

World AIDS Day Let's get real

“I have a friend who thought that having HIV was no big deal. He carried on having a wild time and picked up several sexually transmitted infections and more varieties of hepatitis than I knew existed. He now lives a miserable life plagued by liver problems and the side effects of his treatment; I wonder if those two years of pleasure were worth it”

1st Dec is World AIDS Day, for details of local events and free campaign resources visit the Staffordshire Buddies website...



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Buddies www.staffordshirebuddies.co.uk

get the facts, inform others, challenge prejudice, make a difference

PO Box 474 • Hanley • Stoke-on-Trent • ST1 3HX • Tel 01782 201251

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“Drug treatments for HIV have improved immensely and in the UK HIV is now a chronic manageable condition rather than a death sentence. But if you had the choice, you wouldn't want to get it, believe me it's no fun at all”

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“I think deep down inside I knew I had HIV for several years before I got tested but nobody told me that being diagnosed late would affect my health. My friends with HIV are doing okay on their medication but I’ve never fully recovered from the damage that HIV did to my body before I started treatment”

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“Whenever I have sex with someone new I have to tell them I have HIV or insist we always use condoms. If I don't tell and I don't use a condom I could end up going to prison if I pass on HIV. That's the law in Britain now. Would you want to live with that?”

“One of the worst things about having HIV is living with the risk that I might pass it on to someone I love”

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