



Level Playing Field Weeks of Action 2014

Manchester City Disabled Supporters Association is pleased to support the 2014 Level Playing Field (LPF) Weeks of Action 2014. It provides us with a real opportunity to show what we have achieved for our disabled supporters, both Home and Away, and the wider disabled community.

LPF is a campaigning and advisory organisation working on the behalf of all disabled supporters. LPF works to share good practice, raise awareness and promotes improved access to sports stadiums for disabled fans and disabled people who aspire to attend live sporting events. LPF uses the unique voice of sport to improve access and inclusion for disabled people across a wider society by working alongside sports bodies and government.

LPF offers advice to clubs, sporting bodies and individuals. They run a yearly award scheme recognising people that have made a difference to disabled supporters. Further information is available on their website [here](#).

LPF also provides a professional and cost effective Access Audit programme The audits are specifically written for sports stadia, venues and arenas. Level Playing Field would like to thank MCDSA for supporting this annual initiative.

The LPF Weeks of Action 2014 run from the 15th to the 30th March. For more information about Level Playing Field, the Weeks of Action to join them or sign up to receive their

newsletters, you can go online to www.levelplayingfield.org.uk, email info@levelplayingfield.org.uk or call them on 01244 893584.



We have had a busy season so far with some great guests attending our meetings including Andie Worrall from the Womens team, showing that as disabled fans we support the club as a whole and not just the first team. Other guests have included Paul Simpson, Peter Barnes, Joe Corrigan, Joe Royal, Andy Morrison and Neil Custis from the Sun Newspaper to help try and explain the press treatment of our club. City's Disabled Liaison Officer Fran Bebbington has also attended all our meeting to meet face to face with our members and help resolve some of their access or ticketing issues. Working with Fran we have resolved numerous issues and obtained Wembley tickets for members who were not expecting to qualify due to lack of loyalty points. We have also worked with Thomas Cook to ensure coaches to away games are suitable for our members access needs.

MCDSA has supported numerous local activities to raise awareness of charitable causes and fund raising for fellow fans. These have included [Barrow for Marrow](#) [Believe and Achieve](#) and [Sporting Memories](#)

We are always keen to hear from disabled fans who have a story to share, a cause to promote or issues they need resolving. Membership has remained at just £5 per season since we first set up in 1999 to ensure we remain affordable to our members and can deliver value for money. If you have any comments on our activities, please let us know.



rica who conduct consumer research for older and disabled people have approached us for help. They have a panel of people who help them with mystery shopping activity.

They say "Our panel is growing from strength to strength and we have more research work coming up. We are about to start some new mystery shopping projects as well as continuing with some of our current ones. It means we are trying to recruit new panel members.

We're particularly interested in finding people aged 55 and over to take part in a new round of mystery shopping. We will be looking at stairlift retailers to start with, so people interested in getting a stairlift in future are particularly welcome.

If you know anyone who is older or disabled and interested in mystery shopping work, please do tell them about our panel. They can register online at www.rica.org.uk/content/register-rica-consumer-panel or contact me for a paper copy (also in large print) or for any questions.

Thanks and best wishes

Chris"

Chris Lofthouse
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rica pay a fee to panel members for the work they do, so is a handy way of earning

some additional money with so many games these days to attend...

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