

## Congratulations to the 2005 Award Winners

**Frank Sinclair (left) &  
Graham Thompson (right)**



**Award presented by Jamie Andrew  
(Centre) to the joint winners of  
The Jamie Andrew  
Personal Achievement Award**

Recognising the contribution which people with disabilities make to their communities.

- Honouring outstanding achievements by people with disabilities in West Lothian.
- Furtherance of equality and rights for people with disabilities.

**The Park Bistro, Linlithgow  
run by Peter and Tracy Waddell**



**Award presented by Cllr Graeme  
Morrice (Centre) to the winners of  
The West Lothian  
Good Access Award**

Recognition is given to the West Lothian Businesses and Services that.

- ensure ready access to business or service.
- have layout that enables easy circulation.
- give access to information and to products.

These Awards are presented annually in December as part of the celebrations for European Day for Disabled People.

If you would like more information about the awards, are involved with a group and would like to arrange for a group speaker or you would like to nominate an individual or a business then do contact us.

We welcome all enquiries, contact details can be found on the back page of the bulletin.



**The Mobility Roadshow** at the Royal Highland Centre Ingliston Nr Edinburgh  
Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 April 2006 - Cost: Free

The Mobility Roadshow aims to give anyone with a mobility problem - drivers, passengers, adults or children - the chance to see what is available to help solve that problem and to try out and evaluate the options.

Disability West Lothian will have a stand promoting the services we can provide. Come and visit us on stand C6 for more information.

Website: [www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk](http://www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk)

## Launch of New Scottish Health Council Scottish Health Council - making sure your voice counts

The new organisation aims to put patients at the heart of health services. It is set up as new independent champion of patient and public involvement in the NHS.

It will set and monitor new standards for how the NHS engages with patients, publish its findings and provide an independent verdict on how well NHS boards are delivering their new statutory duty of involving the public in their work.

You can read and download their newsletter and other information about the Scottish Health Council from their website at [www.scottishhealthcouncil.org](http://www.scottishhealthcouncil.org)

or contact the local office at  
Scottish Health Council, Lothian,  
21 Torphichen Street,  
Edinburgh, EH3 8HX

## Disability West Lothian Information and Advice Service

The Service provides information and advice for people with disabilities, their families, their carers, service providers and groups in West Lothian.

The Service has an extensive Resource Base which offers: -

- A loans facility of books, audio, video and a range of accessible equipment.
- Access to a wide range of resources including reference book and magazine sections.
- Use of equipment - text reader, accessible computer equipment and free Internet access.
- An Accessible passport photograph facility (there is a charge for this service)
- 'RADAR' NKS Toilet key supplies (there is a charge for this service)

Do visit the Resource Base to find out more.

## CHIP AND PIN DEADLINE



After 14 February 2006 Chip and PIN cardholders must use their PIN to be sure they can pay.

Disabled people who will have difficulty with this can obtain a Chip and Signature card from their bank.

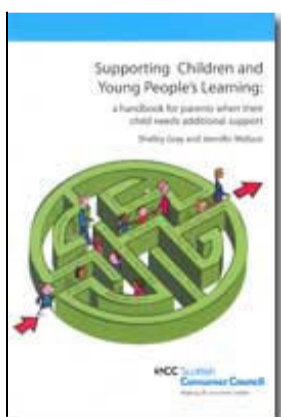
If you are unsure about what kind of card you have you can contact your card company.

## My Web My Way Partnership

Making the World Wide Web more Accessible

The BBC, working with AbilityNet, has launched My Web, My Way which equips anyone using a computer with the tools and understanding to make the most of the internet, whatever their disability, and regardless of the operating system they use. The site gives advice on a wide range of specialist hardware and software. It can be reached on [www.bbc.co.uk/accessibility](http://www.bbc.co.uk/accessibility)

## New Guide for Parents



An easy-to-use guide to help parents whose children need additional educational support has been published by the Scottish Consumer Council (SCC)

The advice is aimed at helping parents get the best out of the new Additional Support for Learning Act

The guide authored by Scottish Consumer Council hand-in-hand with Children in Scotland, helps parents through the system, explaining key terms and processes.

"The new legislation makes fundamental changes to how we support children and young people to get the most out of their education," says SCC's Graeme Millar.

You can view a summary of the guide by following the link to: -  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/education/shasla-00.asp>

Supporting children and young people's learning is available from The Stationery Office, priced £8.99 [www.tsoshop.co.uk](http://www.tsoshop.co.uk) or ask about loaning a copy from your local library.

Development control regulates the development and use of land and buildings. It involves consideration of planning and listed building applications, the monitoring of development as it takes place and enforcement action where breaches of control occur. Another function is the provision of information and advice to our customers about proposed development.

Building standards is a related discipline and building standards officers work closely with their planning colleagues to ensure that building work is designed and constructed in compliance with current building standards.

Before anyone can carry out development or alter their property, it is wise to check if permission is required. A simple phone call usually suffices and there is always somebody available during office hours to answer queries. Where necessary, we can arrange for application forms and information to be provided in different formats such as large text, Braille, on cd, in other languages etc.

Both teams are located within County Buildings in Linlithgow, which is open Monday to Thursday 8.30 to 5.00 and 8.30 to 4.00 on Friday. The building is fully accessible to those with mobility difficulties and is to be fitted with an induction loop for those with hearing problems.

In addition, Laura Williamson is learning sign language to provide another level of service. For those unable to visit Linlithgow, officers are willing to arrange home visits and planning applications can be viewed online at [www.wlonline.org.uk](http://www.wlonline.org.uk)

Two officers are dedicated to dealing with applications for those with disabilities. Ranald Dods in development control and Laura Williamson in building standards.

Ranald can be contacted on 01506 775 225 or [ranald.dods@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ranald.dods@westlothian.gov.uk).

Laura's contact details are 01506 775 226 or [laura.williamson@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:laura.williamson@westlothian.gov.uk)

---

## **The Disability Rights Commission Agenda**

The DRC has set ten priorities designed collectively to achieve the Commission's long term aims. Their vision is: "a society in which all disabled people can participate fully as equal citizens"

The agenda the DRC is developing is not about quick fixes. It is about tackling the most deep-rooted and persistent sources of inequality facing people with impairments and long term health conditions and thereby positively transforming the experience of disabled people in Britain for good.

### **Ten priorities for change**

1. Increasing disabled people's active participation in public, civic and community life
2. Closing the employment gap, including a successful outcome from welfare reform.
3. Ensuring no one is obliged to live in an institution or in a particular living arrangement against their will.

4. Securing rights and entitlements which facilitate independent living across the life course.
5. Creating safe communities – tackling hate crime, harassment, bullying and negative stereotyping.
6. Improving disabled people's housing rights, opportunities and conditions.
7. Ending child poverty, disadvantage and wider barriers to children and young people's life chances.
8. Enhancing vocational and personal skills.
9. Tackling health inequalities
10. Ensuring that future legal and institutional arrangements for promoting equality and human rights are sufficiently well designed with regard to securing disabled people's rights.

Your involvement is extremely important to the DRC. Email your views at [disabilitydebate@drc-gb.org](mailto:disabilitydebate@drc-gb.org) or Phone 0845 333 0303 and leave your views and ideas. You can join Disability West Lothian and help promote equality in West Lothian.

**Eamonn Holmes Introduces  
the World's Largest Hearing Check**



**Take the check  
0845 600 5555**

Northern Ireland's television personality, Eamonn Holmes is introducing the world's largest telephone hearing check, which is reaching out to people who are losing their hearing but doing nothing about it.

The specially developed telephone hearing check, available by dialling 0845 600 55 55, is part of Breaking the Sound Barrier, a new campaign from RNID, the UK's largest charity for deaf and hard of hearing people. The Campaign, which is also being supported by BBC Newsline's Donna Traynor, is aiming to change attitudes towards hearing loss and hearing aids.



**UCLan Launches the First Degree in British Sign Language**

The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) is launching Britain's first degree course in British Sign Language (BSL).

Starting in September 2006, this groundbreaking degree course dedicated to the study of BSL will offer students the opportunity to study all aspects of BSL at degree level.



**Have A Heart Paisley  
DVD available**

A DVD telling the story of the first phase of Have A Heart Paisley is now available.

A learning resource for anyone with an interest in heart health or community health initiatives, it focuses not only on the project's achievements but also on the challenges faced and the lessons learned while attempting to win the hearts and minds of the people of Paisley.

The DVD is split into several chapters, each using a similar format and covering important elements of the project. There is also an overview section at the beginning which lasts about 10 minutes and attempts to summarise key elements of phase 1.

Have a Heart Paisley aims to reduce heart disease and promote healthier, longer lives for the people of Paisley.

If you would like to receive a copy of the DVD, please contact [lynn.soutar@health.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:lynn.soutar@health.scot.nhs.uk).



**Date: Tuesday 21 March 2006**

**Venue: Crowne Plaza, Glasgow**

**Mental Health Today Scotland is the only event that will bring representatives from all tiers of the mental health care sector together under one roof.**

**It is a national forum dedicated to people working in and using mental health services across the board.**

**Tickets £20 inc VAT pre-booked, or £25 on the day. Call 0870 890 1080 or [www.pavpub.com](http://www.pavpub.com)**

**Disability West Lothian Contact Details**

**Address -**

West Lothian Ability Centre  
Carmondean Centre Road  
Livingston, West Lothian  
EH54 8PT

**Telephone Numbers -**

Tel: 01506 774030 (Voice)  
Tel: 01506 774044 (Text)  
Fax: 01506 774031  
Mobile SMS: 07742 232978

**E-mail Addresses -** [enquiries@dwl.demon.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@dwl.demon.co.uk)

**Web Sites -** [www.dwl.demon.co.uk](http://www.dwl.demon.co.uk) & [www.livingbook.co.uk](http://www.livingbook.co.uk)

Do let us know what you think of the Bulletin.

Please let us know if you have any information for the bulletin.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Disability West Lothian.

**Alternative formats**

This brochure can be made available in other formats and sizes please contact to arrange.