

Assistive Technology Event



Voice for All Advocacy Group would like to invite you to come along to a **FREE EVENT**.

Come and find out about Assistive Technology

Monday 28th September 2015

1pm-4pm

at St Mary's Parish Social Club

West Street, off Devonshire Rd, Chorley, PR7 2SR



Lots of people have heard about Assistive Technology, but are not sure what it is, what is available, and how it could possibly help them.

Come and hear from the experts!

You will be able to see, touch, feel and find out for yourself what devices and technologies are available and ask any questions.

We have friends and experts from the following organisations coming to set up a stall and give an easy read presentation to explain what is available and how assistive technologies, adaptive solutions and informal supports can work together to enhance a persons independence and wellbeing and better connect people within their communities.



LCC Assistive Technology Team



Tynetec



Telecare



Progress Group



My Life/My Support

To book your place please contact John Whitehead c/o Voice for All email j.whitehead@brothersofcharity.org.uk or telephone 01257 266311



Voice for All is a user led Advocacy Group speaking up for people who use the Brothers of Charity Services, Lancashire and for any other person with a disability across Lancashire and the North West of England

Raising Assistive Technology Awareness?

“What exactly is Assistive Technology and how could it help me?”

This is one of many questions people using services were asking the Voice for All Advocacy Group in Chorley. So many questions were being asked; “We’ve heard of it but don’t know what it is?”, “I’ve never seen it or had a chance to find out about it”, “We don’t know what technologies are available or what is out there?”, “What does it do and how could it help me?”, “Could it help me to be more independent?”

Voice for All wanted to change this and make a difference by giving people an opportunity to find out for themselves the answers to these and many other questions. People wanted to find out and learn more. They wanted to know what was out there, what could help. They wanted to see it, feel it, touch it for themselves, and Voice for All wanted to make that happen and make it real for them.

This is what initiated the idea and quest of putting on an ‘**Assistive Technology Awareness Event**’ especially for people with a learning disability. An event that was primarily for and about people using services. *This was something that had not been done before.*

Voice for All worked tirelessly to arrange the public event approaching professionals and experts in the field of Assistive Technology. Voice for All managed to source the help and support of;

- Lancashire County Council’s Assistive Technology Team
- My Life/My Support
- Alternative Futures
- Progress Housing Group and Telecare
- Tynetec

Each of the above agreed to come and give a short presentation. This was to; introduce themselves, explain who they were, the services they provided and had to offer, share success and positive stories and to answer any questions or concerns.

The Assistive Technology Awareness Day took place on 28th September 2015 at St Mary’s Club in the centre of Chorley and was attended by over 70 people from; the Voice for All Advocacy Group, Brothers of Charity Services, Daughters of Charity, Lancashire County Council, Alternative Futures Group, Lancashire Care Foundation Trust, ASC Healthcare, North West Community Services, Integrate, Thera North, L’Arche, UBU, New Focus, National Autistic Society, SAIL, Caritas Care and React.

It was fantastic to see so many people coming together for this event from across the county and the North West of England. As well as the informative presentations and discussions there were several stalls exhibiting lots of devices, gadgets and aids that could possibly assist people in their day to day lives and help in maintaining or even improving personal choice and independence.

So many people commented on how much they enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to; find out about the various technologies, hear the different stories of success, learn how it had helped and enabled people, but most of all, the chance to ask questions, explore options, and to see, touch and feel many of the things that are available for themselves.

Raising Assistive Technology Awareness?

... Job done!

John Whitehead