

Local Opportunities & Awareness of Down Syndrome (L.O.A.D.S)

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - AGM

Wednesday 30th April 7.30pm

The Deben Room, Kesgrave Community Centre, Kesgrave

Any member of L.O.A.D.S is welcome to come to our AGM. At the AGM we discuss the business of our charity between the months of 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008. This is given in the form of Chairman's, Secretaries and Treasurers reports.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A

COMMITTEE

MEMBER?

We **DESPERATELY** need more committee members. If we don't then we will have to consider reducing some of the services that L.O.A.D.S offers like:

- Charging an annual membership.
- We will not be able to offer anymore free events.
- We will need to seriously look at the area L.O.A.D.S covers and consider reducing our coverage from East Anglia to Suffolk alone.

We do not want to see these changes take effect, *but we need more help*. L.O.A.D.S has grown now to include a membership of nearly 1000. We need **YOUR** help by joining our committee. Don't leave it to somebody else - that person doesn't exist. **PLEASE** give it some thought - we **MUST** have more committee members. It is especially important to get committee members in ***ALL*** areas that L.O.A.D.S covers.

Here are the answers to some questions you might have about becoming a committee member:

Q 'I want to become a committee member, how much work will be involved?

A *Keri does the day to day running of the office and administration whilst Sonia is responsible for the PR and our T21 magazine. You would only need to get involved with the planning and organising of events and dealing with the important decisions that all charities need to make from time to time.*

Q 'I've never organised an event in my life, I don't feel able to do this on my own'

A *You will NEVER have to be responsible for organising/arranging ANY events on your own. We work as a team. .*

Q 'What about if I try it out and don't like it?'

A *Your term will be for 12 months. You may stand down after this time.*

Q 'How many times does L.O.A.D.S meet up and where?'

A *We meet up approximately 1 evening a month, usually at one of the committee members houses. It doesn't matter if you can't make all of them as long as you can attend half.*

Q 'I would have a long way to travel, I'm not sure if I could afford the petrol'

A *We can pay expenses – but you MUST keep the receipts.*

Q 'What about if I can't make a committee meeting'

A *All you need to do is to telephone Keri as soon as you know you are unable to attend the forthcoming meeting. This is so we can record your 'apologies' in the minutes of the meetings.*

Q 'What if my family needs me at any time?'

A *Your family MUST come first. We recognise this.*

Q 'Can I bring my children to the meetings?'

A *No. We cannot keep an eye on children and discuss important business at the same time.*

Q 'How long do the meetings last for?'

A *We usually start the meetings at 7.30 – 8.00pm and they last about 2 hours.*

Q 'I'm interested, what do I need to do now?'

A *Complete the form on the next page and send it back to Keri by Wednesday 23rd April 2008. No reminders will be sent out.*

Please tick the relevant boxes.

I am interested in becoming a committee member. I will be able to attend the AGM

I would like to attend the AGM but I do not wish to become a committee member.

(Just fill in your name and address below and return it to Keri by Wednesday 23rd April

Please send me directions

Name:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Tel No:

Email:

I wish to become a L.O.A.D.S committee member because:

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.....

You can continue on a separate piece of paper if required).

Signed: Date:

Return your form to:

Keri Johnston 63 Fountain Road, Watersfield Park Rendlesham Suffolk
IP12 2UF