# **Inform Network Support**



Rare Chromosome Disorder Support Group The Stables, Station Road West, Oxted, Surrey RH8 9EE, United Kingdom Tel: +44(0)1883 723356 info@rarechromo.org | www.rarechromo.org

Join Unique for family links, information and support. Unique is a charity without government funding, existing entirely on donations and grants. If you can, please consider making a donation via our website, we would be very grateful.

We have a separate guide on travel insurance, which you can download from the family information section of our website.



We are grateful for the support from Skills for Care which enabled us to produce this resource for carers.

Our thanks to our parents for their contributions to this guide.

While every effort is made to ensure that the information contained within this guide is accurate and up-to-date, Unique is not responsible for the reliability of any information contained herein. This guide has been created for information purposes only. The listing of any organisation or charity in this booklet should not be taken as an endorsement or warranty of any kind by Unique.

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# Holidays



### **HOLIDAYS GUIDE**

Children and adults with rare chromosome and genome disorders often have complex additional needs impacting on all aspects of their own and their family's lives. They may require dedicated intensive care, therapies, items of equipment and services. All this makes it even more important that they and their carers, have the opportunity to take a well-deserved holiday or short break either together or individually. Yet accommodating these complexities often makes these holidays and breaks more difficult to arrange. Carers of children and adults with a rare chromosome disorder often approach the team at Unique to ask for information and guidance on how they might organise a holiday or short break. Sometimes they are able to sort a holiday but cannot find a travel insurance company willing to cover their child's special needs and medical issues. Having talked to lots of different parents and carers about what they need, we have decided to write this guide to illustrate some of the different types of specialist holidays and short breaks that are currently available and to signpost carers to potential sources of help, including funding and travel insurance. The guide is intended as a resource to help families find suitable holiday opportunities, research that can be very time-consuming and hard work, particularly when you are caring for a disabled person. In this guide we have included details of a selection of organisations providing holidays both in the UK and abroad. We are not able to recommend one holiday type over another, so when following any links we provide, it is important for you to study the information given by each organisation carefully to make sure they provide the sort of service you are seeking. Some will accept self-referrals while others will require referrals from a professional involved in your relative's care. Don't be frightened to ask professionals for help. Many of Unique's parent carers have been given invaluable assistance in organising wonderful holidays that have enabled them to holiday as a family, or on their own and that have made all the difference to their capacity to continue in their caring roles. This guide is a dynamic resource and the details included are correct at the time of publication. However, if you should you come across any new sources of holiday help that we haven't included, please contact Unique to tell us about them. We are always pleased to receive new information that we can pass on to carers of children and adults with rare chromosome and genome disorders. This guide is just a starting point and included details of various holiday service providers you might want to consider but it isn't an exhaustive list. If you have internet access, begin with a thorough search, using terms like 'holidays for disabled children or adults' and you will be able to find a variety of different holiday providers. It's amazing the amount of information you can access through simple searches on Google, Bing, Yahoo! and other search engines. Other parents and carers are always a good source of information too so consider joining one of our Unique Facebook groups to connect with others and ask about holidays that they may have had. We often find they are a mine of information.... you just have to ask!

# **NOTES**



Happy Holidays!

### OTHER LINKS

♦ Accessible beaches and beach wheelchairs around the UK http://bit.ly/2bwxnbP

Lists accessible beaches and those with specialist beach wheelchair hire.

◆ Airport travel guide http://bit.ly/2ilXPXy

Travelling with a disability or restricted mobility can be a daunting experience if the appropriate assistance and support is not available at the airport. This guide has been created to inform you about the services available to make your journey as easy and pleasurable as possible.

CarerSmart card www.carersmart.net

A CarerSmart card could get discounts on airport parking, hotels, travel, etc.

Gatwick Airport special assistance http://bit.ly/2AcZpST

Advice for passengers or their carers with disabilities travelling through Gatwick. From difficulties with mobility, to hidden disabilities like ADHD and Autism, etc, staff are on hand to help you every step of the way. If you have a disability or you experience mobility difficulties and need help to get to your flight, you should contact your airline at least 72 hours before you fly to let them know that you need assistance. Visit: http://bit.ly/2zlq2xL

◆ Transport for London https://tfl.gov.uk/forms/12387.aspx

TFL have produced several guides on accessibility on the Trains, buses and tube. They are available to download from their website.

UK Government information on travelling by plane: http://bit.ly/2AU0j75

### **Summary**

In this guide we have responded to feedback from our members who tell us that finding suitable holidays to accommodate their special needs is difficult and often very expensive (beyond their means) and that searching for information about potential sources of help takes lots of time - time that is very precious when you are caring for a disabled child. We have described some of the sources of help that are out there and talked about the things you might need to think about when planning your holiday. Unique staff are available if you wish to discuss things first and although we don't provide advice, our team includes carers of disabled children themselves, so will understand your needs as a carer. The guide accompanies two others, one relating to bikes, trikes and sensory toys (Sports and Leisure) and the other is on grants and funding. Finally, don't be too shy or too proud to ask for help from the organisations we have listed. That's their reason for being - they want to help disabled children, adults and their carers to live more fulfilling and less stressful lives.



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"Finding the right holiday is so complicated. Wherever we go we have to always check out the safety of the place we are staying in. If self-catering - for example: Do the windows open wide and if so, can you lock them with a key? How does the door to the outside open, does it have a safety catch? Is there a garden and if so does it have a pond, pool, or low fences? And then there is all the kit that we have to take with us like enough nappies and medication to cover the length of our stay, toys, equipment, etc, sometimes you wonder if it's worth going!"

# Holidays in the UK

Many families prefer to 'stay close to home' and holiday in the UK and would not like to risk venturing abroad because of their children's special needs and medical conditions, so in this guide we have included a variety of organisations providing holidays closer to home. Don't forget that, rather than taking your own equipment from home, you might be able to hire specialist equipment like hoists and cot sides in a resort with the help of the holiday organisers. If the thought of a long journey with a child or adult in pads is daunting, then think about planning your route or your holiday so you can access specialist Changing Places toilets - see www.changing-places.org for details of where to find these excellent changing facilities. Do you want to know about a potential destination and the facilities available before you make your final holiday venue decision? Why not ask Unique to put you in touch with families living in the area in which you are intending to holiday? With the comprehensive Unique database/registry listing many thousands of families affected by rare chromosome and genome disorders, we may well know of someone you can talk to. There is nothing like the knowledge and experience of a local family to tap into for information about their area, including hospitals, doctors and pharmacists in case of emergencies when you get

there. A well-planned holiday will take a lot of the stress out of preparation and going to new places with a vulnerable child.

In this guide we have listed just some of the many holiday and short break ideas available to give you inspiration! The organisations listed are not in any particular order, they are organisations that we have learnt about through research, from other charities, through Unique member families caring for their children and from our own experiences. Inclusion here does not mean we are endorsing them.

Please contact our Family Support Officer (see www.rarechromo.org for details) if you have any queries.



### **FUNDED HOLIDAYS**

♦ Happy Days children's charity www.happydayscharity.org/
01582 755999 Email: enquiries@happydayscharity.org
Happy Days gift supportive breaks like trips to the seaside, theatres, zoos, museums, outdoor activity centres, sporting events and other educational and cultural activities, to children living with mental, physical and emotional Difficulties.

 National Holiday Fund for Sick and Disabled Children www.nhfcharity.co.uk
 Address for Correspondence
 Aldwych Gardens, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 3ZH

Email: office@nhfcharity.co.uk

The aim of The National Holiday Fund for Sick and Disabled Children is to provide support for the parents or carers of severely sick or disabled children by offering them a two-week respite, while their children are taken on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure to Florida.

#### Oliver Curd Trust

www.theolivercurdtrust.org 01797 230329 or 07802 573612

Email: enquiries@theolivercurdtrust.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/olivercurdtrust/

The Oliver Curd Trust was set up by Oliver's parents Richard and Sarah, in memory of their son Oliver, is a registered charity that offers short breaks to children and families with life threatening or life limiting illnesses. They own two holiday homes in East Sussex, one at Crowhurst Park, Battle and one at Combe Haven, St Leonards on Sea. The holidays are completely free for

families (you just need to fund travel and food). The holiday homes are available for families with a child up to 18 years, facilities may be limited for more severely disabled children as the door spaces are standard caravan size only. Most of the families that stay have limited wheelchair use so it is not a problem, but for a child who is permanently in a wheelchair with their own personalised chair they may have trouble getting access to the caravans.

### YOUNG CARERS

**CCHF** (Formerly known as Children's Country Holidays Fund) www.cchf-allaboutkids.org.uk

01903 339155

CCHF All About Kids provide a range of residential activity and respite breaks that allows children aged 7-11 to escape the traumas of their everyday life and simply become children again.

### Carers funding

Many local carers support centres offer small grants (usually between £200-£300) for funding carers short breaks, but this information may not be well publicised. If you are looking for funding, speak with your local carers centre who should be able to assist you. If you do not know where your local carers centre is, visit your local county council website, or visit:

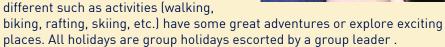
www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council

### SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES

Care for the Family http:// bit.ly/17lWND8

If you are a single mum or dad, with children aged 5-16 you might be interested in a break with other similar families, view more about their holidays with a difference here: http://bit.ly/2zTrXn2

Mango www.mangoholidays.co.uk 01902 373410 Mobile: 07779 008990 Email: info@mangoholidays.co.uk Mango Holidays are for single parent families who want to do something a bit



Single with kids http://singlewithkids.co.uk/ 0845 166 8119 general enquiries email: events@singlewithkids.co.uk For many single parents, holidays can be daunting, these single parent holidays focus on fun and friendship alongside great destinations. The holidays for single parents are in group settings, with ready made friends for the children but also like-minded company for the adults too.



Avon Tyrrell Activity and Residential Centre www.avontyrrell.org.uk 01425 672347 Email: info@ukyouth.org

Avon Tyrrell provides full board, self-catering and day visit facilities for groups of up to 200. All ages and abilities welcome. It is a 65-acre site in the New Forest which is grade 1 listed. On-site activities include canoeing, archery, abseiling, climbing, rope courses, environmental studies, swimming, fishing, cycling, and team building. By providing young people with disabilities or special needs additional instruction and support they aim to make sure that the young people are challenged in a supportive environment, with activities specifically adapted to suit their needs.

### Badaquish Outdoor Centre www.badaquish.org

01479 861285 Email: info@badaguish.org

The Badaguish Centre aims to help people with a disability enjoy an outdoor holiday and it has access to a fully integrated range of community and tourist recreation facilities around Aviemore and the Cairngorms. Respite Care activity holidays and courses (24-hour care) for unaccompanied people with learning/multiple or physical disabilities. Also caters for small groups/family holidays of up to 10 people. Activity instructors are available.

### Bendrigg Trust www.bendrigg.org.uk 01539 723766 Email: office@bendrigg.org.uk

The Bendrigg Trust is a residential activity centre located in beautiful countryside between the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales. It runs holidays and residential courses specifically for people with disabilities. Groups and individuals come to the Centre for a week or weekend, from schools and colleges for children with special needs, homes, hostels, clubs, hospitals, community groups and disability organisations. Programmes are tailor-made for each group and a wide variety of activities can be incorporated. These may include climbing, abseiling, canoeing, caving, sailing and orienteering.

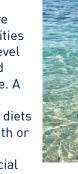
# Bond hotels www.bondhotel.co.uk

01253 341218 Fmail: sales@bondhotel.co.uk

The Bond Hotels are specialist hotels in Blackpool and St. Anne's that cater for people with special needs. Bedrooms are mostly fully accessible. Specialist equipment like hoists, raiser beds and cot sides are all provided free of charge. Various holiday packages are available to suit individuals' budgets. All meals are homemade and freshly prepared. There is a live cabaret show every night. Bond Accessible Coaches can arrange transport for your holiday. Their aim at The Bond Hotels is to provide enjoyable hassle-free holidays with quality, comfort and service.

### ♦ BREAK www.break-charity.org

01263 822161 Email: office@break-charity.org
BREAK provides supported holidays and respite care
provision in Norfolk for people with learning disabilities
and other special needs including those with high level
care needs and challenging behaviour. Children and
adults with autism spectrum disorders are welcome. A
varied holiday programme includes outings and full
24-hour care provided by experienced staff. Special diets
can be catered for. Group holidays also arranged with or
without accompanying staff. BREAK also has
self-catering chalets in Devon for families with special



needs. Providing a low-cost holiday, these chalets are suitable for people with disabilities and their carers.

### Bruce Trust www.brucetrust.org.uk

01264 356451 Email: enquiries@brucetrust.org.uk

The Bruce Trust is a registered charity providing specially-designed, purpose-built, wide-beam canal boats, for hire for self-catering, self-steer holidays by disabled, disadvantaged or elderly people along with their family, friends or carers.

## Calvert Trust www.calvert-trust.org.uk

### ⇒ Exmoor

01598 763221 Email: exmoor@calvert-trust.org.uk

At Calvert Trust Exmoor activities have been designed specifically for those with a disability to enjoy with their friends and family. Set in North Devon, they have both indoor and outdoor climbing walls for visitors to climb and abseil. There is also sailing, canoeing, kayaking, horse riding, carriage driving, archery and zip wire. Specialist equipment and highly qualified instructors make all activities accessible for all ages and all abilities. In the evening guests can use the hydrotherapy pool and Jacuzzi and there is a sensory room with state of the art equipment. Accommodation is accessible, food is home-cooked and all activities are on site. Calvert Trust focuses on what you can do rather than what you cannot.

#### ⇒ Kielder

01434 250232 Email: enquiries@calvert-kielder.com

Set in the Kielder Forest and close to Kielder Water, the Centre was purpose built to accommodate people of all ages with a wide range of disabilities, their families and friends. Guests can take part in activities which include: sailing, canoeing, climbing, abseiling, archery and swimming. Instruction and equipment are provided. Ten self-catering chalets are also available. In

# ORGANISATIONS HELPING CARERS TO HAVE A HOLIDAY

### The Respite Association

www.respiteassociation.org

01775 820176 Email: help@respiteassociation.org
The Respite Association was formed by a group of
people, with first-hand experience of the stress put
on carers. They provide short term assistance in

the funding of appropriately qualified respite care for disabled, sick, elderly or terminally ill persons in order that their regular carer can be allowed to take a much-needed break.

# ♦ The Ogilvie Trust http://theogilvietrust.org.uk

01394 388746 Email: info@ogilviecharities.org.uk

Grants are made to support respite holidays for carers. The main aim is to give a complete break to a carer while the person cared for is receiving respite care. In exceptional circumstances they may assist where the carer and cared for wish to holiday together, provided they are husband and wife or partners, or an adult child caring for an aged parent or vice versa. Applications must be made via a third party with no self-referral.

#### The Kiloran Trust

020 7602 7404 Fmail: kiltrust@aol.com

A large welcoming house in west London in which carers can go for a Respite Care Break away from Caring. Kiloran is for unpaid carers looking after a relative or friend at home (husband, wife, child, parent, sibling) who requires full time commitment to their care. Carers are offered a break from Monday – Saturday in this house, which is informal, friendly, warm and relaxed. All meals are provided. The cost, which is subsidised, includes a room with en-suite and meals. If you have a low income or claim income support the trust can help to obtain funding to cover this amount. Not wheelchair accessible. All bedrooms situated above ground floor. No lift.

# • Revitalise http://revitalise.org.uk/respite-holidays/

0303 303 0145 Email: bookings@revitalise.org.uk

Revitalise breaks are holidays for disabled people and carers. They offer a break for disabled people and also for carers. They provide care but are not a care home! They provide respite holidays for disabled people and carers aged 18 or over. Carers can have a break too, but they do not have to. They are more than welcome to go along with the person they care for and have a proper holiday too, whilst Revitalise take over the care.

### The Newman Trust www.newmantrust.org

The Newman Holiday Trust is a voluntary organisation which provides summer holidays for children with special needs. The Trust provides holidays for over 120 disabled children aged 5-16 each year.

### Jumbulance www.jumbulance.org.uk

01582 765423 Mobile: 07795 018934 Email: info@jumbulance.org.uk
The Jumbulance Trust exists to make it possible for severely disabled and
unwell adults, children and dependent elderly people to travel on holidays and
day outings which for most might be impossible by air, rail, coach or other
means.

# • Over the wall www.otw.org.uk

02392 477 110 Email: info@otw.org.uk

Over the Wall is a national UK children's charity that provides free of charge Therapeutic Recreation camps to help children with life-limiting illnesses and their families reach beyond the perceived limitations of illness to rediscover a whole new world of possibilities. They give children one glorious week of experiences that are memorable, exciting, fun and empowering, in a physically safe and medically sound environment.

### Trefoil House http://bit.ly/2z84Gy8

0131 220 3249 Email: trefoil@wssociety.co.uk

### Lilias Finlay Holiday Fund

Trefoil offers holiday grants to individuals, families or small groups who meet our criteria for development needs. In addition, applicants for holiday grants should be under 18 years of age. At present Trefoil funds holidays in the UK only and overseas trips are not supported.

Turn2us www.turn2us.org.uk
Turn2us is a national charity that helps
people in financial hardship gain access to
welfare benefits, charitable grants and
support services.



addition the Calvert Trust is registered for respite care offering care to individuals over 18 years of age.

### ⇒ Lake District

01768 772255 Email: enquiries@lakedistrict.calvert-trust.org.uk

The Lake District Calvert Trust is a residential outdoor centre with over 35 years' experience delivering challenging outdoor adventure holidays for people with disabilities. The centre, on the shores of Bassenthwaite Lake, offers a warm welcome with accessible accommodation and exciting breaks for schools, groups, families and individuals with their friends and carers.



# Chrysalis Holidays www.chrysalisholidays.co.uk

01925 220179 Email: admin@chrysalisholidays.co.uk Chrysalis Holidays provide a wide variety of supported holidays for adults, to

suit a variety of needs which are aimed to be fun, safe and educational. Most are small groups based on a theme, such as adventure, crafts, farming, music etc. and are run from their guest house situated on the north coast of Anglesey, on the coast path with spectacular views over Breel Bay. Other holidays take place in a variety of other venues catering for differing needs and interests. Everyone is assessed beforehand usually by a home visit within 20 mile radius.

DART Disabled Afloat Riverboats Trust www.glosdart.co.uk

01242 644085 Email: contact@glosdart.co.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/GlosDART/

The Disabled Afloat Riverboats Trust (DART) provides boating holidays for people with physical, visual, aural or learning disabilities together with their

Disabled Holiday info. www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk/

Email: info@disabledholidayinfo.org.uk

Search for Accommodation, Attractions, Activities, Trails, Events, Etc.

### Disabled Holidays

www.disabledholidays.com/

0161 804 9898

Email: marketing@disabledholidays.com Disabled Holidays is a specialist travel agency committed to providing holidays that exceed the needs and wishes of their disabled customers. They also take 'Family Fund' grants.

#### Disabled travel advice

www.disabledtraveladvice.co.uk 0300 323 9961

Email: info@disabilityscot.org.uk

Advice on accessible travel in the UK and  $\,$ 

abroad, including holidays.



### Harriet Davis Seaside Holiday Trust for children

www.harriet-davis-trust.org.uk

For General Enquiries please contact: 01834 814645

Email: admin@harriet-davis-trust.org.uk

For Bookings, please contact Helen: 01834 845197

Email: helen@harriet-davis-trust.org.uk

The Harriet Davis Trust has three fully equipped holiday houses for families with physically disabled children all in Tenby in Pembrokeshire. Another house has been specially adapted and equipped to cater for families with children with autism and other learning difficulties. The house sleeps 6.

### ✦ Helsey House Cottages www.helseycottages.co.uk 01754 872927 Email: info@HelseyCottages.co.uk

Helsey House Cottages are two self-catering holiday cottages on the North East Lincolnshire coast. As parents of two boys with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and approved foster carers, Mark and Elizabeth Elvidge know how difficult it can be for special needs families to have a relaxing holiday. The cottages are situated in the private grounds of their home. Each cottage is fully equipped for self-catering. They have a self-propelled wheelchair, a shower wheelchair, toilet seat riser and an Oxford midi 150 mobile hoist available for guests' use – make sure to indicate at the time of booking if these are required.

### Adamson Trust http://theadamsontrust.co.uk

Contact via the form on their website or write to: The Administrator, The Adamson Trust, PO Box 7227, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH16 9AL.

The Adamson Trust is able to give financial help with the cost of holidays or respite breaks for young people aged 17 and under with a physical, mental or emotional disability. There must be evidence of a disability from a medical or social services professional to support the application.

### CHICKS www.chicks.org.uk

Anyone that works with a child in a professional capacity can refer them for a five-day residential respite break. Agencies that currently refer include Social Services, schools, youth groups, churches, Young Carers' groups and community centres amongst others. Children must be aged between 8 - 15 years old.

## Disability Grants

http://bit.ly/2zHKcMh

A website directory listing lots of different grants available to parent/carers of disabled children/adults.

### Family Fund

www.familyfund.org.uk 01904 550055

Email: info@familyfund.org.uk

Facebook:

### www.facebook.com/familyfund

The Family Fund helps low income families raising disabled and seriously ill children by providing grants for essential items to help parents and carers with their day-to-day lives. They give grants for holidays. The Fund is a registered charity. They give grants for severely disabled young people aged 17 or under in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

# ♦ Family Holiday Association www.fhaonline.org.uk

020 31170650 Email: info@FamilyHolidayAssociation.org.uk

The Family Holiday Association is a charity that provides short breaks in the UK for children and their families. These are families that face daily hardship made worse by illness, bereavement or disability. As a small charity they cannot liaise directly with or make any payments to families. Referring agents (see website for list of professionals who would qualify as agents) must be the point of contact for any queries regarding a family's application and any payments made by the charity in respect of an application should be processed by the organisation that referred the family.

- ♦ Impossible dream www.impossibledream.org.uk Rent ski-bobs and ski equipment
- Red point www.redpoint.co.uk Adaptive ski holidays and info.
- Ski 2 Freedom
  http://ski2freedom.com/en
  is an organisation set up to
  enable disabled, special needs and
  disadvantaged children and adults to
  participate in snow sports and mountain activities.
- ◆ Ski club http://bit.ly/2mxnSj5 Information on all types of snow sports for disabled people.

"We have flown many times and something we find important is to never put anything in overhead lockers that you might need during the flight - we had an "interesting" experience of not being able to access something as our bag had got pushed to the back by other people's luggage - leading to a meltdown just before we took off! We try to keep bags with us under the seat in front now."

### FINANCIAL HELP & GRANTS FOR HOLIDAYS

Living in a family who have a person with a rare chromosome disorder, and the additional financial demands and limited income this might bring, sometimes means that being able to pay for a much-needed holiday is not easy, or is downright impossible. There are sources of help though and many of our families have managed to enjoy lovely holidays and short breaks, thanks to the financial help of a variety of organisations. Here are just a few to get you started. If you need any more information, please see our separate guide on Grants and funding, which is available to download from our website www.rarechromo.org

• 3H Helping Hands for Holidays
www.3hfund.org.uk/grants/
01892 860207 Email: info@3hfund.org.uk
3H run a programme offering grants to
assist disabled people and their families on
low income to organise a UK holiday for
themselves. The grants are given for the
accommodation part of the holiday and are
paid direct to the chosen venue. The charity
liaises with social workers and caring organi-



sations to assist applicants and to identify those needing assistance. Carers can also be awarded a grant for a holiday away from their caring role.

Holiday Homes Trust www.holidayhomestrust.org/
 020 8433 7290 or 020 8433 7291 Email: scout.holiday.homes@scouts.org.uk



A national charity that specialises in providing quality, fully-accessible caravan accommodation for families and individuals that need a fun and relaxing break.

Kensington Foundation

http://bit.ly/2z82pmw
Mr Tim Murphy 01253 761334
Email: kensingtontrust@aol.com
Facebook: http://bit.ly/2huEa6T
Margaret Kane is a wide beam canal boat which was purpose built in 2007 after the Kensington Foundation was left a most generous bequest in the will of Margaret Kane. Volunteer crew members enable them to offer the boat for the use to

families with additional needs at the

minimum cost, they simply cover expenses. The boat is equipped with a wheelchair lift, wide corridor and doors to accommodate wheelchair access. The gallery is fully equipped. A collapsible breakfast bar provides additional worktop and dining space. There is also spacious centrally heated living accommodation, gallery, dining area and lounge with television, dvd, radio, reading material, games and toys. The boat is available for short residential breaks and can sleep up to 8 people. There are two en-suite bedrooms. Bedroom one comprises of a single "profile bed" which converts to a double, an en-suite shower, toilet and sink. Bedroom two comprises of four single bunk beds with cupboard space, shelves and en-suite facilities. The comfortable lounge has bench seating and double sofa bed to provide additional sleeping. Buoyancy aids are available for all ages.

★ Kepplewray Project www.kepplewray.org.uk 01229 716936 Email: stay@kepplewray.org.uk

Kepplewray is a registered charity which operates a fully accessible and inclusive outdoor activity centre in Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria offering adventure, challenge and relaxation for groups of disabled and non-disabled people. They are licensed to provide a range of activities including: climbing, canoeing, archery, environmental studies etc, or you can hire the Centre solely for accommodation. Schools, youth groups, families, special needs groups, church and businesses are all welcome.



 Kingfisher Barn www.kingfisherbarn.com 01235 537538

Email: info@kingfisherbarn.com
Kingfisher Barn is situated in
Abingdon, Oxfordshire and
surrounded by fields and close to the
town centre. It has 6 self-catering
cottages sleeping from 2-10 people in
each unit. Four are wheelchair accessible
with hoist facility in the bedrooms and
bathrooms. A heated, indoor swimming
pool with hoist is available to use, free of
charge. There are also 10 bed and
breakfast rooms. The accommodation
has been rated 4 star and is beautifully
furnished. To save you bringing extra
equipment with you - all packed in your

car, they can make sure that the equipment that your group needs is set up and ready to be used on your arrival. The equipment that can be supplied is: Cot sides, Commode, Shower chair, Mobile electrical universal hoist and Universal slings. All of these items will be in your accommodation and ready for use if requested when booking your stay. If you are looking for a shorter stay they also have some Bed and Breakfast rooms that have been designed with wheelchair users in mind. All rooms are on the ground floor and one unit has a wet room which allows a shower chair to be used. If you mention to them at the time of booking that a disabled room is required, they can then place you in the most suitable room.

- London Youth residential centres http://londonyouth.org/residentialcentres/
- ⇒ Hindleap Warren, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18 5JH The Development Team at Hindleap 01342 822625 Email: hellohindleap@londonyouth.org

For over 40 years, Hindleap Warren has worked with young people with additional needs and disabilities. All residential visits are fully inclusive of all meals, activities, accommodation and instruction. Hindleap has a range of equipment to allow young people with physical disabilities to access their accommodation, grounds and activities. Young people at Hindleap have experienced whizzing through the air on their zip wire, scaling their climbing wall and finding the deepest mud during forest adventures.

# Cruise Dialysis www.cruisedialysis.co.uk

0844 995 1214 Email: lisaparnell@cruisedialysis.co.uk

Cruise Dialysis offers a wide range of cruises with haemodialysis onboard to suit everyone's taste and budget. An experienced dialysis team and nephrologist are onboard throughout your cruise so you can be assured of the best attention at all times.

- Can Be Done www.canbedone.co.uk
  020 8907 2400 Email: holidays@canbedone.co.uk
  Can Be Done Holidays offer a wide range of holidays for all, but have specialised in original and pioneering wheelchair accessible holidays to a widening choice of destinations.
- ♦ Virgin Holidays & Virgin Atlantic Special Assistance http://bit.lv/2ATui3a

Virgin Holidays Special Assistance Team: Customer support 0344 739 3450 Email: special.assistance@virginholidays.com

Virgin Holidays Special Assistance Team help to provide holidays to suit everyone. Whether you have mobility restrictions or medical requirements.

### **SNOW SPORT HOLIDAYS**

Disabled skiing and snowboarding (also known as adaptive snowsports) have become a lot more widespread in recent years, as more organisations develop to enable people with disabilities to enjoy snowsports. The success of British skiers at the 2012 Winter Paralympics in Sochi also helped to raise the sport's profile and inspire more disabled people to give snowsports a go. A great place to look for information and to find out more about how to get involved is:

- ⇒ **Disability Snowsport UK** www.disabilitysnowsport.org.uk/
  It's an organisation that offers information and advice to anyone who wants to gain access to disabled skiing opportunities or learn more about them.
- ♦ Association Antenne Handicap www.antenne-handicap.fr/ Email:

contact@antenne-handicap.fr Association Antenne Handicap in France facilitates the access and the practice of skiing to all children and adults with a physical, mental or sensory disability.



• Disabled Access Holidays www.disabledaccessholidays.com
0800 6226000 Email: info@disabledaccessholidays.com
Mike and Lynn Davis started Disabled Access Holidays after their own
experiences when on holiday with their disabled son Christopher. After
difficulties finding suitable holiday accommodation for their son, the Davis's
purchased and adapted an apartment in Puerto Pollensa. Due to popular
demand, 3 more wheelchair accessible apartments followed and they are now
all available to rent in Puerto Pollensa, Majorca. Their aim is to take the stress
out of organising holidays for disabled people. The company expanded to offer
holidays for disabled people in the UK and abroad.

### ♦ HCPT - The Pilgrimage Trust www.hcpt.org.uk

01788 564646 Email: hq@hcpt.org.uk

HCPT is a charity offering pilgrimage holidays, to Lourdes in the south of France, for disabled and disadvantaged people from around the UK and further afield.

#### Le Fosso www.lefosso.com

+33 (0) 296 28 47 97 Email: contact@lefosso.com

Le Fosso provides fully accessible accommodation in Brittany

to families and small groups for holidays and residential stays. There are no restrictions on age and disability. Both self-catering and catering options are available.

Registered for schools, clubs and specialist organisations as well as families. At Le Fosso you will find an authentic Breton setting, and easy access to a wealth of visits, sports and cultural activities. They specialise in bespoke holiday programmes for groups which include disabled people. Le Fosso is fully accessible to people with impaired mobility. Comfortable and spacious gîtes set in six acres of peaceful gardens and woodland make it an ideal setting for special interest groups of all kinds.

"We would recommend getting one of the lounges as it is very quiet in there and you don't have the crowds around duty free. If there is a delay, you can still stay in the lounge where they have food and drinks. They were kind enough to put c-beebies on for us. The prices are pretty reasonable (about £18 per person) - www.holidayextras.com"

### Finca Supported Holidays

www.fincasupportedholidays.co.uk

01257 422667

Finca provide fully inclusive support holidays all year round for individuals who have learning disabilities, disabled people, their families, friends, groups and organisations.

⇒ Woodrow House, Cherry Lane, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP7 0QG 01494 433531 For more information contact: Andrea Edwards 01494 433531 email: andrea.edwards@londonyouth.org

Woodrow High House is a 17th Century Manor House. It is situated within 24 acres of grounds on the edge of the Chilterns, in Amersham. They provide outdoor and indoor activities for residential visits, day courses and camping. Their site is fully accessible, and they work with many young people with special needs.

### Low Mill Outdoor Centre

www.lowmill.com

01969 650432

Email: info@lowmill.com

Low Mill Outdoor Centre is a residential centre situated in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park offering groups of all ages and abilities activity



based courses with experienced, fully qualified staff. Activities include: canoeing, climbing, caving, gorge-walking, archery, hill walking, orienteering and navigation. The Centre caters for groups of up to 40 people and is wheelchair friendly with access to all facilities. It is open 48 weeks of the year.

# Lyneal Trust www.lyneal-trust.org.uk

01948 710708

Email: bookings@lyneal-trust.org.uk

The Lyneal Trust offers canal boat and cottage holidays in Shropshire for people with disabilities, illness or injury, or any other vulnerability and their family, friends and carers who may accompany them. Bookings normally run from Saturday to Friday from the second week of March to the end of October.

# Nancy Oldfield Trust www.nancyoldfield.org.uk

01692 630572 Email: info@nancyoldfield.org.uk

The Nancy Oldfield Trust offers disabled and socially disadvantaged people excitement, freedom, adventure and provide wheelchair access on the Norfolk Broads. Water activities including sailing, canoeing, fishing, motor boating and bird watching are available to anyone with a disability or who is disadvantaged.

### • Open Britain www.openbritain.net

0845 1249971 Email: info@tourismforall.org.uk

OpenBritain is a one stop shop for accessible tourism in the UK providing you with a simple way to find accessible destinations and places to stay, visit, eat and drink, activities and events in the UK.

Option Holidays www.optionsholidays.co.uk
 01285 740491 Email: office@optionsholidays.co.uk

Option Holidays offers a wide range of traditional-style holidays for adults with learning disabilities. It provides support and holidays are all inclusive, except for drinks. It offers canal holidays, cottage holidays, UK hotel holidays and foreign holidays. Each day is packed with a choice of activities depending on age and ability. Venues include Devon, Bournemouth, mid Wales, the Cotswolds, Portugal, Spain, France, Canada and Florida. They are also open to suggestions of new venues to help you find your ideal holiday.

# Papillon Holidays www.papillonholidays.co.uk

Paul - 07749 598 423 or Jane Ann - 07747 882 671

Email: Papillonholidays@aol.com

Papillon Holidays is a not for profit organisation offering supported holidays in group settings throughout the U.K as well as Spain and France, to adults with support needs. Their staff team has experience of providing social care and holidays to people with learning disabilities since 1996. They offer a range of themed holidays where their holidaymakers can get involved with the fun or relax watching the rest of the group partake in the activities. They offer a comprehensive 24-hour support and care package to their holidaymakers. Their holidays are designed to promote independence whilst

offering all the support the holidaymaker needs. Their holidays are all inclusive with two or three holidaymakers to one staff ratio for personal care. Those needing one to one support would pay a supplement. Included in the price of the holiday is transport to and from your holiday from a holidaymaker's home within 15 miles of Manchester. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, supper and excursion are also included.

Petty Pool Trust www.pettypool.org.uk 01606 889097

The Petty Pool Trust is an outdoor centre that runs residential experiences for young people with learning disabilities. They can take up to

### **INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS**

◆ Accessible Planet http://bit.ly/2zIRz5Y
 0800 7765 608 Email: info@theaccessibleplanet.com
 A one-stop website listing all things accessible, including holidays.

Access Travel www.access-travel.co.uk

01942 888844/ 01942 891811

Email: office@access-travel.co.uk

Holidays to Europe and Florida for wheelchair users and people with learning disabilities

♦ Accessible Travel www.accessibletravel.co.uk/

01452 729739 Email: info@accessibletravel.co.uk

Accessible Travel and Leisure is a UK tour operator providing accessible holiday accommodation and holidays that are accessible to disabled people and less-mobile holidaymakers.

◆ Accomable www.accomable.com
Email: hello@accomable.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/accomable
Accomable is a service to help people with
mobility difficulties find
accessible properties around the world.

### Breakaway and Breakaway Active Holidays

www.breakawaysupportedholidays.co.uk/01245 260330

Email: enquiries@breakawayhols.co.uk
Breakaway holidays are for adults with a
range of learning disabilities who enjoy
getting away, meeting new friends or
travelling with a group of people they
already know. High standards of transport,

accommodation and food. They can also provide door to door pick up.

♦ **Disability Holidays Guide** www.disabilityholidaysguide.com Email: admin@disabilityholidaysguide.com

The Disability Holidays Guide has been specifically created to bring a choice of holiday opportunities to those living with special needs and mobility difficulties.



★ Ty Glyn Davis Trust www.tyglyndavistrust.co.uk 0345 094 4364 Email: info@tyglyndavistrust.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tyglynholidaycentreandgardens/

The Ty Glyn Davis Trust is a holiday venue providing self-catering holiday accommodation, which is fully accessible for groups, organisations and families whose members have special needs. The centre is a single storey building and has been awarded an 'Accessibility Grade 2' Status, (suitable for wheelchair users with assistance). It can sleep 15 people in 9 bedrooms but are not limited to this, they are able to accommodate larger groups if required. It is open throughout the year for long or short stays and is situated in the small village of Ciliau Aeron, just three miles from the picturesque harbour town of Aberaeron in Ceredigion in Wales.

- Visit England access for all http://bit.ly/2gVnJQE 01256 491111 Email: VisitEnglandAssessmentServices@theAA.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/EnjoyEngland/ Information on accessible breaks all over England.
- Woodlarks Camping for the Disabled www.woodlarks.org.uk 01252 716279 Email: woodlarks103@btinternet.com Woodlarks offer fun, relaxing, friendly, and even adventurous camping holidays for disabled people, cared for by dedicated volunteer helpers.
- Yellow Submarine www.yellowsubmarine.org.uk
  01865 236119 Email: caroline@yellowsubmarine.org.uk
  Yellow Submarine organise residential holidays and day activities for young
  people and adults with a learning disability. They are a charity with a
  particular desire to provide respite for families caring for young people and
  adults with special needs, Down syndrome, autism or any other learning
  difficulty. They fundraise to subsidise the price of all their activities and have
  extra grants for family carers. For adults they run learning disability holidays
  just about every month of the year.
- YHA Youth Hostels Association (England and Wales) www.yha.org.uk 0800 0191700 Email: customerservices@yha.org.uk
  The YHA provides low cost accommodation throughout England and Wales, Whether you want a break in the country, a traditional seaside holiday or an overnight stay in the city, the large selection of hostels available will help you choose the one that best suits your needs. All of their properties are assessed against standards set by VisitBritains National Accessible Scheme. Individual properties should be contacted to check specific facilities.

28 people at a time from Monday to Friday and can provide a tailor-made programme or alternatively you can run your own course. During the course of your stay you can take part in activities such as Climbing and Abseiling, Zip Wire, Crate Stacks, Canoeing, Jacobs Ladder and the Leap of Faith. Alternatively you can choose to take in the beauty of the Surrounding 40 acres of woodland and take part in Nature Walks (day or night), Stream Walks, Den building, Orienteering, Blindfold Trail and Pond Dipping. The centre is set within 40 acres of woodland in Northwich in the heart of Cheshire.

◆ Pioneer Centre http://acuk.net/pioneer-centre 01299 271217 Email: enquiries@pioneercentre.org.uk

The Pioneer Centre is an all year-round development in Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire. All accommodation is en-suite and under one roof and includes large dining room, private drying rooms and boot stores, lounges, day rooms, meeting rooms and sports hall. The Pioneer Centre offers holidays, activity residentials, conferences, personal development courses, retreats and team building. Schools, special needs units, colleges, charities, community groups, local authorities, churches and companies have discovered the benefits offered by the 25-acre, Canadian themed site with a fully qualified and trained instructor team. Groups of 18 to 300 are welcome, with full board including table service. There is also a full range of on-site instructed activities including High Ropes Course, two climbing/abseiling towers, low ropes course, Heated Outdoor Pool and a wide variety of unsupervised activities too.

## QE2 Activity Centre

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www.qe2activitycentre.co.uk/
Manor Farm Country Park, Pylands Lane,
Bursledon, Hampshire, S031 1BH
023 8040 4844 Email: qe2centre@aol.com
QE2 Activity Centre provides Day Services, holidays
and activity sessions for people of all ages with
additional needs including learning disabilities,
autism, physical disabilities and sensory impair-

Share Holiday Village www.sharevillage.org
028 677 22122 Email: info@sharevillage.org
Established in 1981, SHARE is the largest activity
centre in Northern Ireland and Ireland, welcoming over 15,000 visitors
annually. SHARE works for the inclusion of disabled and non-disabled people
by providing opportunities for all to participate in a wide range of educational,
recreational and creative arts programmes. Programmes can be tailored to

Smile Holidays www.smilehols.com
01273 597995 Email: enquiries@smilehols.com
Smile Holidays, based in Sussex, is a specialist provider of all-inclusive holidays for adults with learning disabilities. With a variety of destinations in England, Gran Canaria, Disneyland Paris, Lanzarote, France and Belgium, each location has been carefully chosen to offer a choice of excursions, attractions, entertainment and fun! Their complete holiday package philosophy ensures that transport, designated meeting points, accommodation, support and care are planned and provided on a person-centered basis.

### South Torfrey Farm

www.southtorfreyfarm.com 01726 833126 or Mobile: 07855 348 795 Unlike the other four cottages at South Torfrey Farm at Fowey, Honeypin is on a single level, and has been converted throughout with accessibility in mind. The pool is partly above ground allowing entry from a seated position, and hand rails around the pool side are provided for guests who need a little extra support when leaving the water. A hydraulic seat lift for assisted access in and out of the pool is on hand if required, doubling as a shower chair for use around the pool and shower area. With an independent carer, any of the cottages are suitable to rent for able-bodied guests with special needs.



### The Thomas Centre

www. the thomas centre. co.uk

01507 363463

Email: enquiries@thethomascentre.co.uk

The Thomas Centre is a new contemporary barn development, which provides safe, secure, non-judgemental, luxury self-catering holiday accommodation for families with children and adults affected by autism, Aspergers, ADHD or other complex needs such as epilepsy, cerebral palsy, Tourettes or other challenging behaviours. Set in 25 acres of private grounds near Louth in Lincolnshire, the accommodation includes 3 houses and 3 bungalows built to M2 disabled regulations. Facilities on site include a private indoor heated swimming pool, woodland, a community room, outdoor playing fields and an indoor play barn with a pool table, skittle alley and more. The family-run centre offers a stress-free holiday for the whole family.

◆ Tourism for All www.tourismforall.org.uk 0845 124 9971 Email: info@tourismforall.org.uk

The UK's central source of travel and holiday information and support for disabled and older people, their families, friends and carers.



### ◆ Trevanion House www.trevanion.co.uk 01208 814903 Email: enquiry@trevanion.co.uk

Trevanion House Holidays has been providing supported holidays for adults with learning disabilities since 1991. Along with high levels of support in both care and guests' wellbeing, they offer opportunities for guests to go out on trips with a group to access the delightful sights and heritage that Cornwall has to offer Trevanion House offers holiday opportunities for adults with learning disabilities - on their own, with their family or in small groups. Hotel facilities include rooms with full en-suite facilities and TV, for up to 21 guests

plus dining room, lounges and large gardens. It is situated on the edge of Wadebridge in Cornwall, midway between Bodmin Moor and the coast at Padstow. Educational programmes and respite care are also available. There is a full escorted group holiday programme, determined by individual interests. Trevanion House offers a complete package including all meals, hotel mini-bus transport and appropriate care support. It is also a

registered care home for short-term stays.

