scheme, with Fareham's contribution from a bequest by a former resident, Winfred Cocks. Fareham Access Group recommended the lift as a priority!

Source – Article (edited by TL) The F & G News 06.10.04



AIRPORT & AIRLINE PASSENGERS Disability Rights Commission (DRC) Appeal Court rules airport and airline jointly responsible for disabled passengers. In a landmark ruling, the Appeal Court has found that Ryanair and Stansted Airport are both responsible for providing a free wheelchair service to disabled travelers. The DRC supported disabled traveler Bob Ross in this case which began in 2002. The ruling will ensure disabled people receive the same standard of service as non disabled travelers.

Source –DRC email bulletin No. 34 January 2005

On FRIDAY 13th MAY see Fareham Access Group “in action” at the Fareham Community Action (FCA) Networking lunch at Ferneham Hall from 12 noon to approximately 1.30pm. Highlighting disability awareness issues as part of our successful Awards for All Lottery Project. Do come along, enjoy a lunch (£2.50) and share the views of people with disabilities. Using the ‘Awards for All’ Lottery equipment a PowerPoint Presentation prepared by members will be shown highlighting disability/equality awareness issues. **Show you care – Be disability aware.** To book, Tel: 01329 231 899 or Email: admin@farehamaction.org.uk Contact Lorraine if you would like to come but need accessible transport.



Look forward to seeing you at our 8th AGM on 6th April, 12.15 – 2pm usual venue.

FAG Members – Please try and complete the HCC Questionnaire

Fareham Access Group Management Team would like to thank all those members who have paid their annual subscriptions and support us in all we do.



Pay-on-foot in the FBC Multi-storey Car Parks

With the on-going talks with Arnold Browne, FBC, Engineering Manager he has advised today that the Osborn Road Multi-storey Car Park will be the first to operate the barriers with the Swipe Cards from 4th April 2005 followed by Civic Way and Market Quay. Current holders of a Disabled Person’s Blue Badge (DPBB) are requested to take it to the FBC Civic Offices in Civic Way for the details to be checked. If you are unable to easily get there yourself you can ask family or a responsible friend to take it. When confirmed, a Swipe Card will be sent to **you the Badge holder** for using when ever **you** are in a vehicle. Thanks to the generosity of FBC no payment will be required.

Source – Lorraine Herrington, FAG Management Team Leader 14.03.2005

Gowrings Mobility South

6th and 7th May 2005 at Newbury Race Course. This might be suitable for those who are interested in adapted cars, wheelchairs, mobility aids, accessible kitchens and more. More local to us than the Mobility Roadshow. For a **FREE** Invitation to attend, contact: Gowrings Mobility, Lo-call: 0845 08 8020 or Email: info@gowringsmobility.co.uk Web: www.gowringsmobility.co.uk



Source – Widerhorizons Winter issue 2005

Spread the news about the FREE DRC email bulletin! . . . Fareham Access Group would encourage members and colleagues to subscribe to this free service to keep informed. Do so by following this link: <http://www.drc.org.uk/newsroom/ebulletin.asp>



Fareham Access Group is campaigning to make Meon Shore at Titchfield Haven '**Accessible to All.**' Action begun on 25.11.2002 with a site visit by Alan Inder, HCC Coastal Manager



and Mike Mullins, The Environment Agency. Lorraine & Richard were recently sent a draft copy of the Plans by Richard Rowland the consultant designing the project. Comments on behalf of FAG returned and another site visit – soon.



Disabled Persons Parking Bays at St Mary's Hospital (SMH),

Portsmouth. On the matter of charging for disabled spaces this only affects those (9) spaces within the main "Pay + Display" Car Park,

Chargeable at £1.20 per day. Introduced in August 04 as part of raft measures that we targeted at bringing us more in line with other Trusts. In many Trusts there are no concession for the disabled (people) whatsoever, whilst we have chosen only to apply a minimum charge to those spaces within the main car park. The area where the disabled spaces are at SMH: 2 spaces outside the Laundry, 10 spaces outside of Disablement Services, 6 spaces outside of GU Medicine, 5 spaces between Finchdean Ward 1 & 2 and 2 spaces opposite Kingsclere Ward
Source - Glen Hewlett, Director of Development & Estates

Tel: 023-92-286000 extn 3296 or Email: glen.hewlett@porthosp.nhs.uk

Informed Glen the Pay & Display ticket machine does not meet the Disability Discrimination Act recommendations.

SPRING IS HERE - Get Out & About . . . Interesting places in Fareham

Visit Lee-on-the-Solent & Hill Head. Enjoy sea breezes along the promenade with good views across to the Isle of Wight, follow an easy level path, with plenty of seats. There are Blue Badge Holder Bays with accessible toilets in both Monks Hill and Salterns Road Car Park. Take a picnic or pop into one of the Café. Know what is going on in our Parks, Countryside and Woodland sites around the borough of Fareham with the FBC Events 2005 brochure, Tel: 01329 824 543 or for a copy. Web: www.fareham.gov.uk/parks Visit Gardening for wildlife workshop, FREE at Bursledon Brickworks on Sunday 10.04.05

Home Help The service is for anyone living in the Fareham Borough who is



unable to do basic housework for whatever reason (short or long term), and needs help to find a reliable person. Home Helps can undertake housework and shopping tasks only but can include washing and ironing where appliances are available. The current cost is £5.00 per hour plus a small admin charge. Monitoring, liaison, confidentiality, and client satisfaction are all part of the service. Tel: 01329 313 113 or: admin@farehamaction.org.uk

This Newsletter is available in large print and other formats on request to Lorraine Tel: 023 9238 8049. Order your own copy for just £3.00 per annum. Your views on or any other access issues please! Contact 023 9238 8049