

**Minutes of Lancashire Friend Meeting
Held at the Jarman Centre on Monday 12th May 2003**

Present: Jeremy Pat
 Jason Chris
 Les Ian

Apologies: Nick Sharon
 John Melinda
 Michael

No minutes from the previous meeting were produced to be agreed

Jeremy opened the meeting by updating the committee on the progress with the Connexions survey and all is going well and we are still receiving responses. Angela Woods (Senior Health Promotion officer) and John Smith want to come along to one of the meetings to tell us all about the Connexions group and what the survey hoped to achieve. Following the results we had a thank-you note from the Deputy Chairman thanking Lancashire Friend for the cinema tickets which were given to the people who filled in the survey as an incentive.

The final report will be completed by the end of May and we will hold a launch and presentation on Wednesday 5th of October 2003 at Blackburn Rovers Football Club.

Jason discussed the accounts and all accounts for the year ending are up to date and have been sent to OCAS to be signed of. We are now in need of funds and fundraising ideas are to be discussed at the next meeting,

All is quiet on the Be-Friending front at the moment although Les and Nick are of to the village with a new client.

The executive committee were very happy with the new launch material which is now back from the printers and ready to be distributed to local companies etc. New membership packs are now also ready and will be able to be collected from Ian or at the office in early June.

Chris our Web site co-ordinator has now completed the web site and can be found at www.lancshirefriend.org.uk or e-mail at info@lancashirefriend.org.uk
A brilliant job has been done and a big thanks to Chris for all his great work.

Publicity has been finally decided upon and we will be sending a covering letter which will explain the work and support we need from local companies etc. Ian is to type the letter and will be produced at next meeting. Ian is also to speak to Alistair Kippax regards an internal mailing list directory for local GP Surgeries, Hospitals, GUM Clinics and Brook Advisory Centres.

Members will check on the Turing System to get listings of Venues and other organisations in the Lancashire area. It was also mentioned that Ian was to send a

courtesy letter to Blackpool and Manchester Switchboards to tell them about the service we run and can offer any help or back up if needed now we have a freephone number.

Jeremy has produced an advert to be published in the Pink Guide which is distributed to over 40,000 members nationwide listing all gay venues and organisations etc. We also are going to produce an advert for local and county press to advertise the new name and what we are all about.

Finally it was decided to have our first fundraiser and AGM at the Garden Bar in Burnley on Sunday the 28th of July. The theme will be **A PARTY WITH A DIFFERNCE** and one idea was to hold a Christmas party in the month of July. We will have a cabaret and buffet and also a stand with leaflets and information on the charity and a raffle will also be taking place. More details at the next meeting. Have some ideas at the next meeting please.

Hope to see a record turn out at the next meeting we really are making good progress now bring along a friend and let's make it a year to remember.

Next Meeting Monday the 30th of June @ 7:30pm