

Annual General Meeting ... There were 3 themes that kept running through our AGM in June...
Changes – Chair Ann and CEO Jackie highlighted some of the changes we face with clients having more complex issues. In the past clients had just one or two concerns but we are now often seeing them with multiple issues including mental health, which means we have to spend more time with each client.
Finances – our Finance Director, John, explained that our finances were in good shape and we had built up a strong reserve to cater for shortfalls in funding, but he also warned that with 2 of our main grants due to end in this financial year, and no guarantee yet of further funding, we cannot be complacent.
Quality – our guest speakers from Bromsgrove District Housing Trust spoke of how they valued our work and that we were a valuable resource in the area, perhaps reflected by our continuing support from the District Council and also the fact that we have, this year, achieved the Trusted Charity mark status.



Thank you...

At the AGM we presented flowers to two of our longest serving Trustees. Ann Holmes (far left) retired as Chair, after her 2nd spell in the role, although thankfully she is not retiring from the Board. Ann was one of the founder members of the charity. Meanwhile, Hilda Roxborough, who joined us as a Trustee shortly after our inception, and has also served as Chair, has decided to take a break from being a Trustee. They are applauded by our mascot, Brian!

Our staff and volunteers are HEROES – and that's official!

A plaque has been placed on Bromsgrove Railway Station by West Mids Railways to recognise the staff and volunteers of the Basement as "Cross City Heroes"



The citation reads " *This has been awarded for positive contributions to the local area, as nominated by rail passengers and staff...*" Well, we always knew they were heroes but it's nice to see it recognised. (Picture shows the team, together with mascot, Brian, on the station platform in front of the plaque).

During National Volunteers' Week in June, we recognised our team of wonderful, dedicated Volunteers for all the work they do, with a display including quotes from them about their experience at The Basement. Each Volunteer was given a personal thank you card from the team.



Our Annual Report

contains reports from Trustees and staff plus case studies. Call the office if you would like to see a copy



Keep informed and join the fun!





Coming Soon

Upcoming events for the project are our Summer Open Day Event on the 25th July. We will be holding a festival style event with a free BBQ, live music, face art and



children's activities including story time with our very own local author Kelly Turner. The event is open to clients and their families and anyone else who would like to pop in.



On the 15th August it's our annual trip to Weston-Super-Mare. The free trip is always popular with clients and their families. We provide lunch for everyone and clients can either go off to do their own thing or if preferred can stay with our Support Workers and Volunteers.

Freshers' Week for HoW College commences in September and we will have a stand at Redditch, Bromsgrove and Worcester Campuses with information and members of staff and volunteers to answer questions about us and our support.

Meet our new Chair of Trustees...Lindsay Peniston

Lindsay joined the Board in 2013 and has a background within the Voluntary Sector. Formerly a managing editor of a national charity magazine, she later focused on organisational development in voluntary sector organisations, marketing and communications. A former Volunteer Centre CEO, she now combines a part time job in Birmingham with consultancy work.



Once again – THANK YOU!

We've had some more wonderful donations, so thanks to HoW College (£278.45); The Crown Bridge Club (£304.22); Hagley Parochial Church Council (£1000); Sport and Beyond (£100); Rose of Bromsgrove Field Hire (£60.83); Bromsgrove Belles WI (£100); Bentley Pouncefoot WI (£557) and all other donors – whether it's a pound or a thousand – every little bit counts! And also to High School in Hagley & St Luke's First School in Redditch who have donated food and toiletries.



...and a HUGE thank you to the Bumble Bimble fun run organisers who raised £4,741. Kelly is seen handing over a certificate of thanks to Alex Gittins from Champion CCTV one of the sponsors. Other sponsors were Anna Curnow Physiotherapy, Bumble Hole Foods, Berbezier Photography, Champion Security Installations and Marnie Makes. And it appears there's always someone who can get lost, even on a fun run!



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