



What's in Store for the Centre?

Welcome to the August addition of St Vincent's Wirral newsletter, I hope you find this an interesting read. After being in my new post as Centre Manager for the Wirral Community Support Project for a few weeks now, I thought I would share some insight into my initial thoughts; some news about what is currently happening at the Centre and our ideas and ambitions for the next few months.

Firstly, I must start by thanking everyone who I have met either in person, by telephone or via an online meeting. Everyone has been so welcoming and friendly to me, and I already feel a part of the SVP family.



JEANNETTE MORGAN

Hi, I'm Jeannette and I started my new role as Centre Manager, Wirral on 18th July. I was born in Wallasey and have lived in the area all my life. I have 2 adult children Joe and Rachel who both 'fled the nest' and bought their own homes during the pandemic. I live with my cat Tilly! I love walking and being out in the fresh air and spending time with my family and friends. Prior to joining the SVP, I was a Civil Servant for 17 years until 2003, when I joined Citizens Advice Wirral for 19 years. I have really enjoyed my first weeks at the Centre and have been made to feel so welcome by everyone. I am looking forward to continuing the great work that has already been made to develop the Centre and to make it a vibrant and financially sustainable place.

The current team have done a fantastic job to develop the Centre to date and we now have a range of great services delivering from the Centre and supporting beneficiaries who attend including:

- ⇒ Community Drop In and Café
Befriending beneficiaries through having a cuppa, biscuit and a chat
- ⇒ Clothes Bank
- ⇒ Wirral Foodbank
- ⇒ Citizen's Advice Wirral
- ⇒ Liverpool John Moore's University free Legal Advice Service
- ⇒ Wirral Ways to Recovery
Substance Misuse Specialists
- ⇒ Energy Project Plus
Local charity providing advice and support relating to all energy issues
- ⇒ Households into Work
Starting conversations with people who have barriers that prevent them from entering work and supporting them to overcome these barriers

A special thank you to our amazing volunteers, both Wirral Foodbank and SVP volunteers, who support us daily at the centre with delivering these services and many more... We couldn't do it without you!

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My name is Christine and I co-ordinate services and activities at the centre. I also support our volunteers. I enjoy gardening and looking after my pets

Hi, I am John and my role is Caretaker at the centre. My duties include fire health and safety and maintaining the building. I enjoy working here and being able to help. I enjoy travelling, Tranmere Rovers and DIY.

Hi, my name is Charlotte and I am a Project Admin Assistant here at SVP Wirral. I have been here for a few months now and love working with the team and community. I love spending time with my family and my son.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be exploring more ideas, to further develop our offer for our local people and will be reaching out to our current Centre volunteers; Conference members; Local Oversight Group members; Youth SVP and Council members to share these ideas and to see how you may like to get involved. In September we will be looking to start the following activities;

Reading/ Song Lyrics Group – A place to come together to share/ or develop a love of books/ poems and song lyrics over a cuppa.

Games /Puzzles/ Jigsaw Group – All enthusiasts can make new friends whilst learning or sharing their knowledge and skills for board games, jigsaws etc.

We will also be thinking ahead to Christmas soon and how we can celebrate this at the Centre. We have already received some interest in setting up a 'Christmas Wreath' making group and will be looking at having a children's Christmas Grotto and a Christmas get together, where we can come together to have a mince pie and festive music. Further details of our Christmas activities will be shared in the September newsletter, so please keep this in mind, as it would be great to hear from you if you would like to get involved.

By Jeannette Morgan

We are currently looking at how we collect information about the number of beneficiaries we support at the Centre, how we support them and the impact this has for them, which will be shared each month in the Newsletter. Below is some information about what we did in July.

Period 3rd to 30th July 2022

New referrals	Total Beneficiaries	Donations in; Goods, Milk, Tea, Biscuits	Cash in via donations, sales of books, clothes etc	Total items given out; clothes, crockery, bedding
343	697	276 items	£58.50	286 items

Centre Case Study

One female client attended the Centre after hearing about it from a friend. She has recently been supported to relocate to the Wirral by Merseyside Police, after feeling a controlling and violent relationship. During her visit she was supported with clothes and bedding; met with Citizens Advice who agreed to help her with her benefits problems and spent time talking with staff in the Community Café area. It was agreed to contact her with details about other agencies who may also be able to help her. She commented that she felt very relaxed and safe at the Centre and that there was a very friendly atmosphere and that everyone she spoke with was so kind to her.

Service Spotlight



Households into Work is a unique and innovative programme of support for people living in households across the Liverpool City Region, who because of their circumstances have difficulty finding and sustaining employment. It isn't just about helping people find work, but about helping people get to a point where just thinking about employment is a realistic option.

Households into Work provides up to 12 months of support to unemployed residents aged 16 and over, who because of their current circumstances are unable to consider working or sustaining employment. This could be for many reasons, including struggling with their mental health, addiction, domestic abuse or debt issues. The Household into Work advocates provide 1-2-1 support by helping the individual resolve any issues, but also develop skills to better support themselves in the future.

At St Vincent's Wirral, Households into Work run a drop in session every Wednesday afternoon. We have seen the unwavering support that is offered to those in our community from Felix. We are proud to work alongside Households into Work to improve the lives of those coming through our doors.

Updates

- Erin began her sponsored hike of the Pennine Way to raise money for the Centre. Follow us on social media for updates/pictures of her progress!
- We have a new Centre email svpwirral@svp.org.uk
You can use this email to contact us concerning inquiries, services, donations.
- We have Energy Plus Project running sessions at the centre. They focus on supporting and advising people on energy matters.
- All our social medias are up and running. You can now find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!
- Our 50p sale has taken off and has so far been successful.
- We have new volunteers joining our team over the next few weeks.

We plan to give some areas of the Centre a bit of a 'face lift', introducing some new colours into spaces. **Do you love a bit of DIY? Are you handy with a paintbrush?** If yes and you may have some spare time to help, please let Jeannette know. Once she has acquired some paint and the right tools, it would be great to work together to brighten up the space contact on 01516731313 or email JeannetteM@svp.org.uk



The Centre belongs to all of us, and we are holding a coffee morning at the Centre on **Thursday 13th October** between **10 am and 12pm** for all our Conference and Centre members. We do hope that lots of you can join us, as this will be a great opportunity to meet the Centre team, to have a look around the Centre, now and to hear more about our plans. If you can join us, please contact us.



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Facebook: St Vincent's Wirral **Instagram:** @svpwirral **Twitter:** @svpwirral

Summer Info

Wirral F.U.P.S and F.U.S.S have 7 hubs across the Wirral, each serving their own local schools. They recycle good quality uniforms for free and never ask questions about family circumstances. Their Birkenhead Shop Hub stocks local primary and secondary school uniforms and generic items. You can find the hub at 3 Borough Pavement, CH41 2XX. For more

BeWILDerwood Cheshire

Bewilderwood Cheshire is a large woodland full of family fun and adventure. £18 for a child between 92cm and 105cm, £20 for anyone over 105cm, £12 for 65 years +. Children under 92cm, carers or pregnant women are free. The nearest train station is Whitchurch (5 miles away). Postcode is SY13 4JF.



Liverpool Indoor Funfair

Between August 9th and August 17th there is an indoor funfair at Exhibition Centre Liverpool, L3 4FP. 3 hours of unlimited rides for £12.99. You can book your session online at www.indoorfunfair.org

Wirral Transport Museum

Wirral Transport Museum & Heritage Tramway is a working museum and working heritage tramway preserving buses, Trams & other local transport related vehicles. They are open every weekend from 1pm (Saturday & Sunday) and during school holidays they are open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday plus every Bank Holiday Monday. It is free entry. 1 Taylor Street, Birkenhead, CH41 1BG.

Park Run

Birkenhead Park are hosting a park run. It is a free, fun and friendly weekly event. Walk, run, jog, volunteer or spectate. Every Saturday at 9am.

New Ferry Butterfly Park

New Ferry Butterfly Park is an urban nature reserve that was developed on the former site of a railway goods yard, coal yard and water softening plant at Bebington and New Ferry Station. It is a local wildlife site. Until September 11th 2022, the park is open every Sunday 12pm to 4pm. Howell Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH62 5BJ

Morrisons

Kids eat free at Morrisons café when an adult spends £4.50 or more on a meal.

Asda

Children eat for £1 at Asda cafes.

Bella Italia

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of every adult main course. Monday to Thursday, between 4-6pm

Yo! Sushi

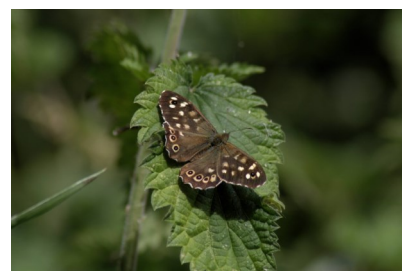
Between 3:30pm and 5:30pm, Monday to Thursday, kids eat free until September 1st.

Hungry Horse

Throughout the school holidays, every child is being offered a free breakfast when with a paying adult.

Beefeater

Kids get a free breakfast during the holidays and they can enjoy a 3 course lunch/dinner for £5.99



Cook With Philly

Philly's Sausage Casserole

Ingredients

- 1lb of good quality sausage or vegetarian sausage
- 1tbsp of oil
- 1 large onion– sliced
- 2 medium carrots– sliced
- 1 tin of chopped tomatoes
- Bottle of cider
- New potatoes– halved
- Gravy granules



Method

1. Cook sausages.
2. Fry onion and carrots.
3. Add tinned tomatoes, cider and potatoes. Cook until potatoes are cooked.
4. Cut up sausages into thirds or fourths .
5. Thicken with gravy granules.
6. Serve and Enjoy!

P.S. This meal also freezes well.

Have you thought about volunteering at the Centre?

We currently have a wonderful team of volunteers who help us with a variety of roles. New volunteers are always welcome and as we introduce new services and activities there will be more volunteering opportunities and roles. If you would like to have a chat and talk about current volunteering opportunities please contact the centre.