

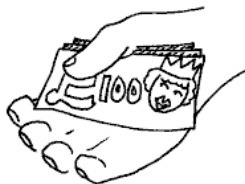
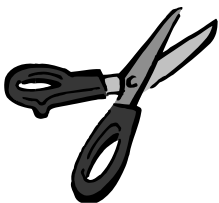


Information Bulletin February 2012

Direct Action Against Cuts



On Saturday 28th January, disabled people blocked Oxford Street in London for 2 hours.



The protest was about changes to benefits and cuts to services.

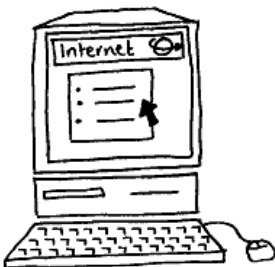
Disabled People Against Cuts and Uncut UK worked together to set up the protest.

People came from all over the country. Some people came from the Disabled People's Direct Action Network.



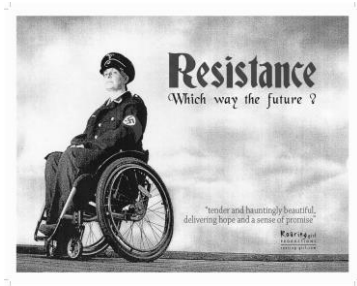
The protest was on TV and in the newspapers.

To find out more about this protest, and Disabled People Against Cuts, go to:
<http://www.dpac.uk.net/2012/01/from-todays-direct-action-in-london/>



To find out about UK Uncut, go to:
www.ukuncut.org.uk

Resistance In Manchester



'Resistance: which way the future?' – is an art exhibition that includes a film by disabled artist-activist Liz Crowe.

Resistance looks at what happened to disabled people in the holocaust.

The holocaust is the name given to a time in the 2nd World War when millions of people were killed by the Nazis in Germany.



The exhibition uses real stories from the Holocaust.

The exhibition is at the Zion Arts Centre, Hulme, until 3rd March.

The film runs for 30 minutes, with British Sign Language interpretation, caption and audio description.

Recommended age 10+.



To find out more, go to:

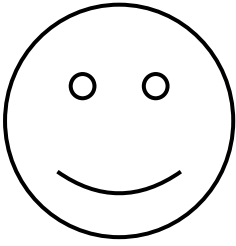
www.roaringgirl.com/productions/resistance-on-to

Changing Braille Makes People Unhappy



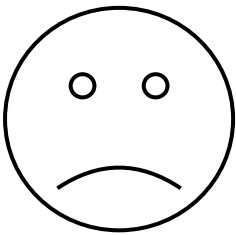
It has been said that that Standard English Braille may be changed to Unified English Braille.

Unified English Braille is a simpler kind of Standard English Braille.



Organisations who make Braille say Unified English Braille is better because:

- It can be used by all English speaking countries.
- It makes it easier for computer programmes to change print to Braille.
- It is easier to learn.

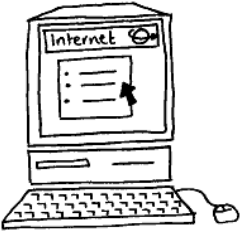


People who use Braille and do not like Unified English Braille say:

- They have not been asked what they think;
- It will make Braille books longer because it takes away some Braille signs that mean a word.



To find out more from the UK Association On Accessible Formats go to: **www.ukaf.org/**



To hear the talk on the BBC 'In Touch' radio programme go to:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0184rgz/In_Touch_Planned_changes_to_Braille_meet_opposition_and_more_tips_on_useful_gadgets._13_12_2011/

On a lighter note ...

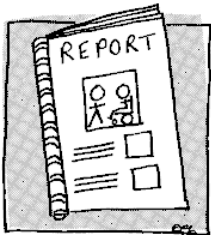


Wimpy's chain in South Africa made 15 burger buns with a Braille message on the bun.

They made the Braille dots with sesame seeds.

The Braille said what was on the burger.

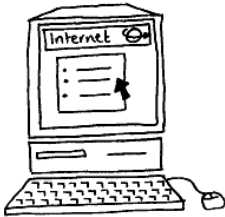
"Responsible Reform" Report



The disabled people who wrote this report say it gives people's real opinions about changes to Disability Living Allowance.

Disability Living Allowance will change to the Personal Independence Payment from 2014.

The Responsible Reform report says the Government did not tell Parliament the real number of people who answered the government's questions and have said they do not like the change.



To find out more go to:
<http://tinyurl.com/86h82gb>

John McCarthy – Founder Of Mad Pride Ireland



John McCarthy died on 7th January. He set up the mental health lobby group "Mad Pride Ireland".

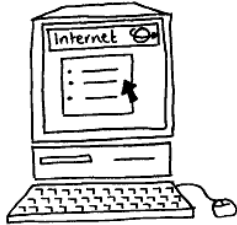
John campaigned about human rights, wrote books, poetry and column in newspapers.

John showed up abuse in the treatment of people experiencing emotional distress.

He campaigned to stop people being forced to take treatment when they did not want it.



John founded Mad Pride Ireland in 2008. Thousands of people went to the first Mad Pride Day in Cork. 20,000 people went to last year's Mad Pride.



If you would like to know more about John and his work, go to:
www.madprideireland.ie

Call To Share Experiences Of Multiple Discrimination

The European Network on Independent Living is starting to look at disabled people's experiences of "multiple discrimination".



"Multiple discrimination" is when someone may be discriminated against for more than one reason.

Discrimination is being treated badly or negatively.

For example, a Black disabled person may be treated badly (discriminated against) because of their race or ethnicity, or because they are a disabled person.

They are asking for people to tell them their experiences of multiple discrimination.



Find out more from their website:
www.enil.eu/

Reminder – Your Travel Pass



Transport for
Greater Manchester

Transport for Greater Manchester will be sending out new Travel Passes soon.



So if you have moved house in the last 5 years, you need to tell Transport for Greater Manchester.

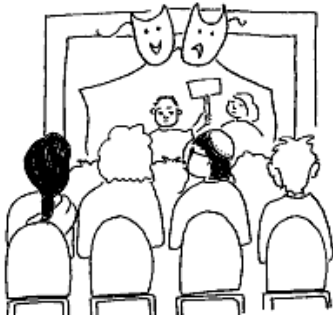


Phone: **0161 244 1050** (line open Monday to Thursday 9am to 4.30pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm).



Email: **passes&permits@tfgm.com**

Art Is Wanted By Disabled Artists



The So Many Words Theatre Company are showing a new multi-media production, 'A Question of Identity'.

They are looking for other groups or individuals who want to bring something different, creative and inspiring to their evening.

They are interested in pieces of work, in any art form, that have been made by or are performed by disabled people.



The event 'On a Starry Night We Met' is at the Lowry Studio Theatre on the evening of Monday 19th March 2012.

To find out more or talk about your ideas, contact Jamie Patterson at So Many Words Theatre:



Phone: **0161 289 8921** or

Email: **jamie_patterson@btinternet.com**.

Doing Things Differently



Disability Stockport and Stockport Council are having an event.

It is at the Together Trust, Cheadle.

It is on Tuesday 6th March between 1pm - 7pm.



It is for people to find out more about Personalisation and the Right to Control in Adult Social Care.

It is a drop-in day where people who use services, their families or carers and staff can come.

You can look at the new online marketplace on the My Care, My Choice website.



You can talk to service providers.

You can find out about the different services.

You can help by saying if there are any gaps in the market.



To find out more contact Disability Stockport:
Phone **0161 480 7248** or

Email: **asc.comms@stockport.gov.uk**

Support For People With Mental Health Issues In Manchester



The Making Space Peer Mentoring Project is offering support to people living in Manchester who have mental health issues and who are on Incapacity Benefit.

The Project will support people being re-assessed for the benefit. It will:

- give information about what happens in the assessment;
- go to interviews and GP appointments with clients;
- go to appeals;
- give support to the people who have been assessed as being fit to work.

To find out more, contact:



For Manchester

Mike Jones - **07772 286 534**

Email: **Mike.Jones@makingspace.co.uk**



For Salford

Andrew Atkinson - **0784 326 7957**

Email: **Andrew.Atkinson@makingspace.co.uk**

Have Your Say On Health Services In Trafford



Trafford is looking at its local health services.



You can go to an event in February and March, where you can hear about ideas for health services and say what you think.

All the events will be held in the evening and will last for around two hours.

There will be free refreshments.



To tell them you want to go, or to find out more:
Phone: **0161 873 6008.**



Email: **newhealthdeal@trafford.nhs.uk**



or go to website:

www.healthdeal.trafford.nhs.uk

If you cannot go to an event, you can answer questions about what you think on the website:



www.surveymonkey.com/s/newhealthdeal,
or email what you think to:



newhealthdeal@trafford.nhs.uk
or phone: **0161 873 6008.**

The Future Of Adult Social Care In Trafford



Trafford Council is asking people what they think should happen in The Future with Adult Social Care.



Trafford Council has to stop spending as much money as it does now.

They have to spend £5.9 million less on Adult Social Care.



You have to tell them what you think by 27 February 2012.



You can find out more about Trafford Council's ideas for spending less on the main Trafford Council website:

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/>

38 Degrees



38 Degrees is a group that brings people together to campaign for real change in the UK.



One of their campaigns is about the cuts to services and benefits for disabled people.

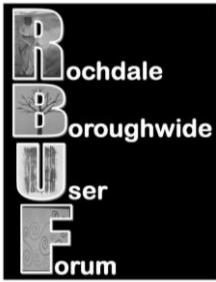
38 Degrees are asking people to email their MP, through the 38 Degrees website.



Website:

<http://www.38degrees.org.uk/page/speakout/cuts-to-support-email-mp>

Rochdale Boroughwide User Forum



Rochdale Boroughwide User Forum gives a voice for mental health service users in Heywood, Littleborough, Middleton and Rochdale.



The group have an Open Forum on the third Thursday of each month, at St Andrew's Church Hall in the centre of Rochdale.

The Forum is a place for mental health service users and carers to:

- Say what they think about mental health services;
- Find out more information about services and changes to services.

Service users from the Forum go to some meetings where they help make decisions about local mental health services.

There is also the Caton St Hub. This is a free resource with computers and rooms for service user-led activities.



To find out more:

Phone: **01706 521 279**

Email: **info@rbuf.org.uk**

New Advice Service In Salford



Salford Disability Forum has a new Advice phone Line for disabled people and their families who live in Salford.

You can also go and see them for advice at different places in the city.

Members of Salford Disability Forum can advocate for you. To advocate is to help you say what you want to say to someone.



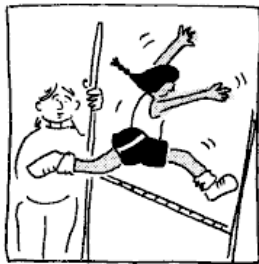
To find out more:

Phone: **0161 737 1092** or

Email:

office@salforddisabilityforum.co.uk

The Sporting Chance In Rochdale



The Sporting Chance is a place for disabled people to try sports.

The session starts with warm-up exercises. Then there are different sports you can choose to play.

All sessions are open to any disabled person living in the Borough of Rochdale.



The sessions are every Saturday 10am - 12pm at Springhill High School, Turf Hill Road, Rochdale.

Three new classes of Yoga, Tai Chi and self defence are starting soon on week days (Monday to Friday).



To find out more contact Joy Gerber,
Email: **joy.gerber@raddag.org**

Useful Services From BT



Do you know about these services?



Free 195 Directory Enquiries

If your impairment means that you are unable to read or hold a telephone directory, you can apply for free 195 Directory Enquiries.



Phone: **0800 587 0195** for an application form.

Your form will need to be signed by a professional who knows you – for example a doctor or Social Worker.

BT Free priority fault repair

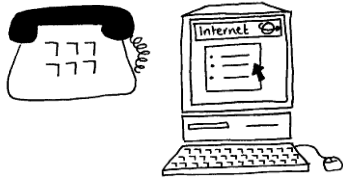
This service is on BT phone lines.



This service is for people who have been ill for a long time and need their phone.

This service is for people who have an impairment and need their phone.

It means if your phone line stops working you will go to the top of the queue for it being looked at.



You can get an application form from:
Phone: **0800 800151**
Textphone: **18001 0800 800151**
Website: **www.bt.com/includingyou**

Home Heat Helpline



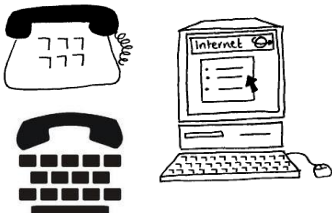
This is a free phone line set up to help people who are struggling to pay their fuel bill and keep warm.

It can tell you about help you can get to pay for your gas and electricity.

It tells you how to use less gas and electricity in your home.



There is information on the website:
www.homeheathelpline.org.uk/factsheet/



To find out more:
Phone: **0800 33 66 99**
Minicom: **0800 027 2122**
Website: **www.homeheathelpline.org**

Be Part Of A Service User Research Study



People at Bolton University are looking at how people who use the NHS (service users) can say what they think about the service.

People from the University of Bolton's Centre for Research for Health and Well-Being are doing some work in Bolton.



They want to talk to people who use health services in Bolton.

They want to find out what people think about the health care they have been given.



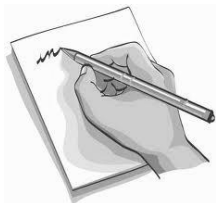
To find out more, contact Bimpe Kuti at:

Phone: 01204 903145 or

Email: K.Bimpe@bolton.ac.uk

Sign Up To E-petitions

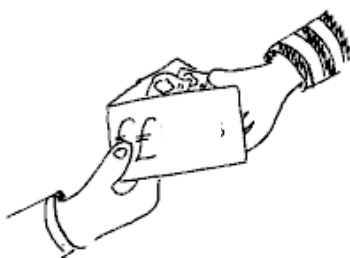
Here are two e-petitions that GMCDP members have told us about.



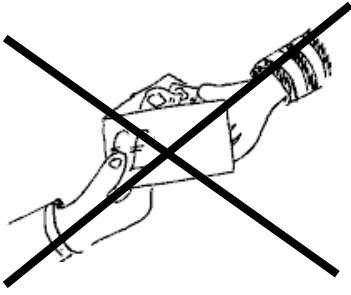
A petition is when you sign to say you agree with something. An e-petition is a petition that is on a website.



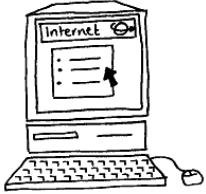
Save Independent Living Fund (ILF)



The Independent Living Fund is money that some disabled people get to help pay for personal assistance. It is given when Direct Payments or Individual Budget is not enough.



The Government is saying the Independent Living Fund cannot carry on because it is too expensive.

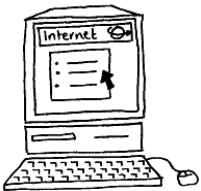


If you want to disagree with the Government, you can see the e-petition on Website:

<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/24368>

Pats Petition

This petition asks the government to stop cutting benefits and services to disabled people.



The e-petition is at:

<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/20968>



Next Information Bulletin

Please send any news or events you would like publicising by 14th March 2012.

If you need assistance accessing any of the websites or information given in this bulletin, please contact the GMCDP office and we will be pleased to assist.



Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People (GMCDP), BEVC, Aked Close, Manchester. M12 4AN



Phone: **0161 273 5154**

Typetalk: **1802 0161 273 5154**

Fax: **0161 273 4164**



Email: **info@gmcdp.com**

Website: **www.gmcdp.com**

GMCDP does not support or say you should use (promote) any organisations, companies, publications or websites in this bulletin. All details are given as information.

GMCDP does not mean to say anything that may upset or offend.

Everything GMCDP writes is in:

14point,

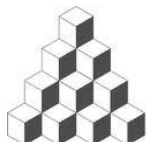
18 point, and

22 point print,

Braille,

audio and

for computer (electronically).



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