

# Female Matters

August 2009

produced by



## Events

### Fathers' Work Presentation Morning

Is your organisation interested in developing work with fathers? ... If so, then Parents Advice Centre would like to invite you to a "Presentation Morning" which will showcase some of the learning arising from the "Kick Start 2009" project. Kick Start is an innovative initiative which offers a seven month package of training, support, networking, reflection and practical action to groups that are trying to, or wishing to, engage with fathers in Northern Ireland. The Presentation Morning will take place on Wednesday 16th September 2009 in Spires Conference Centre, Belfast. For more information on this free event visit: [www.mensproject.org/kickstart/presentation.html](http://www.mensproject.org/kickstart/presentation.html)

### Northwest LGBT Pride Festival

This community festival is now in its fourth year. Based in Sligo town, it welcomes participants from all over Ireland but, especially, from counties Sligo, Leitrim, Fermanagh, Mayo, Donegal and Cavan. Events run from Thursday 6th - Monday 10th August (the Pride Parade is on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August in Sligo Town). For more information, please visit: [www.nwprideireland.com](http://www.nwprideireland.com) or Tel: 0035387 9890336 or Email [northwestpride@gmail.com](mailto:northwestpride@gmail.com)



## News

### Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Questionnaire

As part of a research study into Male Victims of Domestic Abuse, the Men's Advisory Project (MAP) is distributing a questionnaire during August and September 2009. The questionnaire should take around 20-30 minutes to complete, and can be completed by anyone aged 18 years or over. It will be available online at [www.mapni.co.uk](http://www.mapni.co.uk) from August, and paper copies can be requested by contacting Daryl on Tel: 02890 241929 or Email: [daryl@mapni.co.uk](mailto:daryl@mapni.co.uk) In addition, if your organisation runs groups where members meet together, this would offer a great opportunity to have a number of the paper copies completed. By completing the questionnaire, and make others in your organisation aware of it, this will help MAP to present a picture of current social attitudes towards domestic abuse.

## **What Boys Talk about to ChildLine**

ChildLine Casenotes is a series of reports based on calls to ChildLine. "What boys talk about to ChildLine" is their latest report, and is based on detailed analysis of calls to ChildLine from April 2007 to March 2008. To view a Portable Document Format (PDF) version of this report please visit : [www.mensproject.org/childlinewhatboystalkabout.pdf](http://www.mensproject.org/childlinewhatboystalkabout.pdf)

## **Training Room Hire in Belfast City Centre**

Parents Advice Centre has meeting / training rooms available for hire in central Belfast. They are conveniently located at 60 Great Victoria Street (opposite the Europa railway and bus stations) and there is on-street parking / car parks nearby if required. Room rates are highly competitive, and refreshments / sandwich lunches can be provided at reasonable prices. Laptop, data projector and flipcharts can be hired, and free (wired) broadband internet access is offered. For further information, please contact Sheila Cherry Tel: 02890 310891 or Email: [sheila@pachelp.org](mailto:sheila@pachelp.org)

## **Parents' Advisory Group Vacancies**

The Parenting Forum Northern Ireland (PFNI) is calling on parents to join a Parents' Advisory Group. Parents are the most important people in children's lives and their voice and experience needs to be heard. PFNI is seeking representatives to join the Parents' Advisory Group. In 2006, the Minister for Children and Young People, Maria Eagle, launched the ten year Strategy for Children and Young People which is designed to improve the lives of all children. As part of this Strategy, the Minister established a Parents' Advisory Group to provide feedback and ideas on plans and actions that the different departments will undertake. Please note that the closing date for nominations is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009. For more information, or to download an application form, please visit [www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parentingforum/pag.asp](http://www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parentingforum/pag.asp) or contact Gemma on Tel: 02890 310891 / Email [gemma@pachelp.org](mailto:gemma@pachelp.org)

## **Parents Helpline Outreach Worker Vacancy**

Parents Helpline offers a free and confidential Helpline (0808 8010 722), Appointment and Outreach Service across all of Northern Ireland. An Outreach Worker is required for our Newry site to deliver direct support and guidance to parents. Applicants are required to be educated to GCSE Level (five GCSEs, Grades A-C) with a minimum of one year's direct experience of working with parents and/or families. The hours are six per week, and the salary is £10.21 per hour. For more information, or to download an application pack, please visit: [www.parentsadvicecentre.org/about/vacancies.asp](http://www.parentsadvicecentre.org/about/vacancies.asp) or Tel: 02890 310891. The closing date for applications is noon on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2009. Interviews will take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

## **UCF Man Alive Conference Update**

The Ulster Cancer Foundation, in partnership with BT, held their annual "Man Alive Conference" to mark Men's Health Week on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at NICVA in Belfast. Feedback on the conference was extremely positive, and the Ulster Cancer Foundation is now working in partnership with a range of workplaces to address cancer prevention issues with their employees. For more information visit: [www.ulstercancer.org/campaigns/mencancer.asp](http://www.ulstercancer.org/campaigns/mencancer.asp) or contact Kirsty Thompson at Tel: 02890 680771.

## **"Nowhere Man" Men's Health Seminar Presentations Available**

The Men's Project (Parents Advice Centre), the Work with Young Men Unit (YouthAction NI) and Men's Action Network organised a men's health seminar titled "Nowhere Man" on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in the Long Gallery of Parliament Buildings at Stormont, Belfast. This was addressed by a range of leading British and Irish experts - drawn from the fields of research, practice, academia and policy-influencing - and provided an opportunity for participants to hear about: the context of men's health; the relationship

between masculinity and health-seeking behaviour; the most recent research evidence and statistics; how men's health in Northern Ireland compares to other countries; the rationale for, and scope of, the Men's Health Strategy in the Republic of Ireland; local work to support men's health and well-being ... The speakers' PowerPoints and Briefing Papers are now available for free online downloading at:  
[www.mensproject.org/issues/nowhereman.html](http://www.mensproject.org/issues/nowhereman.html)



## Courses

### Ascertainment Training Courses

Ascertainment have upcoming training opportunities through the Drug and Alcohol Workforce Development Programme. These are: "Planning and Evaluating Prevention Programmes" (4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> August) and "Putting Prevention into Practice: Developing and Delivering Effective Prevention Programmes (5 days during 17<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August). For more information, contact Ascertainment at Tel: 02892 604422.

### Parenting Education Courses for Practitioners

Parents Advice Centre is offering practitioners, who work directly and indirectly with parents, a selection of summer workshops. The sessions are designed to develop participants' skills as a practitioner, and to provide the tools to enhance professional and personal development. The sessions are "Handling Teens" (Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August) and "Parenting Apart" (Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August). For more information visit:  
[www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parenting/documents/practitioners.pdf](http://www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parenting/documents/practitioners.pdf)



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## Ideas for Dads and Kids

### Tall Ships in Belfast

From Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August, Belfast has been chosen as the destination for the final leg of the 2009 Atlantic Challenge Tall Ships Race. For more information, visit:  
[www.tallshipsbelfast2009.co.uk](http://www.tallshipsbelfast2009.co.uk)

### Medieval Soldiers Database

The detailed service records of 250,000 medieval soldiers from 1369 to 1453 - including archers who served with Henry V at the Battle of Agincourt - are now available to search online. Why not check out your surname on their database to see if any of your distant relatives were involved? For more information, visit:  
[www.icmacentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/index.php](http://www.icmacentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/index.php)

### Make an Origami Box

Origami is a great craft activity to do on rainy summer days, and origami boxes are useful for storing all sorts of treasures! Once you know how to do it, if you fold a second box with a slightly bigger square of paper, you can use it as a lid. For the instructions / pictures on how to make a box, visit: [www.activityvillage.co.uk/Origami Box.pdf](http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/Origami Box.pdf)



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## On the Web

[Dads 'lose out' on parent leave](#)  
[Scientists claim sperm 'first'](#)  
[Why are men reluctant to seek medical help?](#)  
[Men urged to teach in primaries](#)  
[Daily sex 'best for good sperm'](#)  
[Darth Vader star on cancer](#)  
[Male Incontinence](#)  
[Fathers DO matter](#)  
[More boys call children helpline](#)



## Website of the Month

Families Need Fathers  
[www.fnf.org.uk](http://www.fnf.org.uk)



What are you up to in September? Let me know about it for the next edition!  
**Email:** [trisha@mensproject.org](mailto:trisha@mensproject.org)

We have a simple template for all articles. Let us know within 150 words: the title, date, time, venue, a description of the event, and your organisation's contact details for further information i.e. a named person, telephone number, email address or web address.

**Note to readers:** If you know of anyone who is interested in joining our mailing list, or you wish to be removed, or you have any news you want included, please email: [trisha@mensproject.org](mailto:trisha@mensproject.org)  
**[The views expressed in Emale Matters are not, necessarily, those of The Men's Project]**

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