

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Mike Thomas
Manager of Mental Health Services

- **Mike Thomas and Pat Borthwick** have moved from their offices at the Stonebow Unit. Their new address is:
Victoria House,
Eign Street,
Hereford.
HR4 0AN
Contact telephone number **01432 262003** and temporary fax number **01432 341958**
- Two new Non Executive Directors have been appointed to the Primary Care Trust. **Jane Rogers** and **Joanna Bruce** took up their appointments this month.

Contact: Mike Thomas 01432 262003
mike.thomas@herefordpct.nhs.uk

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Simon Thompson
Adult Operational Manager

- **Gill Kantolinna**, presently a Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN) in Hereford City Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) Team 1 has been appointed to the CPN post in the Assertive Outreach Service. Gill takes up post on December 16th.
- Discussions are taking place to **re-locate the Assertive Outreach Team** from Moor House to 25-27a St Owen Street.
- Many thanks to **Christine Duthoit** for her CPN cover in the Assertive Outreach service.
- Advertisements are soon to be placed for:
 - ✚ A CPN in Hereford City CMHT Team 1
 - ✚ A team secretary for Hereford City Team 1
 - ✚ A clinical psychologist (Head of Specialty)
 - ✚ Specialist alcohol worker in CAS (Community Alcohol Service)

✚ A re-advertisement for a **clinical psychologist in the East Herefordshire CMHT**.

- **Care Programme Approach (CPA)** draft policy will be available shortly
 - Many thanks to all of the teams that contributed to the **Joint Review** process.
 - A very successful **BFT (Behavioural Family Therapy)** course has just finished. Thanks to **John Downing – CPN and Martin Foster – Approved Social Worker** who provided the training and congratulations to Martin on his accreditation as a BFT trainer.. Reports back from course members were very enthusiastic so, if you are interested in this area of work, please talk to John and/or Martin about future courses.
 - **Graham Jones**, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, retires in December. Thank you for all your support, hard work and best wishes for your retirement.

Contact: Simon Thompson: 01432 262850
sthompson1@herefordshire.gov.uk

MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS
Sue Bennison
Mental Health Development Manager

- **A whole service (Adult mental health and DMHOP) task group related to “Carers”** will commence within the next four weeks.
- A **“Training “ (DMHOP) task group** will commence within the next four weeks.
- We have been notified that the one day visit by **the Mental Health Act Commission** visit on January 15th 2003 has been changed to a two day (January 16th) full visit to the Primary Care Trust and Social Services. More details of the

MHAC programme will be available nearer to the visit.

- The government plans to **reform mental health law** have been left out of the Queen's Speech on **November 13th**. A DoH spokesperson said that the fact that it was not included in the speech did not rule out it being introduced and that a Bill would be introduced "as soon as time allows."
- **November 14th "Mental Health Bill is back on the agenda"** The government will still press ahead with plans to reform mental health laws, even though the draft mental health bill was not included in the Queen's Speech. There had been speculation that reform would be dropped, but health secretary Alan Milburn told the House of Commons the plans had merely been delayed. He said: "The draft bill we issue for consultation, after we consulted through a green paper, and a white paper, has produced around 2,000 responses. When we have finished considering those responses we will bring forward a bill during the course of this session."
- With their social inclusion hats on, Sue Bennison and Mike Metcalf have recently met with Jon Argent, Chief Executive of the **Herefordshire Community Leisure Trust**. Agreement was reached at the meeting for some time limited work relating to mental health service users access to leisure facilities and mental health awareness training for Leisure Service staff. If you have an interest in this area and would like to be part of the working group, please contact Sue Bennison.
- **Social Services Star Ratings:** Star ratings are given following independent judgements of performance across all social services on a scale of zero to three stars by the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) **Social Services in Herefordshire** has risen from one star, given in May 2002 to **two stars**. Well done!!

Contact: Sue Bennison 01432 262887
sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk

SUPPORTING PEOPLE
Ian Gardner
Senior Project Officer Supporting People Team

- ****All transitional housing benefit claims** need to be completed and with the Supporting People team by **November 29th ****
- We understand that a local Housing Association is in the process of bidding for finance so that people with mental health problems will have the opportunity to take advantage of the highly successful **Shared Home Ownership scheme**.
- "Shared Ownership is a low-cost home ownership scheme to help people who cannot afford to buy a home outright on the open market. You may not be able to afford the full mortgage repayments, the deposit or both. Through Shared Ownership, you buy a share of the property, usually with a mortgage, and pay rent to a Housing Association on the remainder. Later on, if you wish, you may buy further shares and progress to outright ownership." More information will be available in February 2003.
- A web site address, not associated with the local development, which provides basic information about shared ownership is: www.threshold-housing.org.uk/living/faq.asp

Contact :Ian Gardner 01432 383074
ian.gardner@herefordshire.gov.uk

INPATIENT SERVICES
Margaret Reilly
Senior Sister
20 (still)– and counting

- **It had erroneously been reported in previous issues that Margaret Reilly had less months to work prior to retirement than she actually has. The Editor profusely apologizes for raising her hopes and is pleased to make the correction and confirm that we will have the pleasure of Margaret's company for at least one month longer than we had anticipated. (See above)**
- Sister **Gill James**, Night Sister on the Stonebow Unit, is retiring at the end of December. Many thanks for all

your hard work and best wishes for the future.

- **£73,000** has been awarded to Stonebow and Oak House through the Mental Health Capital Programme, **Acute In-patient Care Refurbishment Programme** The purpose of the award is to improve the physical environment of psychiatric acute inpatient care.

Contact: Margaret Reilly: 01432 364433
margaret.reilly@herefordpct.nhs.uk

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
FOR OLDER PEOPLE
Rita Harrison
DMHOP Team Manager

- **Shaili Trevedi** joined DMHOP South team on November 4th as a fulltime social worker
- **Marlene Sharpe** started work as a clerical assistant in the Stonebow DMHOP office on October 14th.
- **Cherie Hoare**, has been accredited as an Approved Social Worker.

Contact: Rita Harrison 01432 263850
rharrison@herefordshire.gov.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE MIND
Ian Clements
General manager

- **Mind AGM** - will be held on 20th November. Guest Speaker is **Dr Mark Aveline** who has recently retired after 27 years as a consultant psychotherapist in Nottingham where he founded a one stop integrated specialist service in psychodynamic and cognitive-behavioural psychotherapy; he is also a past President of the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) the title of his talk is 'Taking Care' All are welcome to attend - please phone 271643 to help us with numbers.
- SHARP has now changed its name to **Community Support Service (CSS)** . 7

new staff recently appointed to help meet the need for Floating Support identified by CMHTs - more appointments may be needed before 1st April 2003.

- Successful visit to The Shires and Heffernan House by HRH Princess Alexandra, Mind's patron. HRH officially opened Heffernan House where a Planning Group has been set up to decide how best to further develop the site. A larger kitchen, improved reception, more parking and more activity space are all ideas that are being looked at by the Group to meet the current and projected needs of service users.

Contact: Ian Clements 01432 271643
Ian.clements@herefordshire-mind.org.uk

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
AND
CONSULTATIONS

- The following “live” consultation documents are available from the Department of Health:
- **National confidentiality consultation**
Closing date : January 31st 2003
- **Women’s mental health: into the mainstream.** Closing date December 31st 2002
- **National alcohol harm reduction strategy:** Closing date January 15th 2003
- Also of interest is the document “**Investment, Expansion and Reform**” which sets out priorities and promotes a three year planning system for the NHS and social services (rather than the present annual planning round)
- These documents can be accessed through the DoH website www.doh.gov.uk or hard copy from:
Department of Health
Richmond House
79, Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

- The **draft Supporting People Strategy** is available from the Supporting People Team on 01432 383070
- Helen Lee from the User/Carer Involvement Service will be leading the consultation on the new **Herefordshire Carer's Strategy** which is due out shortly
- **If you are aware of documents/consultations that others may be interested in , please provide details to Sue Bennison for inclusion.**

MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION
Roger Hanson
Mental Health Promotion Co-ordinator

- The “settings “ groups associated with the Mental Health Promotion Strategy are now up and running. The seven groups relate to “**Media**”; “**The Workplace**”; “**Primary Care and Related Agencies**”; **Secondary Care –Users and Carers**”; “**Neighbourhoods and Communities**”; **Schools, Young People and Related Agencies**” and “**Older People with Mental Health Problems.**” If you have information that you would like made available to any of the groups , please contact Roger Hanson or Rachael Naya on **01432 262852 or e-mail Rachel on rnaya@herefordshire.gov.uk**
- There has been a great deal of interest in the **Mental Health Promotion Foundation Course** advertised in the last Newsletter so don't leave it too long to contact Roger or Rachel to reserve a place.

**Contact: Roger Hanson 01432 262851
rhanson@herefordshire.gov.uk**

PALS AND USER/CARER
INVOLVEMENT
Euan McPherson
PALS Co-ordinator

- **The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)** will be promoted across all Primary Care Trust (PCT) services in the coming few months. Initially through raising staff awareness through the PCT “Team Brief” and then with starter packs to each PCT service. These packs will include promotional leaflets and posters, A-Z directories to help staff deal with issues and concerns, and a staff briefing sheet that will clarify how to access PALS and their role in providing a high standard of customer care.
- The User/Carer Involvement Team is now fully staffed with **Chrissy Coburne** joining the team with a specific interest in working with children and young people.
- The team are presently mapping the user/carer involvement mechanisms across health and social care and working with Patrick Clarke, User Involvement worker with the Herefordshire Partnership
- If you would like a member of the team to talk to your group contact Euan to arrange. If you don't belong to a group there is still the option of talking to one of the team on the telephone

**Contact: Euan McPherson 01432 262023
euan.mcpherson@herefordpct.nhs.uk**

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
(CAMHS)
Yvonne Clowsley
Locality Manager

- The CAMHS service has moved into new offices in the Gaol Street Clinic extension allowing for sufficient accommodation for all team members.
- A second Consultant Child Psychiatrist, **Dr Karin Moses**, takes up post on February 1st. 2003

**Contact: Yvonne Clowsley, Locality
Manager on 01432 378910
Yvonne.clowsley@herefordpct.nhs.uk**

ADVOCACY SERVICE
Philip Pankhurst
Manager

- **Vicky Connaughton** has joined us as an advocate (salaried). She will be working for 24 hours per week. Vicky has varied experience, including working extensively with the CAB in Essex. She is currently familiarising herself with the complexities of mental health provision in her new county.

**Contact: Philip Pankhurst 01432 370283
pp@advohug.fsnet.co.uk**

**Any comments or items for inclusion in
this newsletter ?**

Please send to:

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Widemarsh Common,
Hereford HR4 9NA
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sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk**

**NB Change of e-mail address for
Herefordshire PCT to:**

name.surname@herefordpct.nhs.uk