

Webinar five: Club and group forums - connecting with each other and your community

During the live session additional resources and information were discussed. Below are the links to these. To access the links you will need to copy these and paste into an internet browser. Some of the information is on the Stroke Association's intranet pages. If you have trouble accessing these please email volunteering@stroke.org.uk

Additional information and tips shared by attendees:

Getting involved in local forums in your area - to find out about these please contact your local Volunteering and Community officer or Stroke Association staff. These are open to voluntary groups and affiliated clubs. They may be run slightly differently in each area.

Joining the online activities in the South East - If you'd like to join the 'autumn programme of activities' hosted by the Volunteering and Community teams in the South Zone please email: Lynn.Vincent@stroke.org.uk or Louise.Hornagold@stroke.org.uk These include cookery, art and singing.

Contacting other clubs and groups in your area - the postcode search for clubs and groups on our website has been temporarily removed due to the coronavirus pandemic. If you would like to make a contact with another group please ask your local Volunteering and Community officer or Stroke Association staff to help arrange this.

Sharing local successes - ideas shared about:

- Pre COVID - Hastings Art Group have secured a free room at the local fire station for meetings. Other fire stations often have this available too.
- Pre COVID - Banbridge Group, Northern Ireland used to meet in a Tesco's community room. Again for free with complimentary refreshments, biscuits and sweets!
- Pre COVID - lots of positive experiences about indoor curling opportunities and indoor bowls. Either buying own kit, recommend by others in your area or hiring from local companies and improving community links.

Keeping everyone safe:

In the online chat facility it was noted that some members had been victims to fraud either online, phone or in person. Clubs and groups should be aware of this and help their members know how to recognise signs of such scams, especially when vulnerable.

In response others suggested talks by organisations such as Natwest Bank or Ofcom to give advice on this. One follow up example from Ofcom is about track and trace ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/latest/features-and-news/nhs-test-and-trace-scams

Further guidance from the Stroke Association about 'keeping safe and supporting others' whilst staying connected can be found here intranet.stroke.org.uk/coronavirus/clubs-and-groups-resources

These resources includes a range of information to help leaders during the coronavirus pandemic.

Help getting members online - available to all clubs and groups:

- AbilityNet, a free service to help people get online and access technology abilitynet.org.uk
- Guides to help people with aphasia get online and use technology. stroke.org.uk/what-is-aphasia/communication-tools/getting-online-people-aphasia

Get in touch

If you have any questions or would like to make contact with any of the speakers or other attendees who made suggestions please contact the Club Conference team on 01527 903 930 or email clubconference@stroke.org.uk