

Bury Floating Support Newsletter



Praxis
care

JUNE 2010

Volume 1,
Issue 1

Alls well at the Bury Camp.

Well the scheme has been operating now for over 6 months. We nearly have a full complement of staff, our referrals are on the increase and were creating a real little hub of activity here in this small corner of Greater Manchester, or Lancashire, depending on which era you're from.

The skills base of the team is increasing by the day as we face obstacles and quite often were forced to jump over the hurdles rather than sneak around them.

Our service users are at the heart of everything we do here in Bury, as it should be I hear you say, but bearing in mind 2 of our staff team have never worked in this specialist area before, They have really shown a desire to help those people in

our society often affected by the stigma of substance and alcohol misuse.

We have developed fantastic working relationships with a growing number of agencies and services throughout the borough and this is paramount to the success and progression of our service users. This also helps our referrals as we have natural growth within the service.

A large part of our focus here is to increase service user involvement and having our service users feed new ideas into the service. This can be achieved through our monthly team meetings where we have a service user representative on board.

We also have quarterly service user meetings and monthly service user outings and functions. All the details of these can be found within this newsletter. Well enjoy your read and I hope it helps you all understand us odd Lancashire folk a little better.



(ABOVE) BURY TERRETORIAL ARMY CAMP. RIGHT OPPOSITE OUR OFFICES IN BURY TOWN CENTRE.

(RIGHT) ROBERT PEEL STATUE & THE VIEW FROM OUR OFFICES.



Inside this issue:

Alls well at the Bury Camp	1
Congratulations	1
The Blog of a stranded Team Leader	2
Team Member Focus: Amy Hogg	2
Service User News	3
Your Page	4
Upcoming events	4

Congratulations.

Congratulations are given to one of our valued team members Emma Scott who is expecting a baby, her second child, in October. Emma will be greatly missed during her maternity leave but will be keeping in touch regularly by attending the staff team meetings every month. Emmas devotion and hard work on behalf of the service users she sup-

ports has been a great asset to the service as has her work alongside Amy Hogg in developing our service user involvement activities. I'm sure all our service users and her colleagues wish her all the best.



The Diary of a stranded Team Leader. By Pete Griffin

Thursday 15th April 7.15am sat in the dining room of the Days Hotel, Belfast my attention was diverted from my fresh grapefruit and mandarin breakfast, I wasn't too keen on the cooked breakfast option, to a breaking story on Sky News that was about to lead me into an adventure of a lifetime.

Now a volcano in Iceland wouldn't normally have interested me one little iota, unless I was doing my monthly shopping in the frozen food section, but this was to affect me in a big way as the United v City derby was on the Saturday and an ash cloud was possibly scuppering my plans on watching this in the comfort of my own home. The ash cloud in conjunction with a northerly wind was moving over British air space and flights were being

grounded. The result was my flight being grounded and having to arrange alternative arrangements of re-patriation to my native town.

So the Norfolk Line from Belfast to Liverpool it was then. I just wasn't aware of how lucky I was in getting on this sailing until I was booked in at the ferry terminal and the clerk informed me that I was the last person to be booked onto this sailing.

The fact that I had actually arrived at the ferry terminal was a miracle in itself. I had been given directions to the terminal and was told it was walking distance, Yeah right it is!!! An hour after setting off walking from Belfast City Centre I was on a very deserted dock road with no sight of a ferry terminal and not a soul

in sight, until, A nice little Irish gentleman, he couldn't have been more than five feet tall appeared out of nowhere.

"Where you looking for son", He asked

"The ferry terminal", I replied

"You wont find it here sonny" He retorted "Its on the other side, about a good 3 miles walk"

Now the time is 7pm, The deadline for booking in was 8pm. Panic setting in.

"I can drop you there if you don't mind giving me a hand hooking up my trailer"

"No Problem" I said with huge relief.

So off I follow into his industrial unit to hook up this humongous trailer onto a very large MPV that he could have barely reached the pedals of and his head barely over the steering wheel.

I jumped in with axle grease covering my hands, perspiring like I'd just run the Belfast marathon and as we travelled towards the ferry terminal we discovered our roots were firmly planted in the same area of Killarney, County Kerry and guess what "His surname was Griffin"

He dropped me at the ferry terminal and I tried to drop him a fiver, which he would not have.

I entered the industrial oven like terminal and saw the look of desperation amongst the face of many in the same predicament as myself, all wondering the same "Will we make the Derby?"

To be continued in the next Issue?

**Coming together
is a beginning,
Keeping together
is progress
Working together
is SUCCESS**

Team Member Focus: Amy Hogg

Whats your favourite colour?

Pink

How many pairs of shoes do you own?

Too Many

Favourite Hot Drink?

Tea

Favourite Cold Drink?

Apple Juice

What do you call your car?

Brum

Any unusual pets?

A snake, called Sylar.

Whats your favourite word?

Nothing Printable.

Whats your favourite quote?

"I don't do" babies, walking, buses, running up stairs etc etc.

Whats currently on your ipod?

The Glee Album

Favourite TV Programme?

Flash Forward, Prison Break, Scrubs

Favourite Film

Football Factory, or anything with Danny Dyer.

Whats the best part of your job?

Service user involvement organizing and activities. Bowling etc

DO YOU HAVE ANY HUMOUROUS PRINTABLE STORIES ABOUT OUR STAFF? IF SO WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO SHARE THE JOKE! DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR COMPLIMENTS ABOUT OUR TEAM MEMBERS OR SEVICE? PLEASE SHARE!

Send for the attention of: Peter Griffin, Praxis Care, Derby Chambers, 6 The Rock, Bury. BL9 0NT Tel: 0161 761 2279

THE TEAM

Peter Griffin—Team Leader

Judith Dale—Support Worker

Emma Scott—Support Worker

Victor Hayman—Support Worker

Amy Hogg—Support Worker

Due to arrive—Nancy Tang

Artistic Licence.

Antony (49) was referred to Praxis in the very beginning of our service starting in October of 2009. Anthony struggled with alcohol dependence in addition to anxiety and mental illness. During the following months it was through working with his support worker Emma that Anthony built a desire to rid himself of the very thing that had prevented him from living a full life, Alcohol. In April 2010, Anthony voluntarily underwent a medical detox for 14 days and completed this process. He then entered a structured daycare programme with CDAT before con-

fronting his mental health issues. Anthony now has a structure to his days and although he has had to deal with other health issues since stopping drinking he has remained firm in his desire to remain free from alcohol. Anthony had some very good news upon finishing his detox, he had won second prize in the Praxis Care Easter Art Competition putting the prize money of £50 towards new laminate flooring for his flat.

RIGHT—Anthony's winning drawing.



Anthony deals with own paperwork.

We started to support Anthony (27) in April of 2010 as he moved on from a local supported housing project for young people into his own tenancy for the first time. There was a lot of anxiety surrounding setting up his facilities and utilities and how he would manage financially. Under the expert guidance of Judy, his Praxis Care Support Worker, Anthony has turned the once empty

space into his own little bachelor pad. Anthony is very keen to have a go at anything himself but drew the line at decorating. Not knowing where to start, he asked Judy to do it for him. Judy refused! Shock! Horror! I hear you say

but wait for it! Judy told Anthony she wouldn't do it for him but would do it WITH him. So off Anthony went buying all the necessary materials and Anthony and Judy went about transforming his Flat. (See Pictures)

Judy told Anthony she wouldn't do it for him but would do it WITH him.



THIS IS YOUR PAGE

On this page we would welcome any contributions from our service users, carers or staff. Letters, Poetry, Stories, Photographs and Drawings would be greatly appreciated.

Please send for the attention of: Peter Griffin, Team Leader, Praxis Care Floating Support, Derby Chambers, 6 The Rock, Bury BL9 0NT or alternatively email to the address below.

Bury Floating Support Scheme
www.buryfloating.org.uk

Phone: 0161 761 2279

Fax: 0161 761 4513

bury@praxiscare.org.uk

www.praxisprovides.com

- Providing excellence and innovation in care and support



Thank you for taking the time to read our first ever edition of our newsletter. We are looking for a catchy new name for the newsletter so if you have any suggestions, just drop us a line.

BOWLING TRIP—30th April 2010

Although we didn't have many service users joining us on this event, 2 in total, it was still a huge success for our very first service user event. Both those who went requested that we do this more often. We feel the price put the others off initially but now we have a reduced cost of £5 per person for 2 games. The next bowling event is to be held on Friday 11th June and we will be providing transport to Tenpin, Pilsworth from the office in Bury Town centre and return transport back to the Town centre for those that require it. Just let your support worker know ASAP.

Ladies Afternoon

Emma, Amy and Judy will be hosting a Ladies only afternoon on 4th June. It will be open from 1pm until 4pm and gives an ideal opportunity to meet other service users and staff and to chat over a coffee and cake. This will be a regular event, hopefully every month. We will keep you posted on every event.

Mens Outing.

Due to you guys not being good at ideal chatter, I know I'm not admitting to it anyway, we thought it would be a great idea to arrange a game of pitch and putt at Heaton Park. If you fancy having a go at this we will be arranging a date soon so just inform your support worker. If you would just like to come along and enjoy the surroundings of heaton park then youre very welcome to join us.