



# WHITE LION WALK

**Guildford Town Centre Surprises Guaranteed**



## **Local shopping centre to help raise awareness of Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Centre**

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, White Lion Walk Shopping Centre in Guildford will play host to The Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC) to help raise awareness of their services to survivors of rape and sexual abuse in Surrey following reports highlighting that it affects one in four people.

Throughout the day shoppers at the centre will be able to find out more about the RASASC and the service they provide as well take away a number of deflecting devices such as rape alarms and drink spike indicators. Volunteers will also be on hand to talk to shoppers and offer advice to anyone who wants to stop and talk for a few minutes

Sonja Freebody, Management Co-Ordinator and Fundraiser for RASASC, commented: "We are so thankful and delighted that White Lion Walk Shopping Centre is supporting us in this way. Raising awareness to the general public is so important and the Shopping Centre sees a wide selection of people, working, shopping and walking through. Remember; don't be embarrassed, we're not. Do come and say hello, pick up a "How to support a survivor leaflet". You just never know when someone you know might need our services. Rape and sexual abuse mainly happens to females, but shockingly 30-40% of our clients are male. We have people seeking support aged 7-80, there is no typical survivor and there is no typical time to seek help. Some wait many years, but others seek support sooner."

Steve Cotney, Centre Manager of White Lion Walk Shopping Centre, added: "We pride ourselves in being at the heart of the community and we always strive to support our shoppers in a number of ways. Unfortunately, rape and sexual abuse is a subject that society tends to shy away from yet the shocking statistics highlight that it affects one in four people just goes to show that we need bring the subject back in the limelight and show sufferers that there are lots of people out there who want to help. I hope our shoppers will come down this Saturday and support the incredible work that the RASASC carry out."

**White Lion Walk Shopping Centre**  
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