

Helping people towards a new future





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Staff

April 2012-March 2013

Oxford Homeless Pathways

Chief Executive Lesley Dewhurst
Finance Manager Mike Slater

O'Hanlon House (01865 304600)

Project Manager Simon Pitkin
Deputy Manager Operations Lucy Flanagan
Deputy Manager Client Support Lucy Richman
Facilities Officer Jason Buckingham
Senior Project Workers Tina, Laurent, Richard, Stephanie, Verity, Sue, Steve (Aaron left 2012)
Step Up Co-ordinator Sarah (Suzanne covered maternity leave)
Day Team Penny, Dario, Peter, Tim, Beverley, Nell, Fran (Renate and Rodney left 2012, Suzanne left 2013)
Night Team Robert, Zak, Dominic, Surivijay (Amarjit and Vanessa left 2012)
Finance Assistant Gabriel
Admin Officer Kaye
Maintenance & Cleaning Team Dennis, Jeremiah, Tracy, Patience (maternity leave), Luis (maternity cover) (Trevor until end of 2012)
Casual Project Workers Frank, Anny, Morgan, Jane, Rodney, Lauren, Lee, Steve



Julian Housing (01865 201992)

Project Manager Toby Blake
Deputy Managers Matt Clarke and Susan Hemphill
Supported Housing Workers Lindsey, Pearline, Gemma, Charlotte, Alison, Lesley, Andrew, Hannah (Nina left 2012, Paul left 2013)
Step Up Co-ordinator Kris
Admin Officer Kat
Maintenance Team Dave, Tony, Joseph (Chris left 2012)



Oxford Homeless Medical Fund (01865 792126)

PATHS Volunteer co-ordinator Helen
(Margaret Burden, OHMF manager, left 2013)

Oxford Co-operative Training Scheme

Course Manager Gina Ball

Trustees & Advisors

Trustees 2012/13

Christopher Blount (Chair)
Eamonn Gaspar (Treasurer)
William Downing, Karen Simeons, Gail Siddall, Liz Barter, Robin Aitken, Tom Flanagan (Pat Goodwin left 2012, Stuart Reid and Paul Goodman left 2013)

Oxford City Council Representatives Cllr Anne-Marie Canning, Cllr Val Smith

Patrons Radiohead, Hugo Brunner, Miss Jean Marsh, Rt Rev John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford, His Grace the Duke of Marlborough

Professional Advisors

Auditors James Cowper, 2 Chawley Park, Cumnor Hill, Oxford, OX2 9GG
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Government figures showed that homelessness reached a five-year high this year

Focusing on what matters



Things aren't getting easier out there, and we have been busier than ever this year. Across the UK, homelessness is rising – an increase of 25 per cent in the last year alone, with no sign of improvement. Changes to the welfare system are beginning to bite, and landlords are becoming increasingly unwilling to let their accommodation to people on Housing Benefit. Jobs continue to be scarce and there is no sign of a change to the recession.

However, in the face of all this doom and gloom, great things are still happening at Oxford Homeless Pathways. Many of the homeless people we support are managing to transform their lives and achieve wonderful things. We have been delighted by the input of the Service User Board (SUB) this year, who have really helped us make sure our services are focused on the things that really matter to homeless people. It was a suggestion at the SUB that resulted in the My Story project – capturing the stories of some of our residents and telling them in a really powerful way. Look at our website – www.oxhop.org.uk – to see the results.

For £1,000 we can get 20 clients qualified in essential courses such as first aid and food hygiene

The biggest change this year at O'Hanlon House has been the introduction of the No Second Night Out programme. Originally piloted in London, this programme focuses on rough sleepers, aiming to limit the amount of time they spend on the streets to the minimum. More on this later in this report.

We are also enjoying the support of an increasing number of volunteers, who help us to deliver a variety of training, education and activities as well as provide an excellent service to patients of Luther Street Medical Centre, accompanying them to medical appointments.

It is great when the things we perceive as being brilliant are also recognised as such by people outside the organisation. We are very pleased to announce that this year our staff and volunteers have won several awards: the OCVA Volunteer Award went to Gabbie Jamieson-Walker, the Mental Health Division Fusion Award went to Susie Edwards and Mary Squires (part funded by Oxford Homeless Medical Fund), and the PATHS Project won the Big Society Award.

We have also seen the growth and expansion of Julian Housing, securing the contract to run Vineyard in Abingdon (13 self-contained flats for homeless people from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse). Julian Housing has also started a "Housing First" project in Oxford City, housing vulnerable rough sleepers straight from the street into their own accommodation. More on these projects later in the report.

So, plenty going on – and more change forecast for the next year. The local authority is reviewing all services for homeless people and will be making some radical changes to achieve budgetary savings. Hold on to your hats – we certainly are!

Lesley Dewhurst *Chief Executive*
Christopher Blount *Chairman of Board of Trustees*

Many of the homeless people we support are managing to transform their lives and achieve wonderful things

A story of progress

We are delighted with the progress that our Service User Board (SUB) has made during the year. SUB is made up of between six and ten OxHoP clients (current and former) from both O'Hanlon House and Julian Housing, who meet with senior management every month to represent the needs, experiences and views of clients. The aim of SUB is to help bring clients' views and ideas to help shape strategy and policies and to help raise awareness and understanding of homelessness amongst the general public. There are close links between SUB and OxHoP's management and Board of Trustees.

Some of SUB's achievements over the last year have included the successful 'My Story' project. There was a lengthy discussion at the SUB of how we can help influence the way the general public views homeless people. There was a strong feeling among the group that the most powerful messages come from hearing the stories of people who are experiencing homelessness.

From this discussion, the 'My Story' project was born. A wonderful volunteer, Riki, offered to help pull it together, along with Tara and Tracy from SUB. Check it out on our website. The stories are powerful and expressive.

SUB has also been responsible for developing links with other service user groups, to share ideas and information. Members are encouraged to take on responsibilities such as chairing the group or taking minutes. The profile is growing all the time.

Lesley Dewhurst *Chief Executive*
and **Tara Walton** *Chair of SUB and Julian Housing resident*

The most powerful messages come from hearing the stories of people who are experiencing homelessness

Tara, chair of SUB, says:

“Service-user involvement is something I believe very strongly in, and SUB is an opportunity for residents to have a voice and for changes to be made. I was invited to become Chair of SUB shortly after I moved into Julian Housing, which really helped boost my confidence and self-belief. It's very rewarding to be part of SUB and be able to give people a chance to voice their opinion – but more so to actually see that they are listened to and valued.”



PATHS branch out



Our volunteers provide an invaluable service, and one of the projects they are involved in is PATHS, where volunteers accompany patients of Luther Street Medical Centre to hospital appointments. PATHS PLUS is the newest element of this project, helping clients engage in various activities such as cookery and training.

We have had a very exciting and busy year, and we are very proud to have been awarded the Prime Minister's Big Society Award. This award recognises the hard work and the dedication our team of volunteers deliver constantly, and I am very proud for their work to be recognised by David Cameron. We are receiving a plaque and certificate – as well as being invited to a reception at Downing Street.

We were also runners-up for the NHS Innovation Award in July. Again, we are very proud to have come second for this award and received a certificate.

One of our volunteers, Gabby Jamieson-Walker, has had her commitment to PATHS recognised by winning an award for volunteering from OCVA. PATHS PLUS has grown significantly, with five volunteers now running weekly activities which are growing in momentum. We are now able to help clients with their paperwork, such as applying for grants, and provide weekly cookery classes, The CSCS course – leading to a qualification in health and safety when working in a construction environment – continues to be popular.

We have been running a project called 'My Story', in which the clients tell their experiences about becoming homeless. This is an emotive project and the stories are available to read on our website, and in a booklet we have produced, which you can now buy from the website.

In the last year we have helped 101 patients attend hospital appointments, with 164 hours donated to PATHS and 287.5 hours donated to activities in PATHS PLUS.

Helen Wright *Volunteer Co-ordinator*

The Vineyard story

We have increased the number of properties at Julian Housing and now have 101 bed spaces across Oxford and Abingdon

There has been a Supported Housing project at 45 Vineyard, Abingdon, since 2003, but Julian Housing secured the contract to run the project in November 2012, following a tendering exercise by Oxfordshire County Council's Supporting People programme. The Grade II listed building, dating back to the late 18th or early 19th century, comprises 13 self-contained flats, with a communal laundry.

Since Julian Housing took over 45 Vineyard, parameters have changed and the project now offers non-direct accommodation to single people and, potentially, couples. The minimum primary age has changed from 25 to 22, and the project is open to men and women. The employment of an additional support worker has enabled the transition from catering for people with low to medium support needs to a mix of people with medium and high support needs.

The change of management to Julian Housing has enabled staff and residents to tap into the resources and links that Julian Housing has built up and enjoyed over previous years, to help support residents in identifying their needs and assisting them in following their support plans and moving on to suitable long-term accommodation.

Exciting new developments are the provision of new office space for staff, which will provide more appropriate, confidential, working space, in addition to space for inter-agency meetings, resident meetings and a training room.

The development of the new office will free up space for a 'No Second Night Out' emergency bed space for vulnerable adults – identified by the Connection Outreach Service as sleeping rough in the area covered by the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire district councils. This is a very exciting development for Julian Housing, and will be funded by Housing Benefit and BOSH (Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire Single Homeless Group).

Lesley Walton Supported Housing Worker at Vineyard



Resident Danielle Shephard says:

“Since Julian Housing took over the running of 45 Vineyard, I have been able to visit the Natural History Museum, the Ashmolean and Abingdon Museums and the Arboretum at Nuneham Courtenay, which gave me the chance to get to know some of the other residents of the Julian Housing Project. These trips were organised as part of the Step Up programme.

“It is good to have additional staff on the project, and they have supported me to get part-time work, the first work I have had in 18 months.

“I am looking forward to the new office – which I think will make keyworking more personal, with less interruptions – and, hopefully, barbecues in the garden in the nice weather...”

Maintaining standards

Since 2013, Julian Housing has been offering its residents the chance to volunteer with our maintenance team, working on the upkeep of our Julian Housing properties. It's been going really well and has offered residents the chance to learn valuable trade skills in a supported environment. We now have a strong team of volunteers, and one of them, Wayne Hanson, has written to tell you about his experience with it!

"I have been a Julian Housing resident since November 2012. I have done loads of exciting things in my life, from being in the New Zealand armed forces to being in the British armed forces.

"But I want to tell you how I got started with the new maintenance team at Julian Housing in February 2013. Within that time I have used my skills and passed them onto other volunteers and also learnt new skills from the maintenance workers, who appreciate my craftsmanship. I've been involved in carpet laying, plastering, plumbing, decorating, carpentry and even changing door locks.

"I plan to continue doing my volunteering until I get offered real work. But I will carry on lending a helping hand at Julian Housing, because it's a great opportunity for residents to volunteer and work alongside two great guys.

"I hope this will be a useful scheme for residents and that more people get involved with it, as it gives you a great chance of getting work in the future, and it adds to your CV."

Wayne Hanson Julian Housing
Maintenance Volunteer

A housing first for Oxford

When the Housing First scheme was first proposed in Oxford I was really pleased to get involved in this exciting new pilot project for Oxford. Having worked in homelessness for a number of years it is good to be involved with a new approach to address individuals for whom the current provision does not work.

The Housing First model was first devised in the US and was used to help homeless individuals with mental health needs to access housing directly moving them straight off the streets into their own homes, without having to first access the supported housing route which some individuals find too overwhelming to manage. The main issue with the current provision is that you are moving people into an environment that is, for the main part, busy with people, activities, shared meal times and restricted access which some people with mental health needs find hard to manage. The current provision works for the majority of people but there has always been a small margin for whom this does not work.

The pilots in the US worked well for those that got involved, with an underpinning ideology that housing is a basic human right and that people are far better able to succeed in moving forward in their own lives and in addressing any mental health or substance misuse issues once in permanent accommodation.

The pilot in Oxford is aimed at people who have been rough sleeping in Oxford city for a long period of time, who may have tried the usual supported housing routes but for various reasons have never been able to demonstrate that they are able to manage their own tenancy and so have never been offered the opportunity to try.

The project will work initially with four clients, using intensive support to encourage them off the streets and straight into their own tenancy with an emphasis on just maintaining a tenancy; paying bills, addressing rent and on not having any anti-social behaviour that may threaten their tenancy. Clients will then be able to access other support at their own pace and using their choice of support to address this.

There are a number of pilots being run around the country and I was lucky enough to visit one of the London projects and meet some of the clients. Most of the clients have been in their accommodation for over a year and have managed to sustain their tenancies for this time. The comments I heard included that the project had started by asking them what they wanted and then trying to fulfil this with the client and not for the client. Another client described being homeless as being like a crumbling building and that the support was scaffolding that went all the way around as it is not just one area of life that needs support but the person as a whole.

I am really looking forward to moving the first clients in and am proud to be involved in this new innovative way of working.

Alison James Supported Housing Worker at Julian Housing

Busy as ever

Step Up at Julian Housing

The past year has been one of fantastic development and of tragic loss. The whole team, residents and partners to Step Up were shocked and deeply saddened by the death of Kris Scott, the Step Up worker at Julian Housing. All that has been achieved through Step Up at Julian Housing is testament to Kris's work alongside staff and residents.

Over the year we pushed on in developing meaningful service user involvement. For example, we have established a grant giving Personalisation Fund, which is run and managed by the residents themselves.

All this happens because people are motivated to get out of their room and do something

We have also started utilising some of the skills of residents by offering them the chance to work alongside our maintenance team, leading to developing skills and building up towards a reference from the organisation towards getting back to work.

In regards to training, we have seen an increase in people accessing and sustaining activities – from an inter-agency 'Olympics' we organised in August, to a visit to the House of Commons followed by a return visit to Julian Housing from Andrew Smith MP to discuss social

democracy.

We continue to support people back into employment through Aspire and tailored training opportunities, from accountancy to electrical engineering.

We have been glad to see our links with education providers develop, so we have seen residents access anything from learning to teach guitar to weekly numeracy and literacy courses run in the office.

All this happens because people are motivated to get out of their room and do something. Thanks to all the agencies and individuals we have worked with over the year: we couldn't do it on our own...

Toby Blake

Julian Housing Project Manager

It has been a busy year at Julian Housing, as is every year. This year has seen the consolidation of the excellent work on the core project and an expansion out into new areas both geographically and in what services we provide. This year we will be housing 101 residents in Oxford City and Vale of the White Horse.

In November we took on the contract for Vineyard in Abingdon where feedback from residents of the resulting changes to how we deliver support and what we can offer is motivating clients to engage and address the issues that lead to their homelessness. We will also be opening an emergency 'No Second Night Out' bed for rough sleepers in Vineyard later in the year.

We are also at the beginnings of our Housing First project which will be both a challenging and exciting opportunity for those entrenched rough sleepers not accessing the hostels.

We have seen a consolidation in the area of Step Up as what we can offer to clients outside of traditional support sessions expands and is increasingly service user lead.

It is the support that we offer to clients that sits at the centre of everything we do on the project, the staff at Julian Housing have a huge diversity of skills and we aim at giving the highest levels of support and advice. We look at innovative ways to deliver that support and have accessed funding to get a consultant to look at how we can further develop the 'second stage' housing model. This work is funded by Homeless Link's Homeless Transition Fund

For us the aim is to ensure having received this support the residents have developed the skills to move into longer term accommodation leaving homelessness behind them. The pressures on finding this accommodation is getting harder each year as rents rise and housing stock decreases. But we remain determined!

Over 85% of Julian Housing residents now engage with Step Up activities





I have rediscovered my love for art, and painting in particular

A life rediscovered

I first heard of Julian housing while in the final stages of treatment for my alcohol addiction at the Nelson trust in Gloucestershire. Despite having grown up and worked in the Oxford area I had no place to return and live after nine months of treatment.

Fortunately I was offered a place at the Botley Road project, living in a shared (dry) house with, as of now, four other residents.

The main advantages of living here have been:

- a zero tolerance of alcohol and drug consumption.
- benefiting from the support and encouragement of other like-minded residents; sharing our experiences and struggles as we continue forward together in a life of abstinence.
- the continued support of a key worker (Pearline) on a one-to-one basis, providing advice and help on all levels, both practical and emotional.
- being in a safe environment where I can build my confidence and trust at a pace that suits my needs and aspirations.
- attending a weekly support group where we discuss our problems and successes, helping each other to move forward positively in our own recoveries.

I have also rediscovered my love for art, and painting in particular. So I include here just some of the pieces I have produced while living at the house, as well as a picture of my room.

For the future, I hope to remain with the project until such time as I can find a permanent job and/or I am offered my own house by the council.

Christopher Kendall *Julian Housing resident*

Sober living

Julian Housing's Botley Road project has now been running for nine years, and its cousin Divinity House for eight. Both have provided a safe and supportive environment for individuals wishing to remain abstinent and live with like-minded people.

The success of the project has been down to the dedication of residents and staff to remain committed to the principles of sober living: acknowledging the destruction of addiction with the strength of willpower and ability of the human spirit to overcome and flourish.

Over the years, the support has evolved with the needs of the clients; providing one-to-one support, group meetings, relapse prevention and intervention groups, drug and alcohol testing, as well as listening to the changing needs of the client base.

This year we hope to build on the success and look at further therapies that can benefit the house.

The routes for the dry houses are accessed through the general application process; however, should you like an informal chat, please speak to Pearline Blackstock or Gemma Blake to find out more.

Pearline Blackstock and Gemma Blake *Supported Housing Workers at Julian Housing*

No Second Night Out

So, how do I get a bed at O'Hanlon House tonight? A common question, and one that for a quarter of a century had been answered by the staff member taking the homeless person's name and asking that they return later for a bed. However, last summer all this changed with the introduction of No Second Night Out, and rough sleeper verification.

No Second Night Out (NSNO) is a new scheme that has changed the way rough sleeping is tackled across the UK. It aims to ensure that no person will have to spend a second night rough sleeping, and gives greater emphasis than before on working with people who have become entrenched in rough sleeping.

In Oxford, the project is run by the charity Broadway Homelessness and Support, in partnership with Oxford Homeless Pathways (OxHoP) using the seven ground floor beds and an office in O'Hanlon House for the team. They provide:

- A rapid response to new and returning rough sleepers, who are referred by Broadway's outreach team – people must be verified as rough sleepers.
- An offer of suitable accommodation and support for new and returning rough sleepers – a 'single service offer'. This is based on individual assessments.
- A focus on linking people who migrate to Oxford back to accommodation and services where they have a local connection, and where they are most likely to sustain a life away from the street.

The advantage of this is that the most vulnerable individuals are prioritised, and it aims to ensure that people who are forced to sleep on the streets do not become entrenched rough sleepers.

The scheme, like any bold idea, has some difficulties to face. It means only rough sleepers can get into O'Hanlon House. There are many other vulnerable people who do not sleep rough but would greatly benefit from support, but generally there are too many rough sleepers for these people to be prioritised. In the past, half the clients in O'Hanlon House were rough sleepers; the other half came from places such as prisons, or hospitals.

This brings issues of its own to our staff. Virtually everyone in O'Hanlon House now has multiple support needs, 70 per cent drug usage, 70 per cent daily alcohol consumption, significant numbers have mental health problems and many have all three. This creates difficulties for staff to work with, and there may also be fewer opportunities for positive peer support. Move on for these chaotic clients is still very limited, and engagement can be a challenge. However, despite this, the team have coped extremely well with the implementation of the new system, with move on figures being maintained at a good level.

It's always hard changing the habits of a lifetime, but this new approach has been handled brilliantly by all the staff and they have been invaluable over this period and in helping us smooth out the inevitable wrinkles that have occurred from time to time. We hope we can continue to work with the system well and increasingly tailor the process to work for Oxford as a city.

So in answer to the question, people are given beds at O'Hanlon House once they have been verified as rough sleeping by the outreach team. To ensure that you are contacted by the NSNO and the Broadway outreach team you can come to O'Hanlon House and fill in a referral form that will then be passed on to the team.

Simon Pitkin *O'Hanlon House Project Manager*

So, how do I get a bed at O'Hanlon House tonight?

The public can report a rough sleeper in Oxfordshire by calling the NSNO hotline on 01865 304 611 or by emailing info@nsno-oxford.org

Benefit changes affect us all

I am trying to encourage clients and staff to use Job Centre Plus as a support agency

I have been involved with the Homelessness Network in Oxford for about 15 years now. Due to the current Welfare Benefit Reform, O' Hanlon House management asked me to take a lead in helping and supporting our clients with their benefit claims in light of the forthcoming changes which will affect them at various levels.

This reform has already started and will include changes to Disability Living Allowance, Local Housing Allowance, Social Fund, Housing and Council Tax benefits, Benefit Cap, Universal Credit etc.

We aim to help the clients with personalised financial inclusion support and with digital inclusion. We are supporting clients in getting computer literate in conjunction with Job Centre Plus as more and more clients will be expected to make new claims online, and to update their work search and CV online too. Due to those changes, most clients need to be well acquainted with financial systems such as bank accounts, Post Office Card accounts, and Jam Jar accounts with Credit Unions. Therefore I am currently building up contacts with banks in order to enable clients opening basic card accounts to get their benefit awards paid into these.

This winter, O'Hanlon House opened its severe weather beds for 47 nights - with an average 10 people a night using them

I am also spending a lot of time with Job Centre Plus, Oxford City Council, advice centres such as Barton Welfare Right Centre, the Agnes Smith Advice Centre, DWP, Crisis Skylight and Aspire in order to establish strong partnerships to facilitate a smooth transition to the new benefit system and to signpost clients to the appropriate agency. I am trying to encourage clients and staff to use Job Centre Plus as a support agency as they provide a variety of services such as setting up an email account, creating a CV, IT training, and English courses for those to whom it is not their first language.

A lot of my time is spent supporting clients through their benefit claim appeals such as Employment and Support Allowance appeals and Jobseeker's Allowance sanctions which can be quite challenging to face alone.

I strongly believe that by building up local welfare assistance, clients will have a more positive and constructive journey through the Welfare Benefit Reform.

Laurent Cadoret Senior Project Worker, Benefits Lead



A great day out

The Step Up programme encourages clients to identify and participate in activities old and new, to gain or build on skills and to have the confidence to move away from homelessness. Resettlement clients have to address their problems, engage with workers and agencies and complete at least 10 hours of Life Skills courses that help towards moving on from homelessness. They can then choose an activity they would like to do – and six of our clients voted to go on the London Eye and to the London Dungeon.

The train journey to London was full of jolly banter, and for me, in only my second week of my job, it was a great way to start to get to know the clients.

The London Eye looked beautiful in the snow and everybody was excited and looking forward to their 'flight'. We all had fun pointing out and identifying the famous landmarks, buildings and parks of London. Our clients also shared their personal experiences and family history.

The London Dungeons was one of the best tours I've been on and was made more enjoyable by the humour shown by our clients. We learned about 1,000 years of London's murky past through actors, special effects, stages, scenes and boat rides. The experience encompassed all of our senses as we were introduced to Jack the Ripper, Sweeney Todd, Guy Fawkes – and took a scary boat ride to the Tower.

The day was full of good humour and highlighted the special bonds and friendship that develop between the service users while they are at O'Hanlon House. There was no doubt that the trip to London had a positive effect in many ways.

Fran Rimmer *Link Project Worker*

Step up into 2013

We're into year two of our Big Lottery funding to provide training, education, and employment opportunities and activities for the people who use O'Hanlon House, and there have been some great success stories this year.

At the heart of what we do is the desire to get people back engaged in their lives, into meaningful occupation, getting their voice heard and keeping busy in a productive and positive way.

We had a great turnout for the debating event we ran at O'Hanlon House. We were lucky enough to get a professional debater from Oxford University to come in and facilitate a debate with a group of residents; they discussed the current drug laws and the debate was very lively and engaging. They also learned how to structure an argument and how to do it without getting angry – a very useful and transferable skill.

We also took part in a charity car wash back in the spring. This involved taking six residents to a local business in Oxfordshire to wash their staff's cars: we ended up washing about forty! They had made us their charity of the year so this was a great fundraising exercise, and quote of the day was: "I love working!" It was a lovely sunny day and we had a fantastic lunch in the restaurant.

Another really interesting project was My Story, which you can find on our website – www.oxhop.org.uk. This gave people the chance to talk to Riki about their lives: from a whole life story to an isolated incident that meant something to them. We found people really enjoyed having time and space to reflect on what was important to them and how they viewed their lives, past, present and future.

On top of all this we've had the usual adult learning courses – on budgeting, tenancy sustainment, first aid and CV writing, getting the market stall set up again. We've been working hard on the design, photography and practical skills project through Oxfam, encouraging people into sports and, of course, the London trip!

Lucy Richman *Deputy Manager (Client Support)*





We were excited to have a group of keen cyclists come to us, and request that they raise money for OxHoP by competing in a cycling race. Their challenge: to cycle from Manchester to London in 24 hours – a whopping 250 miles! In words written by Steve, a member of the team, here's how they got on...

“It is Saturday the 8th of June. The location: Manchester Velodrome (the home of British cycling). It's sunny, very sunny, which is unusual for myself, Harley, Peter and Hugh after six months of training in what can only be described as a six-month monsoon, coupled with the cold and snow. We are glad to see that the next 24 hours are looking like they are going to be pleasant.

“And so to business; the countdown starts, 3 2 1, that's it we're off! The next 24 hours are going to be spent on the roads. What are we expecting? Hills (lots of them), and fatigue, but the overwhelming feeling is this is going to be a huge achievement and we are glad to be raising money for two fantastic charities – Oxford Homeless Pathways and the British Heart Foundation. It makes the experience all the more poignant.

“The first stage was hilly but the atmosphere was great. After the steep start though, the legs were already starting to feel the pressure into the second stage. I actually had to get my knee seen to by some first aiders.

“We began to lose the light in stage three and pushed on into the darkness looking like something picked out of the mid-90s rave scene, lit up and in our day-glo gear. At this point one of our team had to wait behind for some mechanics to come and see to his now malfunctioning bike. The rest of us pushed on, but waited for him to catch up at the next rest, as we were determined to finish as a team.

“As stage four commenced, dawn was breaking and the night time cycling had made everyone weary. Thankfully, after two more substantial hills to push up, we were cycling towards Marlow, and Harley's wife and mother supplied us with coffee and food to keep us going.

“Now we were on to the last stage, and we were knackered! But most importantly, we were glad to be finishing as a team, no depleted numbers or separate endings. All in all we had an amazing experience. Would we do it again? Most definitely.”

The lads have raised over £3,500 through this challenge. Their training and determined fundraising has paid off hugely, and their efforts have meant a great deal to everyone at OxHoP. Thanks boys, and well done!

Fundraising

Over the past 12 months we have been, yet again, in awe of the generosity of our supporters, with their finances and their time. We have been lucky to see huge efforts made from people raising funds for us this year, which, in light of the challenging funding cuts we have faced, has been more appreciated than ever.

Organisations across the voluntary sector are all having to tighten their belts, and the pot of money available from local bodies is getting smaller. However, because of all the energy of individuals, communities and businesses across Oxfordshire and beyond, this year has been made a little easier than we had forecast. We believe that despite some difficult cuts and changes, we have been able to maintain the quality of support we offer those who come through our doors every day. And this is all thanks to people like you!

We have seen some great things done in the name of OxHoP this year: cycling from Manchester to London in under 24 hours, sponsored car washes with our service users, fun runners, sponsored diets, tonnes of collection points for welfare items, many generous donations of food – and even boxes upon boxes of hand-knitted dog jumpers, to keep our canine friends warm through the winter nights.

The creativity and determination we see in people continuously blows us away, and we are always grateful for help and the constant reminder that the people of Oxford support our work in the area. There are few things more pleasant to our ears than knowing people support our efforts.

Kaye McDougall *Administration Officer*
Steve McNeil *TEAM ADDPACK*

Thanks to

We would like to thank everybody who has given their time, possessions, skills or money towards supporting OxHoP this past year. We are always so grateful for the amount of support we find in the community and beyond. Unfortunately we cannot thank everyone individually, but here is a small selection of organisations, groups and individuals who have gone out of their way to help us this year. Thank you everybody!

ORGANISATIONS:

Coombs Catering (Sean, Peter, Marie, Tony, Kerry, Steve), Oxford Food Bank, Oxford Poverty Action, Oxford Health, Monument Community Trust, Oxfordshire Young Professional Society, Oxford Playhouse (in particular, Maisey Ash), Abingdon Business Centre, Aspire, Restore, Oxford Crisis Skylight Centre, Seacourt Printing, Oxford Low Carbon Hub, Goodthinking, Bluespires, Liora Wolf, Infinium and their SMILE Committee, Break-Through, Nielson, in particular Cristin Mann, No Second Night Out, in particular Jaffa Holland and April McDonnell, and the Broadway Team and Oxford City Outreach.

TRUSTS:

Tobit Trust, Monument Community Trust, Seymour Charitable Trust, Oxfam, Street Smart, Trusthouse Charitable Foundation & the Duke of Marlborough, Doris Field Charitable Trust, Canon Trust & Prof Roy Goode, Westward Trust, St Michael's and All Saints Charities, 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, Magdalen College Trust, Stanton Ballard Charitable Trust

COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Oxford Spires Rotary, Oxfordshire Young Professionals Society, Oxford Poverty Action, St John's College MCR, Oxford University Student Union, Campion Hall Community, Ruskin College, Oxford Christadelphians, OXFIZZ, John Radcliffe Sports and Social Club, Buckland Primary School, Tingewick Society, Windmill Primary School, Fitzharris WI, Clanfield Primary School, Andrew Bevan & Littlemore Baptist Church, OXFAP, Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, New Marston 50 Plus Club, Harris Manchester College, East Hagbourne Church, All Saints Methodist Church

VOLUNTEERS & SESSIONAL WORKERS:

Ed Hart, Philippa Seymour, Vivian Shaw, Chris Morgan, Rich Broughton, Jimmy Hetherington, Tracy Joel, Amara Michaels, Astrid Hayles, Aziz Halime, Gabby Jaimeson Walker, Tony Martin, Barbara Phillips, Francesca Cacace, Riki Therivel, Nick Verne, Ian Draisy, Adam Lewandowski, Jim O'Kane, Megan Hayes, the Steppin' Stones Counsellors; Lucy Surman, Janet Toye & Lisa Wadeson, Barry Stimpson, Marcus Bone, Jason Parry, Wayne Hanson, Sean Pegler, Gillie and Sarah from Complex Needs Service.

INDIVIDUALS:

Louise Tucker, Cassie Sprules, Sian Hawley, J & L Fredman, Hannah Lloyd, Katherine & Matthew Gee, Evelyn Mukherjee, Judy Fergusson, Steve McNeil, Harley Bell, Hugh Owen, Ellie Collins, Rachel Wiltshire, Mr Seldon, Mr & Mrs Badam, Kirstin McCreadie, Brenda Lennon, Mr E C Walker. We would also like to thank all those people who give to us on a monthly basis, and all those anonymous donors that have given to us over the past year.

We have also been hugely touched this year by Catherine Ferguson and Stanley Robins, who were generous enough to leave legacies to Oxford Homeless Pathways.

In memory of

...

... Kris and Trevor, two highly valued members of staff who, tragically, died this year.



Kris



Trevor



www.oxford.gov.uk



Adding it up

Rental income for both O'Hanlon House and the Julian Housing Project has been maintained throughout the year, with void periods being kept at a minimum.

Grant awards have been as anticipated, including the 'Supporting People' grant, the Primary Care Trust, Oxford City Council and the Big Lottery. General donations increased across all projects due to some very generous donations and legacies. We are always grateful for the support by individuals and groups who donate 'in kind', as well as cash support. These donations enable us to provide services and welfare specifically targeted to our residents above the level provided by general grants.

The analysis of funds has been restructured this year, allowing for some exciting projects to take place. Donations are allowing us to purchase some new property for client use and to enhance those we already have. Reserves to cover three months' operating costs for 2013/14 are now included in our general funds.

The Medical Fund of £700k relates to the valuation of land and buildings.

Mike Slater
Finance Manager



Statement of finance 2012/13

INCOMING RESOURCES	2012/13	2011/12
Rent, Supporting People & grants	2,583,378	2,474,361
Rental income	46,200	46,200
Donations	722,642	92,344
Investment income	<u>30,193</u>	<u>23,357</u>
Total incoming resources	3,382,413	2,636,262
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Direct charitable expenditure		
Service costs	1,843,835	1,824,113
Service support	<u>830,747</u>	<u>833,623</u>
	2,674,582	2,657,736
Governance costs	<u>15,027</u>	<u>14,770</u>
Total resources expended	2,689,609	2,672,506
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for this year	758,785	(28,697)
Balance brought forward at 1 April	2,142,762	2,171,459
Balance carried forward at 31 March	<u>2,901,547</u>	<u>2,142,762</u>
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH	2013	2012
Fixed assets		
Tangible	1,484,706	1,433,158
Investments	793,082	691,218
Current assets		
Debtors	132,521	122,374
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>802,666</u>	<u>218,490</u>
	3,212,975	2,465,240
Creditors	(242,365)	(234,745)
Bank loan	(69,063)	(87,733)
Total net assets	2,901,547	2,142,762
Funded by:		
Unrestricted funds		
General and office funds	832,525	202,169
Oxford Homeless Medical Fund	–	442,532
Designated funds		
Welfare & Medical Fund	195,513	147,593
Emergency reserve	–	650,947
Service user accommodation and development	711,307	–
Housing First	449,300	–
Restricted funds		
Oxford Homeless Medical Fund building	702,902	699,521
Personalisation	10,000	–
Total funds	2,901,547	2,142,762

Notes to the accounts: The summarised accounts printed in this annual report may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. Copies of the unabridged accounts (which comply with current statutory requirements and include an unqualified audit report) can be obtained on request from Oxford Homeless Pathways.

Auditor's statement: "We have examined the summarised financial statement included in this annual report. The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements; we have agreed to report our opinion on their consistency with the full financial statements.

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summary is consistent with the full financial statement from which they have been prepared. In our opinion, the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statement for the year ended 31 March 2013."

James Cowper Accountants



Mission

OxHoP's mission is to make homelessness a thing of the past; to support and guide people along a one-way journey out of homelessness, towards fulfilling futures.

Aims

OxHoP's aim is to provide a broad range of innovative and excellent services across the Oxfordshire region, to help homeless people regain and maintain independence. We aim to empower individuals to take control of their own lives, and thrive to the best of their ability.

Objectives

Swift, effective, creative and lasting responses to transform the lives of people who find themselves homeless, including:

- Providing a range of housing with high quality support, creating individual solutions to individual needs
- Encouraging and supporting homeless people to take up training, education and activities to live the lives they want to live away from the stigma of homelessness
- Supplementing the effectiveness of health services for homeless people
- Working locally and nationally to influence all aspects of public provision which impact on homelessness, with the ultimate goal of ending homelessness
- Working with other providers to ensure that services evolve in a way that best meets the needs of homeless people
- Raising awareness and promoting social inclusion by helping people understand the complex issues surrounding homelessness



Oxford Homeless Pathways

O'Hanlon House, Julian Housing and Oxford Homeless Medical Fund

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Registered charity no. 297806

Registered company no. 2164150

Constituted as an incorporated charity under a Memorandum and Articles of Association