



Friendly Bombs

THEATRE COMPANY



Friendly Bombs Theatre Company

We are a voluntary organisation funded by grants from Charities, Arts Organisations and local businesses, including Heart of Bucks, Shanly Foundation, Burnham Foundation, and in kind by St Peter's Church, Burnham, and Big Yellow Storage Company, to provide theatre activities for learning disabled members of the community. Established in 1998, we are at present 17 members and 7 volunteer drama practitioners / facilitators. We became a registered charity in 2010.

The core aim of Friendly Bombs is to provide local learning disabled people with a true sense of theatre. We always work from classic texts. We produce a piece of theatre from a play once it has been understood and reinvented by our group of actors.

The actors all have moderate learning disabilities and new members are invited to join the company following attendance at an open workshop and a trial period of 6 weeks. At the open workshops we are looking for three things from potential actors: energy, definition and projection. This means we are not looking for the most confident or outgoing people, we are seeking to offer the opportunity to be part of the company to people who may benefit from working with us on producing a play.

One of the important defining things about Friendly Bombs is that we are not a weekly drama club for a bit of fun. We are a theatre company and we ask members of the group to work hard. We all have fun along the way and make new friends. Working in lots of new venues around the local community we offer members the opportunity to develop in confidence. The members of the group travel with us to perform the play that we produce and are great ambassadors for the learning disability community.

Our main aim is to take our work out, as participatory performances/workshops, to special schools, day centres and Mencap clubs in Bucks, East Berks and West London, to learning disabled children and adults, who may otherwise have no or little access to theatre. We also take workshops for training purposes to staff and service users at special schools and day centres. By charging for these activities, we are able to fund about half of the costs of running the company.

<https://www.friendlybombs.co.uk/>



Julie Foster

Julie has spent her career in adult care social care in a variety of practitioner and management roles, specialising in mental health. She has been a commissioner of services and was a general manager in one of the first integrated health and social care organizations. She retired as Associate Director for Adult Social Care for Torbay and South Devon NHS Trust in 2015 and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in partnership working. Julie is passionate about everything to do with Safeguarding Adults and is proud to be the independent chair of the Torbay Board and to have been commissioned to carry out several Safeguarding Adult Reviews, including the one for Bracknell Forest.

Julie is a Trustee for an expanding local charity in her home town, Totnes Caring, and lives with her husband, her 5 year old step grandson and 2 cats.



Madeline Cooper-Ueki, Programme lead NDTi — learning disability

Madeline has 20 years experience in the public sector in direct support, management and organisational development roles.

She is passionate about driving change to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities and those around them. Madeline is particularly skilled in facilitating change and development for individuals, teams and organisations, using a range of skills developed in practice and through Occupational Psychology underpinned by an ethos of inclusion and co-production.

Madeline's most recent roles include leading NDTi's Ageing and Older People's programme and a team in London and South East in Skills for Care, the sector skills council for social care, engaging with stakeholders to ensure the views of people using or working in the sector were included in development and sharing best practice throughout the field.

Prior to that Madeline held various roles in organisational and business development, as well as management and direct support provision in Certitude Support, a not-for support provider supporting those with learning disabilities and mental health needs. Madeline specialised in exploring ways to generate transformational change and make personalisation a reality, both at organisation and individual levels, in a way which improved the lives, experience and outcomes of those being supported. Madeline has worked with people of all ages and with various support needs throughout her career. She graduated with an MSc in Occupational Psychology in 2006.



Dr Fiona Lisney. Wexham Park Hospital and Thames Hospice

Fiona has been a Consultant in Palliative Medicine in East Berkshire for 13 years.

She is the clinical lead for the specialist palliative care MDT at Wexham Park Hospital which takes over 2,000 referrals/year. She is also the Hospital's service improvement lead for end of life care and the day therapy services lead at Thames Hospice in Windsor.

She has a particular interest in neuro-degenerative disease and chairs the East Berkshire neuro-degenerative disease MDT.



Melanie O'Hare, Kasia Jaworski and Chelsea Bridges (Not pictured) – Community Safety Education team and Safeguarding Coordinator - Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The Safety Education Team (Melanie and Kasia) provide education and training to statutory and non-statutory partners from across Berkshire in order to make a positive contribution to the lives of the most vulnerable people.

Chelsea Bridges, the Safeguarding Coordinator at Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, sits on the three Safeguarding Adults Boards across the county.

It is recognised that there are many considerations to be taken into account when planning a care package to allow someone to continue to live in the community with extra support to ensure their safety and wellbeing. If fire safety is not considered and the correct protection measures are not put in place then the person may not be safe in their home. They will be at the greatest possible risk should a fire occur.



Robert Tunmore – Regional Co-ordinator – NHS South of England

Over the course of his career Robert has worked on a range of health and social care programmes, professional leadership, policy, education and research. He has been involved in implementing the LeDeR Programme nationally since the start of the Programme and has been the Regional Coordinator supporting local Steering Groups, and Local Area Contacts across the South of England for the last two years.



Dr Jean O'Hara — National Clinical Director for Learning Disabilities for NHS England

Dr O'Hara is consultant psychiatrist in learning (intellectual) disabilities at South London and the Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, King's Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre, and was clinical director for the Behavioural & Developmental Psychiatry CAG from 2008 – 2017. In January 2017, Dr O'Hara joined NHS England as National Clinical Director for learning disabilities.

Originally from Hong Kong, she qualified from the London Hospital Medical College in 1983 and took up her first consultant post in 1992. Dr O'Hara is passionate about improving quality of care and developing future generations of clinicians. Throughout her career, she has held formal leadership and clinical management roles within the NHS, Royal College of Psychiatrists, Royal Society of Medicine and the 'London Deanery'. Dr O'Hara is visiting senior lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience and chair of the editorial board for 'Advances in Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities' (Emerald Publishing) which integrates research into clinical practice.

Her clinical and academic interests have focussed on ethnicity and diversity, parents with learning disabilities, inequalities in healthcare and health outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, particularly those with learning disabilities and mental illness. Her books 'Adults with Learning Disabilities: a practical approach for health professionals' (Wiley & Sons, 1997) was the first published handbook for primary care, and 'Intellectual Disabilities and Ill-Health: a review of the evidence' (CUP 2010), the first comprehensive review of mental and physical disorders in people with learning disabilities.



**Bracknell Forest and
Windsor & Maidenhead
Safeguarding Adults Board**