

emale matters

september 2007

Produced by [The Men's Project](#)

~ Hot Topic ~

Our Big Adventure Scrapbook for Dads

~ Events ~

Kick Start Fathers' Work Presentation Morning

Kick Start 2007 was a seven month package of training, support, networking, reflection and practical action for organisations who are trying to, or wishing to, engage with fathers. This Presentation Morning, on Wednesday 26th September, is a free event which will showcase some of the learning which arose from the Kick Start project. Unfortunately, this event is now fully booked. However, if you would like to be placed on a waiting list please email: trisha@mensproject.org For more information, contact either [Colin Fowler](#) or [Trisha McQueen](#) at Tel: 02890 310891 or visit: www.mensproject.org/kickstart/presentation.html
The Kick Start 2007 Report will be available in late 2007 - early 2008.

Parents' Week 2007

Parents' Week 2007 takes place from Monday 15th - Sunday 21st October 2007. This year's theme is "Turning Lives Around: What Works for Vulnerable Families". If you would like to organise your own event to celebrate the role of parents, a resource pack - designed to help plan and run events - is available to download from: www.familyandparenting.org/parentsweek If you have anything planned, and would like to advertise it, please send the information to: gemma@pachelp.org

~ News ~

Our Big Adventure Scrapbook

During Kick Start 2007, The Men's Project produced a resource called: 'Our Big Adventure Scrapbook'. This is a new and original resource for dads to use with their child/ren. It gives loads of practical ideas and tips on how fathers can spend a great day together with their kids. Everything can then be recorded and stored in a scrapbook, so that it can be looked back on in years to come. It is **free** to download from: <http://www.mensproject.org/adventure/index.html>

Parenting Forum NI Conference

Advance Notice: Parents' Week 2007 will be officially launched at the Parenting Forum NI annual conference on **Monday 15th October** in the **Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast**. For more information on Parents' Week, or the conference, please contact Gemma on 028 9031 0891 or email gemma@pachelp.org

~ Courses ~

Parents Anger Management Course

Do you find yourself losing your temper as a parent? Have you ever regretted the way you have acted with your child when angry? Do you find yourself constantly arguing with your child? Are you worried that the way you deal with angry situations is having an effect on your relationship with your child? ... If you would like to learn techniques for managing stress, anger and family conflict then this course may be suitable for you.

All participants will be required to attend a pre-course meeting. The course will take place in the Parents Advice Centre office, Franklin House, 12 Brunswick Street, Belfast. The dates are all Mondays: 17th and 24th September; 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th October; 5th November 2007. Sessions will last from 7.00pm - 9.00pm. Cost = £60 (concession rates available). For more information, please contact Andrea on Tel: 02890 310891 or Email: andrea@pachelp.org

Parenting Apart Workshop

This workshop is aimed at parents who have separated, are separating, are divorced or are thinking about divorce. It will provide practical advice and guidance on what children need to know, and what parents can do to meet their needs. All participants will receive a Parenting Apart Handbook. The workshop will take place in the Parents Advice Centre office, 1 & 2 Feeny's Lane, Dungannon on Tuesday 18th September from 7.00pm - 9.30pm. Cost = Free. To register, please contact Bernie on Tel: 02887 753630 or Email: bernie@pachelp.org

Managing Children's Challenging Behaviour Workshop

This workshop gives parents the opportunity to learn new ways of managing challenging behaviour and of communicating with their children. The workshop is suitable for anyone who is in a parenting role with children of any age. All participants will receive a Managing Children's Challenging Behaviour Workbook. The workshop will take place in the Parents Advice Centre office, Franklin House, 12 Brunswick Street, Belfast on Thursday 20th September from 7.00pm - 9.30pm. Cost = £15. To register, please contact Andrea on Tel: 02890 310891 or Email: andrea@pachelp.org

Handling Teenagers Course

This six week course is ideal for parents of young people aged 12 to 18 years, and covers a range of themes including: problem solving, communicating with your teen, understanding teenage behaviour, handling conflict, managing boundaries, and talking to teens about tough issues.

The course will take part in the Parents Advice Centre office, 65 Clarendon Street, Derry on Thursdays: 20th and 27th September; 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th October 2007. Sessions last from 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Cost = £40 (concession rates available). To register, please contact Christine on Tel: 02871 372006 or Email: christine@pachelp.org

Men from Mars: How to Survive in a Strange World Workshop

Many courses explore women's issues. This unique course is designed for men. It will investigate the "men's movements" and what it means to be male in the 21st Century. The workshop is presented by Allen Baird, BA, PhD on Saturday 27th October 2007 from 9.30am - 4.30pm. Cost = £23.00. For further details please email: openlearning.education@qub.ac.uk Closing date for enrolment is 7th October.

Helpline Volunteers Preparation Courses

Parents Advice Centre (PAC) is recruiting Helpline Volunteers to provide telephone and face-to-face support to people coping with family difficulties. To be considered, you must have substantial parenting experience and/or significant experience of working with families, children and young people. If you can make a commitment of at least 4 hours a week, PAC will provide accredited training, ongoing support and real challenge. **Male applicants are especially welcome!**

Derry and Dungannon courses commence October 2007
Belfast and Ballymena courses commence early 2008

For more information and an application pack, please contact Andrea on Tel: 02890 310891 or Email: andrea@pachelp.org

~ On the Web ~

[Memory lapse man wins Lotto twice](#)

[Hotel ban for 'rowdy' pensioners](#)

[Jailhouse rock gets message across](#)

[Broccoli 'stops' prostate cancer](#)

[The birthday of strangers](#)

~ Website of the Month ~

<http://www.employersforchildcare.org/>

Employers For Childcare is a registered charity and not-for-profit organisation which helps working dads and mums find childcare solutions.

**HEY! What are you up to in October?
Let me know about it to be included in the next edition!**
Email: trisha@mensproject.org

The Men's Project: We are always updating our online directory of organisations which offer support or services to men. If you would like to update your existing entry, or would like to be registered on it, please click here for details:

<http://www.mensproject.org/mendir/index.html>

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 me at: trisha@mensproject.org

(The views expressed in E-Male Matters are not necessarily those of The Men's Project)