



Newsletter

July 2019

www.headwayblackcountry.co.uk

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@HeadwayBC



www.facebook.com/braininjuryadultsurvivors



Family Fun Walk, Stroll or Roll – Saturday 3rd August from 10 am West Park, Wolverhampton

Will you join in a sponsored event on the morning of Saturday 3rd August to raise funds for Headway Black Country? Any one can get involved.

There will be no fixed distance - you decide a distance that is best for you to walk or roll in your wheelchair. You choose your own route.

We hope that you can join us at the main walk location in West Park Wolverhampton. If that is not possible, you can still be involved by covering your distance somewhere convenient to you.

Taking part is the important bit but if you could be sponsored as well that would be great!

If you would like to take part please contact us to register for West Park (or somewhere else) – we will send you details of how to collect sponsors. If you can join us at West Park, we will also send you joining instructions.

To register speak to a member of staff, call us on 01384 869961 or email us at admin@headwayblackcountry.co.uk by no later than **Monday 29th July**.

If you can't take part but would like to sponsor the event donations can be made online at:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayEventHomePage.action?charityId=1003817> or <https://wonderful.org/charity/headwayblackcountry>



Calling All Runners !!

If you fancy being sponsored to run for Headway Black Country here is a great opportunity.

The 30th Pattingham Bells Run will take place on Sunday 6th October 2019, starting at 11.00 am from near the Village Hall playing fields.



There are 5K and 10K courses, run under UKA rules. The cross country course is set over beautiful crown estate and park lands surrounding south Staffordshire village of Pattingham.

All proceeds from entry fees go to Acorns Children's Hospice and St Chad's Church of England (VC) First School. But why not raise your own sponsorship for Headway Black Country? A number of other runners are already forming a "Headway Black Country Team", so why not signed up, gather sponsors and join up with the Team on the day?

Entry fees are £10.00 for UKA affiliated club runners and £12.00 for non-club runners, (plus booking fee). Online entry closes at 8pm on Thursday 3rd October. More information us at : <https://www.pattinghambellsrun.com/>

Once YOU have registered let us know on **01384 869961** or email us at admin@headwayblackcountry.co.uk

We will provide sponsor forms or guide you collect sponsors online and link you with other Team members.

Blue Badge Scheme Changes

On **30 August 2019** the eligibility criteria for **Blue Badges** is to change to include **hidden disabilities**. Key points from the guidance on these changes are:

- It is important that when making the initial application, applicants **provide detailed information about their disability** and how it causes them to:
 - Be unable to walk;
 - Experience very considerable difficulty whilst walking, which may include very considerable psychological distress; or
 - Be at risk of serious harm when walking; or pose, when walking, a risk of serious harm to any other person.
- Applicants will still be able to apply through their local authority but may also apply direct through the **Blue Badge Digital Service**. This Service includes an **online eligibility checker** so that members of the public can check whether they may be eligible for a badge.
- Local authorities may charge an application fee, but this must not exceed £10
- People who may be issued with a badge without further assessment are those who are more than two years old and fall within one or more of the following descriptions:
 - Receives the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance (HRMCDLA); or
 - Receives 8 points or more under the “moving around” activity of the mobility component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP); or
 - Receives the mobility component of PIP and has obtained 10 points specifically for Descriptor E under the “planning and following journeys” activity, on the grounds that they are unable to undertake any journey because it would cause them overwhelming psychological distress; or
 - Is registered blind (severely sight impaired); or
 - Receives a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement (WPMS); or
 - Has been both awarded a lump sum benefit at tariffs 1-8 of the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and certified as having an enduring and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.
- People who may be issued with a badge after further assessment are those who are more than two years old and may be described as one or more of the following:
 - A person who drives a vehicle regularly, has a severe disability in both arms and is unable to operate, or has considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meter; or
 - A person who has been certified* by an expert assessor as having an enduring and substantial disability which causes them, during the course of a journey, to:
 - Be unable to walk;
 - Experience very considerable difficulty whilst walking, which may include very considerable psychological distress; or
 - Be at risk of serious harm when walking; or pose, when walking, a risk of serious harm to any other person.
- In many cases, where an applicant's eligibility for a Blue Badge is being considered because of a **'non-physical' disability**, it is anticipated that a local authority should not require an in-person assessment with the applicant. However, there may be exceptional cases where certification by an 'expert assessor' is considered necessary or appropriate; either in addition to, or in place of, the collation of insights from health/social care professionals such as specialist nurses or social workers. The role of a decision maker at the local authority is expected to involve comparing all of the insights received from across the application form, supplementary information provided by the applicant, and statements as to how the applicant's disability manifests from medical and social care professionals familiar with the applicant such as a specialist nurse or care worker.