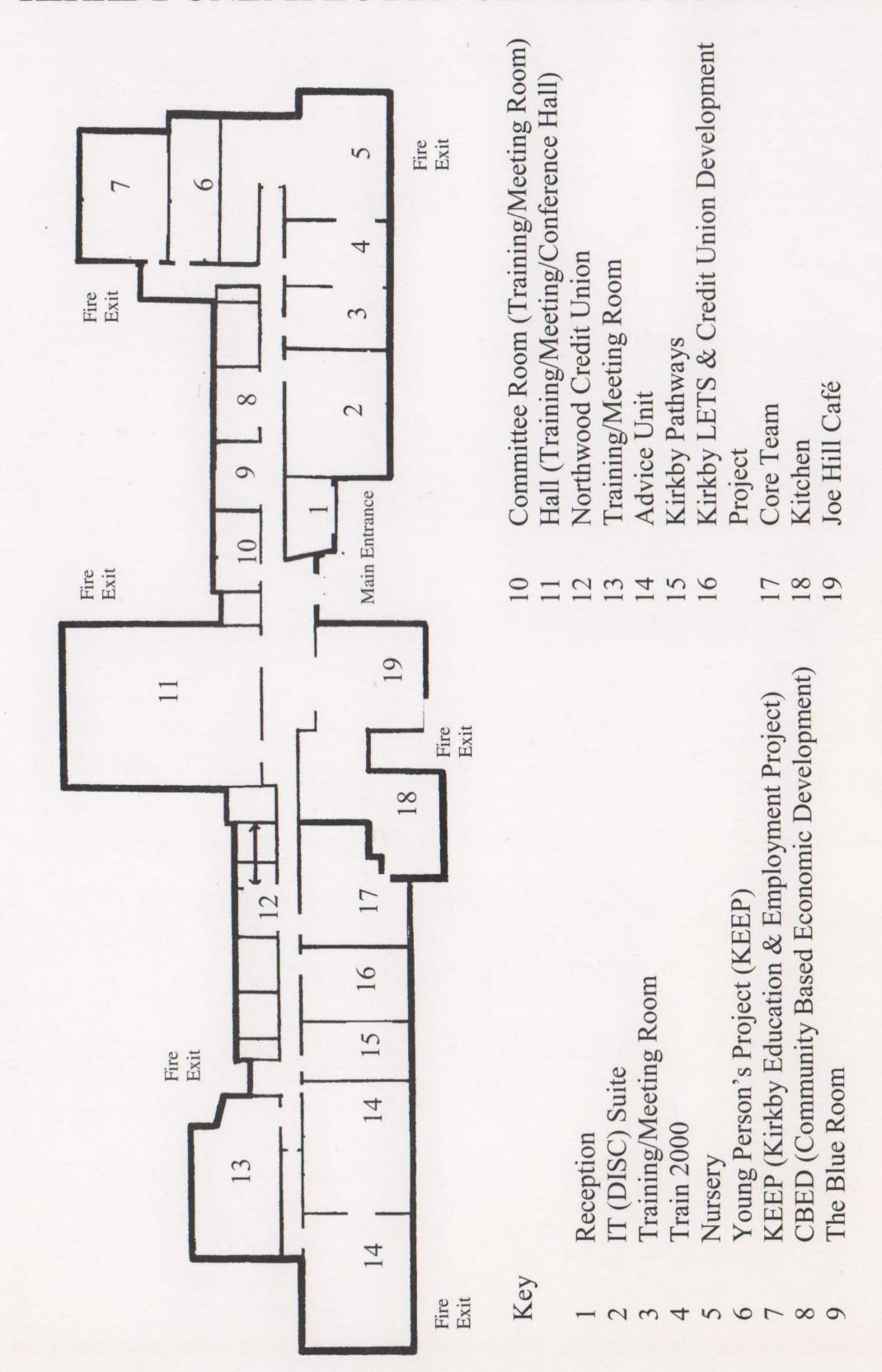


A Trade Union, Community and Unemployed Resource Centre

Westhead Avenue, Northwood, Kirkby

Tel: 0151 548 0001

# KIRKBY UNEMPLOYED CENTRE FLOOR PLAN



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# KIRKBY UNEMPLOYED CENTRE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kirkby Unemployed Centre (KUC) is a TUC Centre and is part of a network of Centres throughout Merseyside, the North West and the UK. KUC is managed by an elected committee of stakeholder groups. This affirms its role as part of a wider movement unifying employed and unemployed.

Local unemployed, newly redundant trade unionists and community activists founded KUC in 1981. It is one of the longest, surviving Centres in the country and is widely known.

KUC is currently funded by Knowsley Borough Council, One Fund For All (OFFA), Pathways European funding, Health Action Zone, Learning & Skills Council, Neighbourhood Support Fund, Northwood SRB, Connexions and income raised through room hire and donations.

KUC serves as a community resource for the population of Kirkby and the surrounding area of Knowsley.

The aims and objectives of KUC are:

- To support and promote the interests of working people;
- To provide unemployed people with the opportunity and resources to maintain and establish links with each other, trade unions and employed people;
- To provide unemployed people with information, advice and representation on welfare rights;
- To combat all discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, religion, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation;
- To provide and assist in the provision of, in the interests of social welfare, social, recreational and cultural and educational facilities.

# MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Centre's **Management Committee** is comprised of funders, individual members and a variety of affiliated organisations, who share our aims and objectives. The Management Committee is elected annually at the AGM. Responsible for determining policy and procedure, the Committee meets monthly. All committee members give their time and skills on a voluntary basis.

The current officers of the Committee are Alan Kelly (Chair), May Stone (Secretary) and Paula Murawski (Treasurer).

## **CORE TEAM**

The day to day running and financial control of the Centre is managed by the Core Team: Co-Ordinator (Carole Austin)

Development Officer (Mark Ward) Finance Officer (Ian Whitehead).

The Core Team is supported by a dedicated team of volunteers who perform a wide variety of duties in and around the Centre.

Kirkby Unemployed Centre is also host to a number of community organisations and projects including:

- Knowsley Trades Council
- ◆ TGWU 6/538 Branch
- Northwood Credit Union
- Kirkby Retired Members Association
- ♦ Train 2000 (Women into Business)
- Northwood Bugle (Community Newspaper)
- Kirkby Pathways

# KIRKBY UNEMPLOYED CENTRE ADVICE TEAM

KUC's Welfare Rights team have been awarded a specialist quality mark in welfare law by the Legal Services Commission.

The Welfare Rights Team have a long tradition of meeting the needs of the local community and give free, confidential advice to the employed and unemployed on their rights and entitlements.

The Advice team can offer clients a benefits check and offer advice and information on

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Sickness Benefit
- Incapacity Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit

The Advice team operate a 'Drop-in' service 3 mornings a week; as well as telephone advice and appointments for clients wishing to see an advisor on a more complex matter.

# **Drop In open:**

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am—11.45am

Telephone helpline: 0151 548 0001

MONDAY—FRIDAY 9.30am—5.00pm

# JOE HILL CAFÉ

The Joe Hill Café is a community café that is open to the public, weekdays 9.00am to 4.00pm.

We serve tea, coffee, snacks and meals in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere..

Buffets can be arranged for meetings and family functions

Drop in for a bite to eat or just a chat and a cuppa!

Hot soup and daily specials
All day breakfasts
Herbal teas
Sandwiches to order
Newspapers daily

Eat in or take out

Telephone Orders Welcome 0151 292 9986



The Joe Hill Café can also be used as exhibition and gallery space for photographs, art work etc.

No-one will
For bread be
Crying.
We'll have
Freedom,
Love
And health,
When the
Grand,
Red
Flag is Flying
In the
Workers'
Commonwealth

Joe Hill 1879-1915 Executed trade unionist

# The But Boom

# Relax

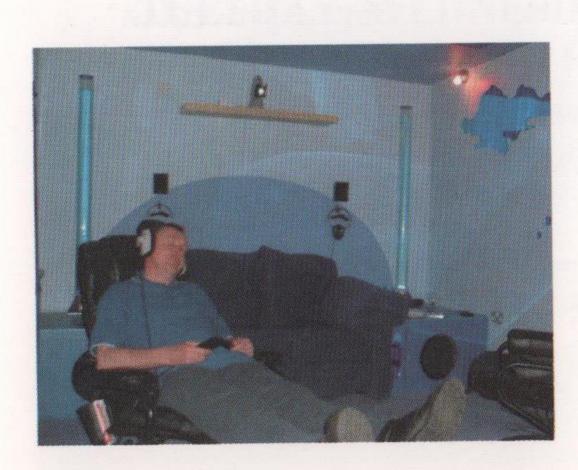
Come along to the Blue Room and enjoy a 10 minute relaxation session. Settle down on the comfortable recliners and enjoy the 10 minute massage. Feel the tension easing out of your neck, shoulders and back.

Be entranced by the mirrored night sky as the stars come out, as the lights and visuals allow you to relax in to a comfortable easy frame of mind.

Slip on the headphones and wind down to a soothing 10 minutes relaxation with 'Take Ten', the deep alpha relaxation CD

Relax, enjoy. Go on you deserve it.....

To book a session, please contact Clare, Nicky or Jennifer on 0151 546 2416





KIRBY
EMPLOYMENT &
EDUCATION
PROJECT

The KEEP team offer

FREE

IMPARTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

advice on jobs, education and training.

A Kirkby Project for Kirkby people.

The KEEP team can offer you

- Advice and guidance to help you choose a career;
- Up to date information on a wide range of careers;
- Assistance with application forms, professionally produced CVs, interview skills and job search;
- Access to funding towards your training needs.

**KEEP** is a free service for people for all ages across Kirkby. **KEEP** can help you to match your abilities and interests with job or training opportunities.

For more information or to arrange an appointment, please ring Nicky, Jennifer or Clare on 0151 546 2416

KEEP also delivers an integrated guidance and information service for young people within the Kirkby area.

Our aim is to support young people and help them develop a range of skills which will better equip them to determine their education and career choices.

For more information about this work with young people, please ring Paul or Severine on 0151 546 2416

# Kirkby LETS and Credit Union Development

The Kirkby LETS (Local Exchange Trading System) and Credit Union Development project employs a team of staff that encourage and promote the development of community based initiatives, including Credit Unions and LETS in the Kirkby area. This is supported by the provision of high quality accredited training. We aim to:

- Support and promote the development of Kirkby credit unions and LETS;
- ♦ To provide community based training in a variety of areas;
- ♦ To promote capacity building and social inclusion.

# Our training provision includes:

IT Basics—MOCN level 1
Community Volunteers Course
Developing a Community Newspaper Course
Hazards Workshops—MOCN level 1
Introduction to Credit Unions—MOCN level 1
Marketing and Promoting Credit Unions—MOCN level 11
Financial Management of Credit Unions—MOCN level 11
Developing LET Systems—MOCN level 1
Sage Accounting—Pitmans Level 1 & 11
Desktop Publishing for Beginners
People's History Online
CLAIT (IT)
ECDL (European Computer Driving License)

Courses in health and safety, first aid, equal opportunities and employability skills are also offered.

Computer Maintenance

Look out for our latest training information.

For further information, please contact the Team on 0151 548 4904

# **Drop In Study Centre**

(III) omline centres
We'll help you get on

Do you need to brush up on your English, Maths and Computer skills?

Want to get started on the Internet? There's no better place to begin.

Let us show you how to Get On the Internet, send E-mails and help you get started Online.

We offer free Internet access.

# Drop in and study at your own pace

The Drop In Study Centre offers you the opportunity and facilities to improve your English, maths and computer skills.





# COMMUNITY BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE (CBED)

Provides a local **CBED Service**. The project provides a range of services and self help initiatives, which will help you to plan and start your own business or a community business. These services are available to any individual or group of individuals, resident in the Kirkby area.

#### We offer:

- Community business advice
- Business start-up advice
- Advice on sources of funding—for both grants and loans
- Ongoing business support

These services are available free to all residents of the Kirkby area.

How it works.....

#### **Information sessions**

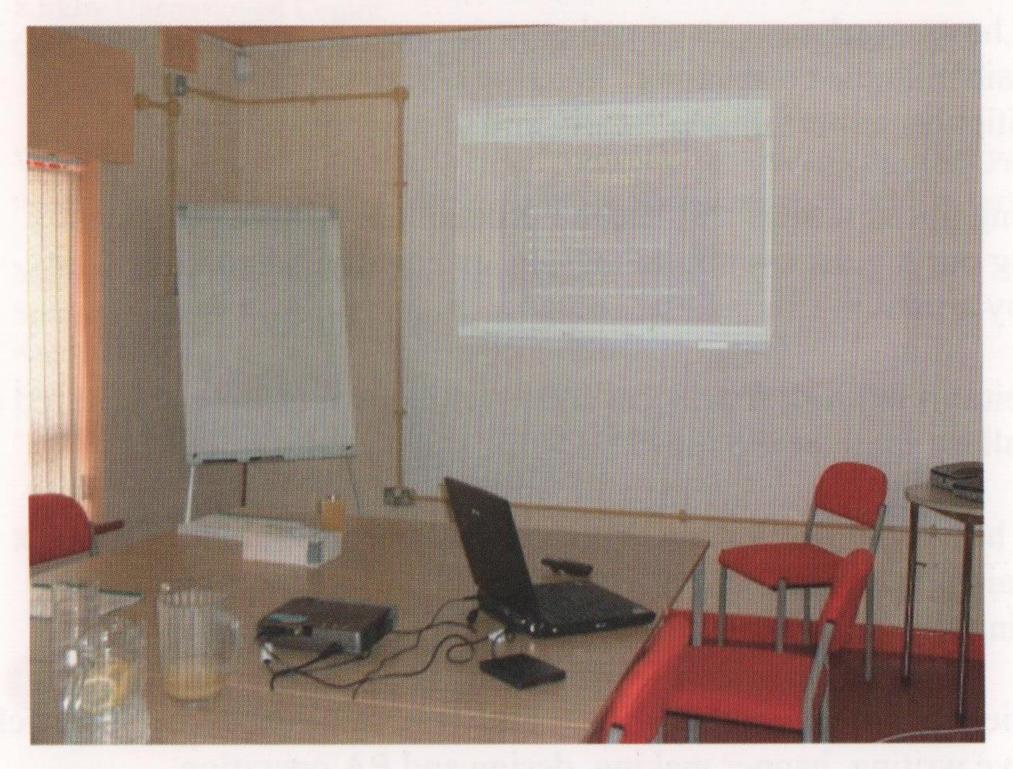
Short informal meetings for you to find out what self employment is all about and how CBED can help you set up your own business.

### One to One Counselling and Funding Advice

- Writing your business plan
- Identifying and accessing loans and grants
- Market research and marketing
- Financial-cash flow and profit & loss

For more information please contact:
Sheila Bilton, CBED Project Manager
Tess Reddington or Peter McDermott, Business Advisors
0151 549 0077 / 0088

# **ROOM HIRE**



The 'Committee Room'

- **\*** KUC has rooms available for meetings, training and conferences.
- All rooms come fully equipped with overhead projectors, flip charts, screens, tables and chairs.
- The rooms vary in size—from a small meeting room to a large hall that is suitable for conferences and performances, complete with a Public Address system.
- Full disabled access, floodlit car park.

For further details Contact Mark Ward or Carole Austin 0151 548 0001.

#### **ARTS & CULTURE**

KUC hosts regular events aimed at making performance arts more accessible to the community. We also aim to support local arts practitioners in performing locally and to a wider audience.

Touring poets, writers and theatre productions feature prominently among our regular events, alongside an equally talented array of Kirkby artists.

Exhibitions of work from local and lesser known artists are featured in the gallery space of the Joe Hill Café.

KUC has its own collection of Trade Union, Political and campaigning artwork and memorabilia displayed throughout the building.

A variety of courses and workshops are held throughout the year such as creative writing, banner making, design and PA operation.

Kirkby Response Theatre has now re-formed and will again be bringing its innovative and thought provoking productions to Kirkby and beyond.

A Film Society has also started with screenings and discussion for small and larger groups.

If you wish to be informed of cultural events at KUC, send your name and address to Mark Ward.

Kirkby Unemployed Centre Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in Card No. 01860720

We wish to thank the following who, as part of the NSF Young Person's Project, participated in the creation of KUC's sign, as illustrated on the front cover:

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Billy Williams

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