Fancy a cuppa or snack?

crownway café

We have a large varied selection of hot and cold snacks, breakfasts, lunches, drinks and weekly specials on offer. Everything is prepared freshly by experienced cafe staff.

We provide a friendly welcoming environment for everybody, so why not come along and enjoy our facilities?

Opening Times

Monday 10.00am—1.45pm
Tuesday 10.00am—1.45pm
Wednesday 10.30am—1.45pm
Thursday 10.00am—2.15pm
Friday 10.00am—12.00pm

*Times subject to change.
Welcome to Crownway Community Centre

Seasons greetings to everyone,

Welcome to our Christmas newsletter — we hope you find something useful inside this edition and enjoy completing the puzzles!

We are pleased to report that over the past year Crownway Community Centre has continued to flourish with a very busy weekly schedule of various classes, courses, social activities and services. It is an exciting time for all staff, volunteers and community members. The biggest achievement was the Big Lottery Reaching Communities funding in July, which will ensure we can sustain and develop for at least another five years!

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to all volunteers who continue to contribute their time and energy to the running of the centre. Their exhaustive efforts over the past twelve months have ensured that Crownway maintains a strong foundation of support allowing us to grow and develop our popular community activities.

Stay & Play!

Come along with your little ones to the Tots Cafe & Playtime group ...

Tots Cafe

Food & Drinks served from
11.30am—12.30pm
With a menu ideal for both adults and children at great value!

Playtime!

The fun and activities start at
12.30pm—2.00pm
In our large Hall with a large variety of fun and interactive toys for all ages to enjoy!

No need to book a place, just come along to Crownway Community Centre each Wednesday during term time throughout the year.

Tots Cafe & Stay ‘n’ Play will return in the New Year on

Wednesday 13th January 2015

Only £1.00 per child including a drink and biscuits for adults and children
Christmas Crossword

ACROSS
2 Giant socks that might get filled with presents
3 Santa gets in your house through this
7 The only reindeer whose name begins with the letter p
8 Deck the halls with boughs of this
11 The night before Christmas
15 What's in Santa's bag?
16 Reindeer with the red nose
17 Person who brings gifts to good children
18 Christmas falls in this month

DOWN
1 Where Santa lives
4 If you stand under this, you might get kissed.
5 Things you hang on a Christmas tree
6 A snack you leave out for Santa
9 December 25th
10 Yummy red and white candy
12 Eight of these pull Santa's sleigh
13 Santa says this
14 A helper who makes toys

What’s On?
Our timetable of regular social clubs, groups, advice days, health & fitness activities. Please call or email to enquire first!

Monday
- Basic Computer Skills
- Alzheimer's Society Dementia Cafe
- Zumba Gold
- Smoke Free St Helens
- Fit Steps
- Christian Fellowship

Tuesday
- Slimming World
- New! Baby Songs and Play 0-12mths
- New! Baby Songs and Play 12-18mths
- Senior Citizens Club
- Slimming World
- Slimming World
- Sewing Group
- Bible Study

Wednesday
- Tots Café
- Stay & Play for Pre School
- Enrolling now!
- Skills for Life: English
- AJ Dance: Primary Ballet & Stretch
- AJ Dance: Grade 1 Modern Dance
- Newton Gems Morris Dancing

Thursday
- HMRC Tax Service (Appointments-only)
- AJ Dance: Pre-School Tiny Tutus
- Age Concern Luncheon Club
- Age Concern Social Group
- Enrolling now! Skills for Life: Maths
- AJ Dance: Primary Ballet
- AJ Dance: Primary Tap
- AJ Dance: Grade 1 Modern
- Line Dancing

Friday
- Adult Pilates
- Citizen’s Advice (Debt Management)
- St Helens Mind Support Group
- Christian Fellowship

Please call or email to enquire first!
Rooms for Hire

Small Meeting Room
This is known as the Lilac Room or small meeting room that seats 20+. It is ideal for workshops and small meetings.

Small meeting room hire from £22.50* for a half day booking, or from £7.50* per hour.

Large Meeting Room
This is known as the green room or the large meeting room. It seats 30+ and is ideal for large formal meetings, workshops, etc.

Hire from £30.00* for a half day booking, or £10.00* per hour.

Hall
The Hall has a seating capacity of 120 and is a bright, airy welcoming room. Ideal for large events, activities, functions & birthday parties.

Hire from £40.00* for a half day or £14.50* per hour.

Interview Room
The interview room is useful for one-to-one meetings, a place of confidential discussions, or a study room where you can concentrate away from the bustle of the Centre activities.

From £18.00* for a half day booking or £6.00* per hour.

* Price applies to Community & Voluntary organisations. Hourly rates also available. All prices subject to change without prior notice.
Christmas Treats Recipes

Coconut and Almond Macaroons

**Ingredients**

Serves: 18

- 2 egg whites
- 115g (4 oz) icing sugar
- 115g (4 oz) ground almonds
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 115g (4 oz) dessicated coconut

**Preparation**

- Prep: 20 mins | Cook: 25 mins
- 1) Preheat the oven to 150 degrees C (Gas 2). Grease two baking trays.
- 2) Use an electric beater to whisk the egg whites until stiff but moist. Sift in the icing sugar and gently fold into the egg whites.
- 3) Gently fold in the almonds, vanilla extract and desiccated coconut until the mixture is combined, forming a sticky dough.
- 4) Spoon walnut-sized pieces of the mixture onto the baking trays.
- 5) Bake in the oven for 20-25 minutes, until the macaroons are crisp and golden on the outside.
- 6) Transfer to a cooling rack.

Most Marvellous Mince Pies

**Ingredients**

Serves: 24

**Pastry:**
- 260g (9 oz) plain flour
- 170g (6 oz) soft butter
- 80g (3 oz) caster sugar

**Filling:**
- Mincemeat

**Crumble topping:**
- 225g (8 oz) self raising flour
- 80g (3 oz) butter
- 80g (3 oz) caster sugar

with a shortbread pastry and crumble topping

**Preparation**

- Prep: 20 mins | Cook: 15 mins
- 1) For the pastry cases, mix flour and sugar in a bowl, rub in butter. Knead well to form a smooth paste. Roll out thinly and cut into circles using a large cutter to line about 24 patty tins. Fill with mincemeat.
- 2) For the crumble topping, rub butter into flour until it resembles breadcrumbs. Add sugar and mix thoroughly. Top the mincemeat with the crumble mix.
- 3) Bake in a hot oven, 220 C / Gas 7 for 10-15 minutes until the bases are golden. Cool on a wire rack and serve warm.

Get active in the New Year

Taking the Zumba formula, modifying the moves and pacing to suit the needs of those just starting their journey to a fit and healthy lifestyle. Zesty Latin music dance-fitness class that feels friendly, and most of all, fun!

**Every Monday 10.45am—11.45am (£3.50 per person)**

Choose from hundreds of hugely satisfying everyday foods – create delicious, satisfying meals that the whole family will love. Come and join us each week on **Tuesdays 10am-12pm. 5pm-6.30pm. 7pm-8.30pm.**

Every Tuesday - £4.95 per week

Contact Sue Tuffs on **01695 627230** or **07526 282722** where she’ll be happy to help you.

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Key Achievements This Year

Some of our key successes here at Crownway Community Centre in 2015

Volunteers

Several volunteers attended an introductory awareness workshop for D/deaf related issues and a fire extinguisher training day.

This year, volunteers invested more than 2500 hours of their time at Crownway, saving the Centre an equivalent cost of over £16,750 at national minimum wage. As a charitable organisation, we wouldn’t be able to operate without the dedication of volunteers and we want to say a huge thank you to each and every one of them!

New Staff

Karl McLeish joined the Community Cafe team as Cafe Supervisor after we secured funding from the Coalfield’s Regeneration Trust.

Craig Fryer, former Admin Assistant was promoted to Development Support Worker thanks to the Big Lottery Reaching Communities funding.

Centre Activities

AJ Dance School are still extremely popular and have extended their children’s activities onto a Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays when needed for extra private sessions.

St Helens Adult and Community Learning joined us earlier in the year to deliver basic skills in Starting Life Online and courses in Maths and English. The latter will carry on until July 2016, open for enrolment from anybody.

Aspire Education Academy and Kickstart 2 Employment collectively provided 12 weeks of employability training to over 40 local people throughout the year.

Making Space provided tenants meetings from the Centre.

Claudia Ceppi started to deliver Conversational Spanish and is looking to extend the number of classes open to new users in early 2016. Stay tuned for more info!

Senior Voice Forum held two very successful events to promote their services and managed to engage with almost 100 people in the area.

Wargrave House School now use the Centre on a weekly basis to offer a Zumba session for their students and have accessed volunteering opportunities on a weekly basis.

Baby Massage offered relaxing therapeutic sessions for newborns for 6 weeks.

Smoke Free St Helens now run a weekly drop-in on Mondays for those looking to quit.

Job search activity remains in high demand. 53 people accessed support this year and booked over 535 sessions to use a computer.

Alzheimer’s Society continued to use the community cafe every fortnight to offer support to those with Dementia and their families. They also ran a five week evening course for carers.

Funding

The biggest achievement this year was our success in securing a five year grant worth £340,388 from the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Programme in July.

In April, we were awarded £9,984 from The Coalfield’s Regeneration Trust to employ a part-time Cafe Supervisor for 12 months.

In June, The Skelton Bounty awarded the Centre £1959.89 to purchase a suite of new computer equipment in order to accommodate increasing need for digital access.

Evaluation

The Centre recently commissioned Halton & St Helens VCA to evaluate the project from 2010-15. They found that for every £1.00 invested into the Centre by the Big Lottery Fund in 2010 (£188,959) there was a £47.00 return in Social Value from the range of activities and services we have provided or facilitated for people.

For example: there are savings to the NHS because people are attending a health and fitness activity each week at Crownway; or older people are reducing their isolation by joining a social club, are feeling happier and therefore living longer or better lives. This amounts to a staggering combined social value of over £6,976,142... yes, nearly 9 million pounds!

10th Anniversary Celebration

The Centre celebrated its 10th Year Anniversary on Wednesday 28th October by unveiling a historical timeline stretching back to 1871. Originally a project of the Earlesstown Baptist Church on Crown Street, the community centre has gone from strength to strength since it officially opened in October 2005.

We started with a children’s party in the morning, followed by a well attended afternoon Tea Dance.

We would like to thank all of the participants for their support on the day, and here’s to another successful and prosperous ten years!

Crownway closes for Christmas on Friday 18th December 2015

We open again on Monday 4th January 2016

The Community Cafe will reopen on Thursday 7th January 2016