

## Christmas is fast approaching...

We have various activities and events coming up over the next two months on the run up to, and even after, Christmas. This Newsletter will have all the information on how to book you and your family on to them — so please book early so you don't miss out on any of the **HOME-START FUN!!**

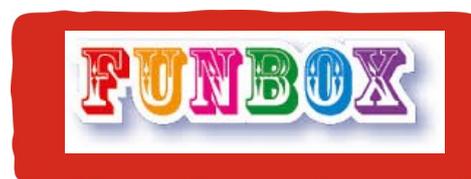


We are holding our Family Christmas Party on **Saturday 10 December at Forestbank Community Centre from 2-4pm**. We will have lots of fun and games for all the family to get involved in and we have sent Santa an invite so he may even make an appearance again this year.

**Saturday 10 December 2016**

**2pm-4pm @ Forestbank Community Centre  
Maximum of 2 adults per family permitted**

To book your place you must call the office to reserve a place or complete a booking form at the groups. Maximum 2 adults per family and of course any additional older children (please let us know if you are bringing older children and their age to ensure they get a wee gift from Santa. We are limited to 90 so first-come-first-served!



We have secured tickets for this brand new show thanks to funding from the lovely folk at 'BBC Children in Need'.

This brand new family show from Anya, Kevin and Gary (formerly of The Singing Kettle). Called '**The FUNBOX Gang**' are on top of the world - literally, as their latest seasonal spectacular takes them to the North Pole.

They're wrapped up cosy and warm for an Arctic adventure packed with songs, silliness and snow. Fluffy and Flossie the Funsters are on hand to help and of course everyone's favourite cheeky dog, Bonzo is along for the sleigh ride. Packed with singalong favourites and brand new songs. Bring a torch to light up the night and who knows, you may even get to help on stage!

**Saturday 7 January 2017 at 1pm**

**Maximum of 2 adults per family permitted**

**Children under 5 only**

To book you must telephone the office on 01506 415 755 and bookings will be taken on a first-come-first-served basis.



## West Lothian - Toy Appeal

The WLTA provides toys at Christmas - and on special occasions - to those children identified/referred to RiverKids as being in most need of assistance. Referrals originate from various sources such as Citizens Advice Bureaus, Health Visitors, Social Workers, Family Centres and Homeless Units



West Lothian Toy Appeal

If you would like a referral made to help with toys for the kids this year then contact Carol-Anne or Lisa who will process this for you.

Either pm on Facebook through the family page

Telephone the office: 01506 415 755

Please note that all referrals need to be made to RiverKids before **Wednesday 16th November 2016** to allow River Kids plenty of time to organise the deliveries.

## Office Closure During Festive Period

The office will close on Friday 23rd December for the Festive period and will reopen on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

If you need to contact us in case of an Emergency then you can do so on the following numbers.

Manager Shelley Bowman— 07958 429 531

Carol-Anne Fordyce—07958 429 532



## Working with the Advice Shop

**Do you need advice or support regarding Benefits issues, appealing decisions made or Housing/Debt advice?**

The Advice Shop is a free impartial and confidential service helping people throughout West Lothian

The Advice Shop will be offering **confidential** appointments to our **families** on the dates below, here in our offices. The appointments will be in 1/2 hour slots starting at 9.30am and the last one is at 11am:

**\*\*\* Tuesday 15 November\*\*\***

All from 9.30am - 11.30am

Please call Gillian on 01506 415755 or message us on Facebook to book in a confidential meeting with a member of The Advice Shop team.

Please note this will be the final session for 2016.

**The Advice Shop is a free, impartial and confidential service to help the people of West Lothian with a focus to alleviate poverty and to promote inclusion and equality through advice, assistance and advocacy.**



## Become a Trustee!

Volunteering is good for the soul and what better way to volunteer than to become a Trustee..... with Home-Start West Lothian! If you have a few hours a month to spare and would like find out more about becoming a Trustee contact **Shelley at the office.**

(Board meetings are normally held on a Monday at 12.30pm  
every 6-8 weeks)





## Family Support Groups



Dates for our Family Groups through out November and January, if you do not already attend and would like to then contact Emily and Lesley on 01506 415 755 for more information

Thursday 3rd Nov - Broxburn

Wednesday 9th Nov - Inveralmond High School

Wednesday 16th Nov - Forrestbank Community Centre

Thursday 24th Nov - Blackburn Family Centre

In these sessions we will look at how we can prevent accidents in the home. The children will be in the crèche.

### January 2017

Wednesday 11th Jan - Inveralmond

Wednesday 18th Jan - Forrestbank

Thursday 26th Jan- Blackburn Family Centre

In these sessions we will have a speaker from Home Energy Scotland to speak to us about how we can save money on our energy bills. The children will be in the crèche.

Our Deans Family Group will now have a new home at Inveralmond Community High School, we are looking forward to working with the school and thank them very much for the use of the building.

We wish you all the happiest of Christmases and we look forward to seeing you all in 2017.

Thanks go to **BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief for their support.**

### Do you need new school clothes for your children?



The School Bank West Lothian is accepting Referrals for school uniforms. Finding extra money for growing children can sometimes be a problem, so please if you need help let us know Carol-Anne and Lisa manage the Referrals for the School Bank; the Back to School Bank only need to know ages/sizes of clothes (and school attended to get colours right) and will try to meet your family's needs.

**It is a completely confidential service.** Call us on 01506 415755.

### Annual Passes for Families to use

Remember we have the **Mill Farm Pass Tickets** to visit Santa in his cottage cost £3.50 each, and include a worthwhile and age-appropriate early Christmas present and **The Hive Soft Play Pass** for families to use. If you'd like use any of the Passes please drop us a line or call in (01506 415755) to book please.



Our thanks go to **R S Macdonald Charitable Trust** for providing these awesome Passes.

