



# September Newsletter

September 2006

## New Roles at BYHP

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### Drop In Co-Ordinator

I would like to thank BYHP for the warm welcome I have received since I joined June as the Drop in Co-ordinator. I have lived and worked in Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull for the past few years as a youth worker, designing and delivering programmes for Young People aged 11-25.

I am thoroughly enjoying the challenge and the new programme for the drop in. The Drop-In Centre is now up and running beyond just one Thursday afternoon, and with the support of Jane (project worker), Zoe, Lee, Becca and Dave (Volunteers) and BYHP staff we have a great selection of activities and courses on offer:

#### What's on at the Drop In:

<b>Monday:</b>	10 – 4 4.30 – 6.30 6.30 – 8.30	Mental Health Matters course Girl's Group: females only: children welcome Mayhem & Madness!!
<b>Tuesday:</b>	10 – 4 5 – 6pm 6 – 8 pm	Mental Health Matters course Mind Sessions MIND group
<b>Wednesday:</b>	10 – 12.30 1 – 3 3.30 – 5.30 5.30 – 7.30	Anxiety Management (Mental Health Programme) Me, Myself and I sessions (a selection of fun workshops) Numeracy & Literacy course, City & Guilds qualification BYHP & RAISE: working in partnership with the foster leaving care team
<b>Thursday:</b>	Drop in	(including Connexions Job club until end of September)
<b>Friday:</b>	Jump-Off Point	An assertive outreach initiative to encourage Young People who are currently not engaging with any BYHP service with a view to networking them onto other services offered by BYHP and other agencies.
<b>Saturday:</b>		Sports & Newsletter activities.

The great news is that the Drop-In is now effectively covered for babies and toddlers.

I am also looking into running sessions including: Independence, Team Building, Budgeting, Rights & Responsibilities, also First Aid, Food Hygiene & Cooking, Youth Achievement Awards, Millennium Volunteers scheme and much more. If you have any questions do contact me or Jane Smith for more information.

*Jo Rosenthal*

*(Jo's new post is the result of a successful bid to the Big Lottery)*

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## New Development Worker in West Oxfordshire

### What's WOHP in Witney?

I've been in my new role in Witney for just over a month now (time flies when you're having fun!)



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I am working with eleven Young People, mostly 16-17 year old females and three males, the females are mostly sofa surfing, the males still at home. Referrals come mostly from the council but also from other organisations. The most common reason for homelessness seems to be breakdown of relationship with a step father.

For young people who have nowhere to stay, the council provides temporary emergency accommodation which is mainly in Oxford, although they do have four spaces in Witney. None of the Young People I have seen want to go to Oxford and prefer to stay with friends sofa surfing.

There is a Drop-In every Thursday afternoon at the Witney Youth Centre, run by two volunteers. This provides an opportunity for Young People to seek advice and information.

We have started a Family Miaison service, run by Catherine Davies, aiming to try and repair relationships between Young People and their parents (a tough challenge). The best outcome would be for a Young Person to return home but even to get to a point where they can talk again would be brilliant. We plan to do some prevention work in schools and we will be developing a presentation to use.

We now have two Supported Lodging places, one in Witney, one in Eynsham which is where young people stay as lodgers with a "host" who provides support as part of scheme run by WOHP and funded by Supporting People. We also have one Nightstop place where a Young Person can be placed overnight and given an evening meal and breakfast.

At the moment the WOHP office is based in Banbury but it would be better for it to be back in Witney again and West Oxfordshire District Council are very keen for us to be there. At the moment I split my week between Banbury and Witney.

Whilst in Witney I'm based in the Youth Centre which is probably the best place to be but do not have any fixed place where I can rest my head ( I mean do my work) so I feel a bit homeless myself sometimes but I'm sure we can sort something out soon. Altogether it has been so far a very interesting, mainly enjoyable time, totally different and a new challenge for me.

*Dave Holgarth*

*(Dave has replaced Gillian Grainger the previous postholder, who has relocated back to Yorkshire)*

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## Assertive Outreach Worker/Drop In Support Worker

I have been working with BYHP for 4 years, starting as a part time office administrator before leaving to join the Banbury Detached Youth Work Project. I worked on the streets of Banbury for 3 years, developing relationships with hard to reach Young People, challenging stereotypes, discrimination, anti-social behaviour and trying to improve relationships between Young People and the community. I set up a young women's group and developed a specialism in working with Young People around substance misuse issues. I also gained a qualification in Youth Work.

I then moved back to BYHP in the role of Housing Support worker, supporting Young People to maintain their tenancies, encompassing practical/emotional support as well as addressing issues of low motivation or challenging behaviour. I also put my drug specialism to good use. I was able to use the Thursday drop in sessions to inform and educate Young People around substance misuse issues and also offered one to one reduction programmes.



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My new role as half time drop in support worker and half time assertive outreach worker is very exciting. I am able to use my previous experience in supporting and improving engagement levels of Young People who do not engage with the existing services that BYHP offers. I am able to combine my experience with the detached project youth work and my previous housing support role. We are hoping that the drop in facilities will be the perfect jump off point for Young People to begin engaging in services relevant to them.

*Jane Smith*

*(Jane's role has been created as a result of the fundraising drinks party at the Cadbury home organised by our fantastic committee).*

# Fundraising Events

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## BROUGHTON CASTLE PICNIC AND ROUNDERS

Lady Saye & Sele kindly hosted an afternoon of Picnic and Rounders in June which was immensely enjoyable for all concerned. The sun didn't really shine that much but this didn't deter our indomitable team who picknicked heartily then did battle on the rounders field in the beautiful surroundings of Broughton Castle. We extend (belatedly) a big thank you to Lady Saye & Sele for inviting us to her lovely home and for providing such a well earned afternoon's fun for all concerned.

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## JAZZ & PIMMS AT CROPREDY

The Red Lion at Cropredy were generous enough to allow us to raise funds alongside this very sociable afternoon of jazz, Pimms, champagne and smorgasbord. Jazz was provided by The Mauro Montushchi Duo who were also kind enough to draw our raffle which raised £250 for BYHP.

One of the guests at the event offered us accommodation in their home towards our Nightstop scheme. This really kind gesture means that we are able to provide immediate, overnight, accommodation to a local Young Person in desperate need of help in a friendly and supportive way without the need to move them out of the area.

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## FAIRPORT'S CROPREDY CONVENTION

BYHP was lucky enough to be given a space at this outdoor extravaganza in August which has been held annually since the 1970s and welcomes up to 20,000 music lovers and families.

We are indebted to the Scout organisation for loaning us a marquee and to Kim Yates of Chevron Traffic Management for sponsoring the transport.

The BYHP team had a fantastic three days of fundraising and music. By selling nearly new clothes and jewellery donated by friends and supporters of BYHP and painting henna body art on the queues of people we raised over £1,000.

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## Diary Dates

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### BLOXHAM SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN EVENT – 1<sup>st</sup> October

Don't miss this exclusive designer shopping event and a chance to support BYHP.

On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 9am – 5pm at the Bloxham Schools Inter-Equestrian Event, Foxhill Farm, Eydon, Northamptonshire we will be selling current season's clothes, boots and handbags from Gemini ladies boutique in Stratford-on-Avon. Sandwich, Sticky Fingers, Stills, Hobbs, Fenn Wright Manson, Jackpot, French Connection and Great Plains will all be on sale with a percentage of your purchases going to BYHP.

Further shops and refreshments will be available. Entry to the event is free. For more details of the event and map, see website [www.bloxhamschool.com](http://www.bloxhamschool.com) or contact Joanna Cook: 07880 741160

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### BYHP LIMITED RE-LAUNCH, 16<sup>TH</sup> November

Further details to follow.

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### PUDDINGS, PAMPER & PRESENTS, 8<sup>th</sup> December

Back by popular demand and following the success of the 2004 event, this will again take place in the Drop In on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Potential pamperees will be spoiled with a range of 20 minute therapeutic treatment sessions, also opportunities to squeeze in a little Christmas shopping and catch up with friends over a cake and coffee. Details of times to follow.

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## People News

Welcome to Carole Walker, 3<sup>rd</sup> year social work student who will be with us until March/April of 2007.

We have also recently had two community police officers shadowing at BYHP as part of their training.

Unfortunately, Ann McBain has withdrawn from the post of Job Share Director. We will be re-advertising the post in this week's Banbury Guardian.

Sadly, Gillian Grainer has left us for pastures new, but we would like to wish her all the very best in her new role and thank her for hard work and dedication at BYHP, she will be sorely missed.

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## Contributions

Is there anything you would like to contribute to the next newsletter? Please give me your suggestions or email to Joanna Cook at [bcook.ltd@virgin.net](mailto:bcook.ltd@virgin.net)