



CHAMPION TRAINING EVENTS:

1st & 6th February Thetford Kingsway Childrens Centre
23rd & 28th February Downham Market
8th & 15th March North Norfolk Council, Cromer
21st & 30th March Broadland District Council
Contact da.change@norfolk.gov.uk for further details.

LOCAL NEWS

FGM Learning Seminars

Date: 6th March 2017

Time: 9:30 - 12:00 or 14:00 - 17:30

Venue: Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital,
Join The National FGM Centre and Norfolk and Norwich Hospital at this **FREE** learning seminar to gain confidence in addressing Female Genital Mutilation. The workshop will include: What makes a good referral, when is a medical examination appropriate, applying for FGM Protection Orders and more. To book a session click [here](#)



MASH Briefing Sessions - The NSCB have arranged free Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub Briefing Sessions to increase the understanding and knowledge about the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Click [here](#) for details of the sessions and how to book.

North Norfolk DWP and Fakenham Early Help Hub are working together to support



victims of domestic abuse. Following on from White Ribbon Day, Kay Battersby, JCP Leader, and Tracey Keyword, Family Practitioner and DA Champion for the Fakenham Early Help Team have been working together to organise the collection of items for Leeway's refuges. If you have any unwanted toiletries or Christmas presents you would like to re-

gift for the collection then please drop these off at the Fakenham early Help Hub. There is also another collection at Strands charity shop in Cromer.

Could you lead a team of volunteers working to make your local area safer for everyone? **Crimestoppers** Norfolk is currently looking for a Volunteer Chair. For more information on this and other volunteering roles with Crimestoppers, view their website [here](#) and please contact Liam.Duffy@Crimestoppers-uk.org

Stephen Muncaster murdered his wife in West Norfolk in July last year. Norfolk's coroner's court heard that the incident was captured on CCTV. Read more about the case [here](#).

A new DA Forum is being set up in Breckland. An opportunity for professionals to come together to network and develop good practice. The first meeting is **Tuesday 14th March at Wayland House, Watton from 10.30 am to 12.30pm**. Contact help@daisyprogramme.org.uk to confirm your attendance.

Norfolk DA
Champions Network

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#IWalkedaway

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[I Walked Away](#)

NATIONAL NEWS

The Justice Secretary, Liz Truss has set up an emergency review to ban perpetrators from cross examining their victims in court. The Guardian revealed how perpetrators are easily able to continue abusing, harassing and traumatising their victims through the court system. The article also questions how courts grant perpetrators access to children, despite history of violence and risk to both the victim and the child (see next section). Read both articles [here](#) and [here](#).

Senior judges are taking steps to end the presumption that a father must have contact with a child where there is evidence of domestic abuse that would put the child or mother at risk. The reforms are to be introduced in the family courts after campaigning by the charity **Women's Aid**, which identified that 19 children have been killed in the last 10 years by their violent fathers after being given contact with them by judges. Read more [here](#).

Russia has put forward a bill to decriminalise domestic abuse – which has passed its first reading. This has shocked many activists across the world. MP Yelena Mizulina, who introduced the bill, says people should not be jailed and labelled a criminal "for a slap". Critics say it will set back efforts to tackle an endemic problem. A total of 368 lawmakers voted in favour to pass this bill. Read more [here](#).



HolliGuard charity have released the 3rd issue of their magazine HolliGazette. This is an online magazine which is free for anyone to access. The December edition covers; coercive control, stalking, knife crime and working without fear. Access the magazine [here](#).

Listen to a perpetrators account of domestic abuse. He discusses how embarking on a perpetrator programme has helped him recognise his abusive behaviour and given him strategies to prevent abusing. There has been a pilot programme in the North-East of England to offer perpetrators courses rather than issuing a prison sentence. Listen to the account [here](#).

[Read this powerful](#) account of a women who endured domestic abuse, and the challenges she had recognising the abuse. **"He Never Hit Me"** explores the difficulties victims have when trying to leave coercive and controlling relationships. It looks at the impact of emotional abuse and how this can have a severe detrimental impact on wellbeing.

In Illinois a law is taking effect that aims to take advantage of the trusting relationship between hairstylists and their clients in order to prevent domestic violence. Stylists, barbers, cosmetologists, beauticians, hair braiders and nail technicians will receive an hour of mandated abuse-prevention training, as part of the licensing process. The law does not require them to report any violence, and it shelters them from any liability. Read more [here](#).

The Early Intervention Foundation have published a report that estimates the cost of late intervention across the UK. They estimate that late intervention in domestic abuses cases costs the UK £5.2 billion a year, which supports the need for professionals to recognise the early signs of an abusive relationship. You can access an interactive map to see the total cost to Norfolk, and access the report [here](#).

The Home Office has updated the document "Domestic homicide review: Key findings from Analysis". This document identifies common themes and trends in domestic homicide and recommends how local areas can use this information to prevent domestic abuse. Access this publication [here](#).



A woman who survived being shot by her husband has shared a letter from her old employer, showing the extent to which her partner controlled her life for years. He wrote "Darren's demeanour was intimidating and we were all afraid of him 'kicking off', he would make surprise visits to the salon and check our appointment book to try to catch her out." This demonstrates how perpetrators, can not only control their victim, but use their power to control the victim's social network. Read more [here](#).

We mentioned **"A Cry for Health"** report produced by **SafeLives** in last month's newsletter. They call for IDVA'S to be part of every hospital, as domestic abuse is currently costing the NHS £1.73 billion a year. The Guardian have written an article that reviews the IDVA service in the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and highlights how the service plays a pivotal role in supporting victims of domestic abuse. Read more [here](#).



Quarterly figures published by the **Ministry of Justice** and **Legal Aid Agency** show that applications for civil representation in private family law, supported by evidence of domestic abuse, rose by 26% between July and September compared with the same period last year. The number of legal aid certificates granted rose by 51%. Between 1 April 2013, when most family cases were taken out of the scope of legal aid, and 30 September this year, the agency received almost 28,000 applications to fund representation. More than 19,000 certificates were granted. Read more [here](#).



The University of Sussex has apologised for the "inadequate" way it handled the case of a former student who was attacked by her partner, who was a lecturer at the university. Allison Smith, 24, was "knocked out" by Dr Lee Salter in September 2015 but he continued teaching at the University of Sussex for another 10 months. The university commissioned a review to examine its response. Reporting on the findings, vice-chancellor Prof Adam Tickell said he was "very sorry for the failings". Read more [here](#). You can also access the report that was published through [this article](#).



At the beginning of January, **Esteban Santiago opened fire at Florida Airport**, killing five people and injuring 6 more. A year ago he was arrested for attacking his girlfriend. He also has an extensive history of abusing his girlfriend, including allegations of strangulation. The Huffington Post explore the link between domestic abuse and the risk of further violence to the public [in this article](#). It observes how years of research inform us that abuse, particularly strangulation are a key indicator of future lethal violence. It also highlights how women who have been strangled are 7 times more likely to be a victim of homicide in the future.

Almost 26,000 people sought advice about domestic abuse from the BBC over the phone and online in 2016, driven by a gripping storyline on [The Archers](#) and the BBC1 documentary [Behind Closed Doors](#). It prompted 635 people to call the Action Line service, almost three times the largest number of [calls for any single storyline](#) on a programme between 2012 and 2015. In total, 24,400 people visited the service's webpages on domestic abuse and more than 1,350 called for advice during the year. A donation page inspired by the storyline to raise money for a rescue fund for women suffering domestic abuse [raised more than £135,000](#) over seven months. Read more [here](#).



Sunderland is set to become UK's only major city without any domestic violence refuges for women. Staff at Wearside Women in Need, which has worked with vulnerable women in the area for 35 years, are concerned that Sunderland may become the only major city in the UK with no refuge provision for survivors of domestic violence. Sunderland Council recently consulted residents on changes to budgets for local authority services. The consultation states that, due to changes in funding from central government, the council must cut £74m from their local authority budget by 2020. Read more [here](#).

Numerous high-profile cases of sexual violence and abuse have been exposed in recent years, with the same words cropping up again and again: "groping", "fondling", "inappropriate touching". What each of these terms usually means is **sexual assault**. But both in casual conversation and in the press, we will go to almost any lengths to avoid saying it. [This article](#) looks at how avoiding labelling sexual assault downgrades the severity of the abuse, and therefore prevents victims in coming forward.

Do you know any survivors of domestic abuse who would like to be involved in a research project? It is well documented that many women return to abusive relationships, but there is surprisingly little research into this. Kerrie Bundock from the **Oxford Institute of Clinical Psychology Training** is carrying out a study that hopes to learn more about why some women return to abusive relationships and some do not. It is hoped that greater understanding will help inform services and health care professionals to support women to be able to stay away from abusive relationships. The research study is looking for women (aged 18 and over) who have experienced abuse in an intimate relationship and have left the abusive relationship at least once. For more information on how to apply, [click on this link](#).



RESOURCES

Doncaster Domestic Abuse Service have developed and produced toolkits and resources for teachers, and anyone working with children. **A Curious Journey** toolkit provides lesson plans for children aged 9-11, these can be easily adapted and used for 1-1 work or group work with children. You can access these resources [here](#).



Blackburn & Darwen Public Health & Community Safety Partnership have produced three short videos about domestic abuse. These clips feature local voices and highlight that domestic abuse can affect anyone, from any walk of life. These resources can be utilised in training, or used as a discussion point within group work. Access these clips [here](#).



We discuss **toxic stress** during our training, and the impact this has on both adults and children. Harvard University have created this video, which helps explain the impact of stress. The video shows how stress weakens the architecture of the developing brain, and emphasises the necessity of having a protective and supportive adult in a child's life. Watch the video [here](#).



A new film has been launched to help health workers, hairdressers, firefighters and vets spot the signs of domestic abuse. The Harder video aims to raise awareness among professionals about identifying domestic abuse and providing advice during appointments such as a haircut or dental check-up. This could be a good resource to use if you are delivering awareness sessions within the community. Watch the video [here](#).

Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support have developed self-help guides for victims of sexual abuse. These are accessible in different languages, and have specific guides for men and boys. There is also a guide that is aimed at family or friends who are trying to support someone who has been through a sexual assault. These guides are free to access [here](#).



Please send any news about domestic abuse from your organisation for inclusion in next month's newsletter to da.change@norfolk.gov.uk. If you would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please email da.change@norfolk.gov.uk with "Newsletter" in the title bar.

