



Helpline: 01902 713001

The Haven Wolverhampton E Bulletin

Supporting women and children who are vulnerable to violence and abuse

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Issue 11
March 2011

Keeping you up to date with the latest news, events and developments at The Haven Wolverhampton

Welcome...to The Haven's March E-Bulletin

In this issue we commemorate International Women's Week – a campaign celebrated by individuals and organisations across the world which aims to inspire women and celebrate achievements.



We take a look at the history of International Women's Week and discover what The Haven Wolverhampton has in store to mark this global campaign. There are plenty of activities that you can get involved in, so please read on to find out how you can join in the celebrations.

Thanks for reading!

International Women's Week – 5th to 12th March 2011

Around the world, International Women's Day (IWD) marks a global celebration of the economic, social, cultural and political achievements of women.

The first IWD was held in March 1911 in Germany. German women selected this date because in 1848 the Prussian king had promised the vote for women. Subsequently over one million leaflets calling for action on the right to vote were distributed throughout Germany before IWD in 1911. Now IWD is always celebrated on **8th March** and is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world. Women in every country, often divided by ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences, come together to celebrate this important date that represents equality, justice, peace and development.

International Women's Day is the story of ordinary women as makers of history; it is rooted in the centuries-old struggle of women seeking to participate equally in society.



International Women's Day has since expanded to become International Women's Week and is used across the world as an opportunity to celebrate women's culture and draw attention to the many problems that still remain. International Women's Week (IWW) involves celebration and entertainment, but also includes self-education and remembrance of those who cannot celebrate with us - we are reminded that until women are fully represented at senior leadership levels of public, professional and economic life, women will strive to have their voices heard.

To find out about all the International Women's Week events taking place across the globe click [here](#)

For information on International Women's Week events taking place in the Wolverhampton area click [here](#)

Haven opens Resource Centre for Women

The Haven Wolverhampton is delighted to announce that we now have a Women's Resource Centre based in the City Centre available to service users of the organisation. The centre is intended to be used as a space for women to access donations as well as utilise free training and workshop sessions. Women will also be given the opportunity to gain important work skills by volunteering in The Haven shop sorting and pricing donations which cannot be utilised in refuge.

The Women's Resource Centre will officially open to service users during International Women's Week on Thursday 10th of March and will offer taster sessions of things to come from the centre. On the day we will be showing 'Hidden Her Stories' - a film produced by young people exploring the journey of 4 women who have changed society, Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council will be on hand to offer volunteer placements and support, a debt advisor from the Financial Inclusion project will be available to talk through any debt issues, and just for fun we have Belly Dancing, Reikhi Sessions, Mendhi, Nail Art, a cake stand and refreshments, many of which will be provided by service users and volunteers.

For more information on the Resource Centre contact Andrea Cifuentes Posek by [email](#) or call **01902 572169**

'Home Sweet Home?' – Friday 11th March

'Home Sweet Home?' is The Haven's first campaign film which aims to raise awareness of Domestic Violence and gives those who have been directly affected by this form of abuse an opportunity to speak out and tell their story in a safe and secure environment.

The short film explores the complex nature of Domestic Violence and the different behaviours that constitute this form of abuse. All of the stories you will hear are real. Told in their own words each woman details their raw and poignant experiences of emotional, financial, physical and sexual abuse at the hands of their loved ones.



Made possible with funding from The Media Trust, and with additional support from Light House Media Centre, The Haven has worked closely with current and former service users to produce a thought provoking film.

The women have had input at every stage of the process from research to filming to editing and received training on how to use various pieces of digital media equipment. There are no actors and the stories are unscripted – for the first time this project has given women affected by Domestic Violence in Wolverhampton the opportunity to speak out and have their voices heard.

To mark International Women's Week 2011 The Haven will premier 'Home Sweet Home' to the public at [Light House Media Centre](#) on **Friday 11th March**.



Screenings are scheduled for 8.00pm and 8.30pm at the centre located in Fryer Street, Wolverhampton City Centre. For more information and to download the official flyer please click [here](#)

There is limited seating in the auditorium, however a few places are still available at both showings. If you would like to reserve your seat please contact [email](#) Grace Lee or call **01902 572173**

The Haven Wolverhampton would like to thank all staff and volunteers for their ongoing support throughout this project but most importantly we thank the women for contributing their stories and whose courage and bravery has been a true inspiration.



LIGHT HOUSE

Divas Day – Saturday 5th March



Divas Day is back for the second year running. Divas Day is a health and well being event which aims to launch International Women's Week with a 'bang' offering lots of free activities and workshops

including art and crafts, henna, belly dancing and much more. A supervised cardiac gym is on hand to use and refreshments are available throughout the day.

When: Saturday 5th March – 11am to 3pm

Where: Blakenhall Community and Healthy Living Centre. Bromley Street, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, WV2 3AS

Cost: Free

For more information contact Women of Wolverhampton (WOW) by [email](#) or call **01902 572122**

Empurple Day – Tuesday 8th March

Empurple means 'to colour or become purple' – and that's exactly what we want you to do on **Tuesday 8th March**.

Purple is the internationally recognised colour for campaigns which aim to raise awareness of Domestic Violence. In order to raise awareness and funds to support the women and children who access our services The Haven will be holding its first ever **Empurple Day**. Taking place on Tuesday 8th March – International Women's Day – we want you to encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to become **purple** for the day.

Perhaps you could hold a sponsored wear **purple** to school / work day, have a **purple** cake sale or have a purple party with **purple** party games? We have plenty of **purple** fundraising ideas for you to take inspiration from. Any event, whether big or small, will go a long way to improving the lives of women and children affected by Domestic Violence and Homelessness.

[Email us](#) for your free **Empurple** Fundraising pack or click [here](#) for more information

Mothers Day Raffle – Wednesday 30th March

Fab prizes up for grabs in The Haven's Mothers Day Raffle including;

- £50 Red Letter Day Voucher, £20 Flower Voucher & Box of Chocolates
- Avon Hamper & 'Love Me Lots' Teddy Bear
- Plus lots more.....

Tickets cost just £1 and are available from Palvinder by [email](#) or call **01902 572173** for more information

Feedback

If you have any comments or feedback about this or any previous issues of The Haven E-Bulletin please get in touch on publicity@havenrefuge.org.uk or call **01902 572173**

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