



Oxford Night Shelter

Annual Report 2006/07



“Moving on - making it last”



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Oxford Night Shelter
Incorporating Day Shelter and Julian Housing.

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Registered charity no 297806
Registered company no. 2164150
Constituted as an incorporated charity under a Memorandum and Articles of Association



Mission

Oxford Night Shelter enables homeless people to find and sustain stable housing by providing emergency facilities, resettlement advice and assistance and appropriate move-on accommodation.

Aim

Oxford Night Shelter exists to help homeless people by providing accommodation and support towards independence.

Objectives

- To provide safe emergency accommodation and daytime facilities for those in need.
- To help homeless people to move on to more appropriate accommodation and a more independent and stable lifestyle.
- To work with other agencies to fight homelessness, raise awareness and promote social inclusion.
- To reflect best practice in homelessness support.



O'Hanlon House is owned by Home Group and managed by Oxford Night Shelter for Stonham, the supported housing division of Home Group

Staff and volunteers



Director Lesley Dewhurst
Operations Manager Simon Pitkin
Finance Manager Mike Slater

Casual Workers Tracy, Claire, Frank, Effie, Emma, Simon, Dave, Beccs, Michelli, Caroline, Mary, James

O'Hanlon House (01865 304600)

Administrator Jason Buckingham
Finance & Admin Assistant Gabriel

Maintenance team Bryan, Clive, Rob
Resettlement Manager Toby Blake
Resettlement Workers Souad, Anny, Fred, Tina

Deputy Ops Managers Sally Dyer
Lucy Richman
Lucy Flanagan

Julian Housing (01865 201992)

Day Team Elaine, Iain, Jason, Heather, Freddie, Lindsay, Jess, Richard (Holly, Christopher, Francisco and Richard left 2006; James left 2007)

Support Manager Alan Cowland
Team Leader Matt Clarke
Support Workers Paul, Lindsey, Pearline, Gemma, Jayson (Dawn left 2006)

Night Team Robert, Pearl, Laurent, Zak, Dominic, Survivijay, Amarjit, Susan, Laura, Rodney, Penny (Bernie left 2006; Jayson seconded to Julian Housing)

Maintenance team Chris, Ian

Thanks also to Gavin, Natalie and Jules (harm reduction workers); Margaret, Marie, Karwan and Osman (catering partnership); Jill and Aziz (adult learning and skills for life); Janet (counselling) and Angela (reconnection worker). Also Oxford City Council Housing Options team for their fortnightly surgeries.

Trustees and advisors

TRUSTEES 2006/07 (elected by the association)

Christopher Blount (Chair)
David Barnett (Treasurer)
Father William Hewett
Mark Nightall
Stuart Reid
Deborah Glass-Woodin
Paul Goodman
Pat Goodwin
(Robert Mardle left 2006)

PATRONS

Radiohead
Hugo Brunner
Sir John Mortimer
Miss Jean Marsh
Rt Rev Richard Harries
His Grace the Duke of Marlborough

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Auditors: Edmund Gibbs Group, Kingsgate, 4610 Cascade, Oxford Business Park South, Oxford OX4 2SU

Solicitors: Ferguson Bricknell, Chester House, George Street, Oxford OX1 2AY

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, 9 Brindley Place, 4 Oozels Square, Birmingham, B1 2HB

ADVISOR TO TRUSTEES
PC Paul Phillips

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Joe McManners
Cllr Chris Scanlan
Cllr Sushila Dhall

A trustee's view



I HAVE been on the management committee for some years now and have seen the Oxford Night Shelter evolve from a collection of mismatched 'dorms' and mobile buildings, via a 'twinkle in Paddy O'Hanlon's eye', to the magnificent project it is today.

Although I have worked a couple of shifts in the past, and helped with interviewing for staff, I feel I have very much an outsider's perspective on the place. However, I have spent some years working with vulnerable families and young people in care and so am keenly aware of how things can go very wrong for people.

To me, homelessness epitomises one of the fundamental flaws in our so-called civilised society. Community breakdown and alienation lie at the heart of many of the problems we face today. The loneliness, rootlessness, addiction and mental health problems that can result are some of the biggest challenges there are.

There is plenty of rhetoric aimed at addressing these issues. The marvel of O'Hanlon House and Julian Housing is the very immediate way that rhetoric has turned into action; real, workable solutions are found to seemingly intractable problems, and some of the most vulnerable people are helped to aspire to greater things.

The commitment of the staff is inspiring. It's almost as if it will succeed simply because so many dedicated people believe it will and are determined to make it happen.

The future may well be as full of change as the past has been. Yet, much as the present environment surpasses the buildings of the past, so, it seems to me, does the work within them.

I have every faith that the staff and users of the Oxford Night Shelter will rise to any future challenges and continue to go from strength to strength. It is an honour and a pleasure to be associated with you all.

Deborah Glass-Woodin

"To me, homelessness epitomises one of the fundamental flaws in our so-called civilised society"

Director's report

LOOKING at my 'wish list' at the end of my last report, I am very pleased to see that we have made a lot of progress in line with our aspirations for the year.

One of the key targets for last year was to secure funding for a training, education and activities co-ordinator. I am extremely pleased to say we were successful in this task – gaining funding from Oxford City Council and Big Lottery to fund this post for more than four years. The new postholder started on 1 April, so it is too early to report on the effect this is having.

Our hope is that our service users will be energised, invigorated and inspired by the new opportunities they should gain from this – all vital ingredients in the tricky process of moving onwards and upwards!

This year we have been very involved in new initiatives to assist people in moving on and succeeding in finding and maintaining stable accommodation.

We have been participating in a national pilot project to encourage local areas to set targets and action plans to increase the success of people moving on from hostels. This has been an interesting piece of work and should continue to grow in the coming year.

Certainly the whole notion of how we increase the chances of our service users making positive moves once they leave us, is top of our agenda. To this end, Julian Housing has acquired a 13th property, which is to be used for 'third stage' – people who are ready to live without our support, but for whom no suitable



properties are yet available.

We were also thrilled to finally complete our merger with Oxford Homeless Medical Fund earlier in the year. This means that links between Oxford Night Shelter and Luther Street Medical Centre are now closer than ever.

On a personal note, it continues to be a pleasure to lead an organisation with such a supportive and dynamic staff team, and such a committed group of trustees and other supporters. Many thanks to everyone for their input.

Lesley Dewhurst

"We have made a lot of progress in line with our aspirations for the year"

Chair's report

REFLECTING on the year to 31 March 2007, it is hard to believe it is only 30 months since we opened O'Hanlon House.

We now accept that a comfortable bed and washing facilities, quality food, a relaxed living environment, and access to new activities are the norm for our service users.

The dormitories and the decrepit building are now distant memories. We have come a long way in a short time and we are proud of the new facilities. The impact on both residents and staff has been dramatic. It is very encouraging that applications for jobs at the ONS are now over-subscribed. It is no longer a place to tolerate for a short while, but to build a career. Residents no longer feel intimidated, and the number of incidents has declined sharply. More vulnerable users feel comfortable with staying at the ONS, presenting an opportunity for our resettlement team to help those most in need.

Resettlement numbers have been rising, and the atmosphere is one of hope and progress. This can be felt in the Night Shelter, Day Centre and Julian Housing.

This is due in the most part to the strong leadership provided by Lesley Dewhurst and Simon Pitkin and the management team. Their example of fairness and forward thinking has created this healthy environment.

We must not be complacent. Government



directives now demand that we are the best provider of our services. We have to show that we have the competence to expand not only the range of support we offer, but also encourage us to look beyond our immediate locality to ensure our survival and progress. I look forward to reporting on that progress and expansion in the 2008 annual report.

Chris Blount

"We have come a long way in a short time and we are proud of the new facilities"

Assessment helps city's new arrivals

A RECONNECTION service is being provided at O'Hanlon House by the street services team, as part of Oxford City Council's reconnection policy.

This was implemented in October 2006, in response to increasing numbers of rough sleepers arriving from other areas. The policy involves assessing and working with newly arrived clients, finding them appropriate accommodation and services in either their area of origin or where supply outstrips demand. The aim is to limit time spent rough sleeping and promote clients' stability within an environment where positive move on is possible.

As a member of the street services team, I provide an assessment service for new arrivals, based at ONS. This was seen as the natural home for the assessment process, as the shelter's services are used at some point by nearly all the over-25 street homeless population in, or passing through, Oxford. The provision of this space has been of great benefit to clients, making the service easily accessible through daily drop-in sessions, and has also provided the opportunity for improved communication and networking between the SST and ONS.

I would like to thank all the team at O'Hanlon House for their generous welcome, and the help and support given to me throughout the implementation of this policy.

Angela – Reconnection worker

Screen idols

IN the past year ONS has twice had the pleasure to be part of a participatory video training course (PV) facilitated by Oxford INSIGHT. The course aims to introduce PV as a tool for empowering individuals and communities. Through a video camera, communities and individuals can express their opinion, in a creative process.

Our clients were able to choose the theme they wanted to explore and to design their own stories. They took on the role of director, scriptwriters, camera crew - but most of all, as in their own lives, they were the actors.

The course gave people a blank page to create, and maybe to question, their own lives. The result of this experience was three short films, which united humour, history and the big issue, homelessness.

The project was a great experience for our clients. As their became familiar with the equipment, ideas and stories began to flow and the challenge then was to narrow down the themes as everybody came up with great ideas.

As for myself, a member of staff, it was a fun, bonding and rewarding experience and, moreover, opened new horizons on ways that homelessness can be tackled.

Michelli, project worker

The past 12 months have seen new services and activities starting up at O'Hanlon House - this page gives a taste of some of the achievements chalked up in 2006/07



Clients click with computer skills

ON Tuesdays during term time the activity room is taken over by the sound of clicking mice, tapping keyboards and the occasional frustrated mutter as someone tries to make the computers behave. From 10am to noon two computers are connected to the internet. A tutor from the county council's adult learning team is available to help anyone who needs it and two laptops are available for work that doesn't involve the internet.

So, do people use this resource just to play computer games and listen to music? Some do – but these activities can be a good way of learning how to use a mouse and keyboard, and losing your fear of computers; they are an interesting way of spending a few minutes (or hours) and they can lead on to other things.

People also check their emails – a good way of keeping in touch as you don't need to change your email address just because you are moving around. Emailing yourself is a useful way of keeping copies of important documents, such as your CV, as your email account is accessible from any internet-linked computer.

They print out letters, pictures, poems, make cards and calendars. They look on the internet for accommodation, jobs, news from home. They research things that interest them – anything from looking at the Magna Carta on the British Museum site to finding out who is playing at all the major rock festivals this summer.

Some people want to learn more and have had short introductions to word processing, file management and desktop publishing. One person has even gone on to do a more structured course at the central library but still comes along on Tuesday mornings for more practice.

Jill Collinge – Adult Learning Team

Drop-in service builds on success

SET up more than two years ago, the Oxford City harm reduction service is a drop-in service, which also accepts referrals from other agencies, for any over-18s using substances.

We work to very strict guidelines to ensure our service users receive the best possible treatment we can provide – and if we can't provide it we have an extensive referral system in place.

We pride ourselves on our "made to suit" training packages, which we can offer to other organisations that come into contact with service users who may be misusing substances.

We offer opportunities for selected individuals to volunteer for the service – a perfect environment to gain work experience within the substance misuse field.

We have maintained consistent high levels of returns rates from the needle exchange aspect of the service, often receiving more back than were initially given out – 12 per cent is our record so far. In the year to April 2007, we gave out 1,769 SWOP packs of which 1,257 syringe bins were returned, not including 'pick 'n' mix, meaning fewer discarded syringes.

Altogether, a very good year!

Gavin – Harm reduction worker

“I have now gained the most important tool for living a good life – self worth”

Moving on – some success stories

A letter from John

Dear Night Shelter staff

Long ago I learned that the first instalment of any debt is gratitude. I owe a considerable debt to all staff at O’Hanlon House who looked after me during my stay there last year, especially the members of the Resettlement Team.

The importance of having a home can only be truly understood by someone who has been without one. I understand how it feels to be homeless, and I now understand the importance of those who help others to gain their own homes. Only through their help am I now able to sit in my own home and write this letter.

Words alone are insufficient to describe the value of people such as these but, without them, the world would be a far poorer place.

John, now resettled



“The importance of having a home can only be truly understood by someone who has been without one”



Case study: Ryan

RYAN’S drug problem had caused him to go through the homeless system several times before he managed to stop using drugs, while staying on the Night Shelter’s resettlement floor.

After a period of stabilising, attending courses and showing how well he could cope, Ryan clearly did not require social or supported housing. He was also clear that he didn’t want to be in East Oxford, where most of the private rented properties are (along with most of the drug dealers!).

Home Choice provided the perfect answer. Shared housing in a different part of town, with six months of support from the resettlement team and the backing of Oxford City Council, has been ideal. The first house Ryan moved in to did not work out – the person he was sharing with started drinking heavily and was bringing Ryan down with him. The Home Choice team found him another house with people he got on with.

This kind of flexibility is an essential ingredient in the way Home Choice works – not giving up on people when it doesn’t work out, undertaking to move them if the landlord pulls out – things that would normally result in someone becoming homeless again if they were left alone in the private rented sector. Minor hiccups that become major tragedies if not attended to.

ONE hundred and thirty-eight clients were resettled from the Night Shelter in 2006/07 – the same number as in 2005/06. Although this is not as high as previous years, we believe the quality of resettlement offered nowadays is significantly higher – no longer are people just sent anywhere that will take them. The downward trend now appears to have levelled out.

Case files of clients who moved on from the resettlement floor in the past 12 months show:

- we accommodated a higher number of drug users on the resettlement floor in 2006/07 than in the previous year and had a greater success rate in moving them on, and have had fewer evictions.
- evictions from the resettlement floor were lower last year in general, not just for drug users.
- 73 per cent of all resettlement floor clients are still in their accommodation of choice after one year.
- of the 27 per cent who did not succeed in their move-on accommodation, seven returned to the Night Shelter and six were known to be rough sleeping or in prison.
- a quarter of all the clients who used O’Hanlon House in 2006/07 moved up to the resettlement floor. Many others who did not were resettled from the direct access part of the hostel.

A day in the life ...

ARRIVE at work at 8.25 am in time for ‘handover’. This is the time that the ONS night team hand over any concerns from the previous night to the day staff.

Concern that Barry is becoming more withdrawn and not engaging with staff. First note to self to find Barry and talk through how things are going.

In the meantime we had two new arrivals last night who want to talk to a resettlement worker. As I am ‘duty’ this morning it is up to me to see anyone who has not already been allocated a resettlement worker.

I meet Gary and Eddy; they say they are newly arrived in Oxford, having come down from Newcastle looking for work. I explain about the Reconnection policy in Oxford and contact the Reconnection Worker based at the shelter and make an appointment for them to see her.

I pop up onto the ‘blue’ (resettlement) floor and knock on Barry’s door. Barry says it is too early to talk but will catch me later as he ‘has been having some problems’ – which makes me concerned that his mental health is going downhill as it has in the past.

Meanwhile get told by my colleague that Sue is looking for me with good news. I find Sue and indeed it is good news: due to her medical condition and history she is to be offered a one-bed studio flat in Blackbird Leys. Sit down for an hour going through what now needs to be done, accept offer, arrange viewing, sort out benefits, sort out furniture, how we can get furniture, what level of support we from ONS can offer.

Worth all getting together to discuss this, very satisfying conversation and will over the next month hopefully get her in and settled.

On getting back downstairs am asked to phone

Ben, a client we resettled into private rented accommodation six weeks ago. Manage to reach him on first attempt. He is in a panic as he has received a letter from his letting agent informing him that he is £120 in arrears, and can’t quite work out why – so tell him to come down and we’ll work it out. Phone letting agent, who informs me that housing benefit doesn’t cover whole rent and ‘top up’ needed.

I ask project workers if they have seen Barry yet. They say he has gone out.

Katie, project worker, gives me a copy of a resettlement floor application for Ian. It states that one of the reasons Ian became homeless was drug use and I am aware that Ian is still using occasionally, yet, in his application, he doesn’t say he is willing to do anything to address this. So, fire this back to Katie asking for her to talk to Ian about this, saying that being an active drug user doesn’t stop a client accessing the blue floor but he needs to make some form of commitment to address the drug use.

I grab another project worker and ask them to sit down with Andrew and complete a Julian Housing application – they say they will try to get it done, and if not will hand over to a night project worker to do

Pop upstairs and start monitoring forms for move-on but interrupted by project worker saying Barry back in and asking for me. Meet up with him on the resettlement floor – Barry wants to talk about rent. He has failed to pay his rent. Asked why, he says he has blown his giro – had gone out and spent it all on the horses over the weekend – and is very worried about being evicted for arrears. I say I’ll talk to a manager about the arrears.

Case study: Mark

“When I first came to the Oxford Night Shelter, I had a number of issues I needed to deal with. After spending the last 15 years in and out of prison and with a bad drug problem, I really needed a lot of help.

“I found the staff at the Night Shelter were very understanding and really supported me with changing and dealing with the problems that had built up over many years. The staff really helped me to stay focused with the life-changing moves that I needed to make for me to live a productive life in the community.

“I now live in a one-bedroom flat, and am going to college, training to be a mentor, doing some voluntary work and really starting to enjoy life. I have now gained the most important tool for living a good life – self worth.

“I have to give a lot of credit to the staff at the Night Shelter as they helped to get me my flat and put me in touch with the different agencies in Oxford that have made a big difference to my life.”

Mark

Pop upstairs and they agree that since Barry has been doing so well they are happy to write up payment plan for him to work to though. But if he doesn’t stick to it he’ll have to move off the blue floor.

I pop downstairs and tell Barry. We discuss the gambling and how we can move forwards, and how this needs to be incorporated in his resettlement plan. But first things first – need to reflect what has happened before making any snap decisions and commitments that he can not stick to. Barry seems very relieved but wants to talk further so I suggest we go down to the hall and talk about it over lunch ...

Resettlement worker



The average stay at the night shelter is about 50 days – twice as long as two years ago, and three times longer than five years ago

■ The Julian Housing team have seen a number of changes in the past 12 months



“The life skills house, which provides essential skills for independent living, has branched out and is now able to provide more resources for learning”

The learning curve ...

THE learning workshop is open to all Julian Housing clients and provides individually tailored support in Skills for Life, mainly in English, maths and basic computing, and could lead to gaining qualifications ranging from Entry Level up to Level 2 (GCSE grade A-C equivalent).

The needs are initially identified through an interactive computer-based diagnostic assessment in English and maths, and also indicates whether learners have any type of learning difficulty, such as dyslexia.

This is followed by devising an individual learning plan (ILP), which will be agreed by the learner and sets clear aims and a timescale for achieving them.

Since starting in late 2005, the workshop has been popular and several learners gained qualifications that helped them move on to further education at local colleges. It runs once a week at the Summer House located behind Julian Housing main offices in Cowley.

Although education is the main focus, the workshop links learning to the learner's personal development.

Once the required level in English, maths and/or IT is reached, learning becomes more focussed and promotes the learning of the subjects linked to potential careers and training – for example, landscaping/maths, media/IT and English, plastering/maths, digital photography/computers and maths – which makes it relevant and more engaging.

Aziz Halime



A total of 118 clients stayed at Julian Housing in 2006/07

Ch-ch-changes

JULIAN Housing is the one of the next stages for people living on the resettlement floor of O'Hanlon House. This past year has seen some changes in our structure, additions to our support team and the way in which it is delivered.

The most notable changes are the appointment of a team leader and the re-vamp of some of our successful projects, such as the dry house and the life skills house. Our client contact area has expanded; clients now have access to the internet between working hours and staff are able to meet in a more confidential and comfortable space.

Changes in staffing and the diverse needs of our residents have meant that our provisions have evolved. The dry house, which saw so many of its residents go on to independent accommodation, is being re-visited with vigour. It will follow the successful ethos of before but will now be able to boast additions to support and resources.

The life skills house, which provides essential skills for independent living, has branched out and is now able to provide more resources for learning. Along with cooking skills, clients are given the opportunity to address budgeting needs as well as help with literacy. The basic skills tutor is continuing to provide one-to-one support to small groups of residents.

Julian Housing has also taken on a new house – a long-term resettlement project that provides clients with the opportunity to live with complete independence, meaning clients who don't fit the requirements of the move-on can be housed securely.



My time at Julian Housing

I'm delighted to bits at the chance to write this piece. Mainly because the support and help provided is first class. While life has its ups and downs – kinda like the day and night – the staff are on hand to help put you right.

Julian Housing let me in at a time when I let no others near, when alcohol controlled my life. If you want to get to where you want in life and committed, then Julian Housing may be for you.

I'm dry now and will be housed eventually – through the Move-On Scheme. For future residents who may need counselling then Julian Housing can refer you to the excellent service provided at Steppin Stones, which has given me great self-belief again.

There's also good education provided by Aziz on the project, which shows it's never too late to do something good for yourself. It really builds your confidence and makes you think of future possibilities.

I thank you all for taking a minute to read this.

Gavin L (aged 27)

Ten of the 118 clients were women, and 12 from BME backgrounds

Case study: Pierre

PIERRE is a 54-year-old man who was born on Mayotte, a small island off the coast of Africa. The island is still a protectorate of France. Pierre moved to France in the 90s; he had many jobs including taxi driver, forklift driver, kitchen porter and carpenter.

Due to the economic downturn in France, jobs became scarce and Pierre became unemployed. A friend of a friend promised him a job in London. He travelled there only to find that no job was on offer. He had little money and his grasp of the English language was almost non-existent.

He slept on peoples sofa's for a few weeks and then went to Oxford in 2003. He had no option but to go to Oxford Night Shelter.

The resettlement team at the Night Shelter picked up Pierre's case. They found he had very few of the issues usually associated with homelessness and that he just wanted a place to live and a job as soon as possible.

A problem arose when they found that Pierre, although he had a French passport and France was a member of the EU, did not have the right to claim state benefits. This was overcome by giving Pierre some work to do at the Julian Housing Project. As long as he had paid some tax and national insurance he could claim state benefits. Pierre was now ready to move on.

Pierre moved to the Julian Housing Project in November 2003. There was some concern about Pierre becoming isolated in his room due to his lack of English and not knowing anyone in Oxford, but luckily living in the house was a man from Canada who spoke perfect French and a man from Congo who spoke French as a second language.

Pierre is a practicing Muslim and attended the local mosque everyday. He enrolled at the local English School and went to classes twice a week. Now Pierre needed a job.

During the next year Pierre applied for numerous jobs mostly in catering and warehouse work. He was unsuccessful in gaining employment – mostly because his English was still not good enough. In October 2005 he managed to get a full time job at a local gym as a kitchen porter. The wages were not that good and he now had to pay almost his full rent.

Pierre asked to be put on the move-on for council housing. He was offered a flat in December 2006 and moved in just after Christmas. He has now settled in and will shortly be going back home to Mayotte for a holiday.

“While life has its ups and downs – kinda like the day and night – the staff are on hand to help put you right”

Financial report

RENTAL income for both O'Hanlon House and the Julian Housing Project has been maintained throughout the year to budget expectations.

Grant awards have been as anticipated, including the 'Supporting People' grant, the Primary Care Trust and Oxford City Council. General donations are slightly down from last year but we are continually grateful for the support by individuals and groups who donate 'in kind' as well as cash support. This enables us to provide services and welfare specifically targeted to our residents above the level provided by general grants.

A surplus of £81,000 (made up of £68,000 for ONS and £13,000 for the Oxford Homeless Medical Fund) has been taken into our reserve fund. A prudent use of resources has been evident through the year, necessitated by a 4.5 per cent reduction in Supporting People grant. Reserves have been maintained and generated £44,000 in interest.

The statement now shows assets brought in from the merger with OHMF, which took place in December 2006.

Reserves include £552,000 (about three months' operating costs for 2007/08) which is set aside as a contingency against future uncertainty affecting the service we provide, in accordance with best practice, and recommended by the Charity Commission.

Mike Slater

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 Night Shelter.

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 2007."

Shaw Gibbs Accountants

Statement of Financial Activities 2006/07

	2006/07	2005/06
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Rent and Supporting People Grants	1,688,082	1,580,956
Donations	338,687	335,189
Investment income	31,176	29,277
	61,707	39,437
Total incoming resources	2,119,652	1,984,859
<i>(Less cost of generating funds)</i>	<i>no fundraising</i>	<i>no fundraising</i>
Total available for charitable applications	2,119,652	1,984,859
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Direct charitable expenditure		
Service costs	1,392,148	1,338,199
Service support	595,444	583,107
	1,987,592	1,921,306
Other expenditure		
Governance costs	50,747	51,397
Total resources expended	2,038,339	1,972,703
Net incoming resources for this year	81,313	12,156
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2006	1,086,292	1,074,136
Fund balances on transfer of Oxford Homeless Medical Fund (OHMF)	945,635	-
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2007	2,113,240	1,086,292
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2006	2007	2006
Assets		
Tangible fixed assets	1,063,217	328,569
Current assets		
Debtors	115,024	25,125
Cash at bank and in hand	1,219,165	1,000,427
	2,397,406	1,354,121
Creditors	(112,083)	(92,024)
Bank loan	(172,083)	(175,805)
Total net assets	2,113,240	1,086,292
Funded by:		
Unrestricted funds		
Income and expenditure	108,791	149,846
Julian Housing	268,447	211,002
OHMF	219,442	-
Designated funds		
Welfare fund	67,876	64,232
Emergency reserve	668,958	623,156
Restricted funds		
Building development	40,301	38,056
Oxford Homeless Medical Fund	739,425	-
Total funds	2,113,240	1,086,292



About 11 per cent of clients are female, staying an average 65 days

You can make a difference

● REFER SOMEONE IN NEED

Our staff are always willing to talk through an individual's need, and help find the best source of help – even if it lies elsewhere.

● ARRANGE A VISIT

We are always pleased to tell you more about homelessness and the work of the night shelter and we are happy to arrange a tour of our facilities or to come and talk to your group. Call the Duty Manager on 01865 304600.

● PAYROLL GIVING

Would your employer be willing to allow us to talk to the staff about Payroll Giving? If you promised to donate £5 a month out of your salary, it would cost you only £3.90 a month and would pay us £5.50 a month. Contact Jason Buckingham for more details on 01865 304600.

● CORPORATE GIVING

We are looking for companies who would be interested in making Oxford Night Shelter their charity of the year or sponsoring an area in the new building, such as the library or activity room. Contact Jason Buckingham on 01865 304600.

● DONATIONS

We are always pleased to receive donations of clothing, particularly socks, underwear, jeans and sweatshirts. We are always desperately short of towels (hand and bath), blankets, single fitted sheets and duvet covers. Call 01865 304600. We also accept household goods for our move-on accommodation. Speak to Alan at Julian Housing on 01865 201992.

● VOUCHERS

Vouchers can be purchased from the night shelter and given to homeless people on the street. A voucher, which costs £3, allows one person to obtain one night's accommodation,

a hot meal, shower and laundry facilities. Vouchers are sold in books of ten and cost £30. Call Mike or Gabriel on 01865 304600.

● TRAVELLING ABROAD?

Oxford Night Shelter can use the complimentary toiletries and socks that are often supplied when travelling. Do you have some? Call Jason Buckingham on 01865 304600.

● GIVING

Donations are always gratefully received and enable us to develop our work and provide extras for individual homeless people. We can help arrange tax-effective giving and standing orders. Contact Jason Buckingham on 01865 304600.

● IN MEMORY

You could remember Oxford Night Shelter in your will, or arrange for donations in lieu of funeral flowers or donate the proceeds of a church collection to the shelter. For more information, contact Jason Buckingham on 01865 304600.

● OXFORD SLEEP-OUT

The Oxford Sleep-out is held every year to support agencies for homeless people. Maybe you could help by joining this year's Sleep-out, or paying to sleep in your own bed, or helping with the street collection. Contact Jason Buckingham on 01865 304600 or visit the Sleep Out website – www.oxfordsleepout.moonfruit.com

● OXFORD NIGHT SHELTER WEBSITE

Don't forget you can donate money on line, by visiting our website – www.oxfordnightshester.org.uk – and following the links to 'Justgiving'.

Thank you all!

THE year has been filled with a lovely continuous stream of kindness landing at our door. As always, members of the public and other organisations have been extremely generous with both practical and financial gifts. Just knowing the general public is thinking of those who are worse off than themselves can be helpful in itself.

The most humorous gift of the year has to have been the prize-winning giant pumpkin that arrived last autumn. Pumpkin pie, pumpkin soup, roast pumpkin ... all were imaginatively cooked up for us by our chef, Susan.



We have also benefited from the proceeds raised during a charity fundraising trek – do read Sam Longair's article about his experiences, below.

We would particularly like to thank people for the growing number of anonymous donations we have received over the past 12 months. We do hope you are reading this report and can receive our thanks this way. The list below does not cover all our donors by any means; just those who have been particularly generous:

Still Waters Charitable Trust
Magdalen College Junior Common Room
St Giles Church, Oxford
Oxford Wholefoods, Oxford
Marks and Spencer, Oxford
Streetsmart
Oxford Poverty Action Trust
Mother Theresa Group, Kidlington
Revive Hairdressers
Audrey Dyer, Brill
Shellswell Group of Parishes
Kidlington Baptist Church
Oxford Civic Society
St Nicholas Church, Marston
Long Hanborough Methodist Church
Trinity Church, Abingdon
Bloxham School
Jane Butler at Breadline
Brasenose College JCR
Hertford College MCR
Cumnor Parish Church
Bicester Methodist Church
Oxfam Bookshop

We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking our volunteers for the generous use of their time. It makes a real difference to us on the shifts that they help out, and adds greatly to the spirit of goodwill at the Shelter.

Also our thanks go to the grant-making bodies that help support our services:
Oxfordshire Supporting People
Oxford City Council
Oxford City Primary Care Trust
Homelessness and Housing Support Directorate

Trekking for the night shelter

I FIRST learned about the night shelter's important work in Oxford when I started doing some outreach work among homeless people as part of a group of Christian students from the university.

In late 2005 I decided I wanted to do a trek for charity and after making some enquiries discovered that a company called Charity Challenge would allow you to do such an expedition in aid of any registered charity. I thought ONS would be ideal, and started fundraising at the start of 2006.

One of the advantages of being a student supporting a local cause is that I was able to raise a fairly substantial amount of money from various college student common rooms. I received very generous donations from Keble, Merton, Brasenose and Trinity, for which I am very grateful.

It also happened that my 21st birthday fell within my fundraising period. As there was nothing I particularly wanted, I asked my friends and family to make donations towards my fundraising instead of buying presents.

After eight months of letter writing, email sending and nagging almost everyone I had

ever met, I reaching my target. In total I raised around £2,000 for the shelter and raised awareness of their work among individuals and student bodies both in Oxford and beyond.

The expedition itself took place in Northern Tanzania at the start of September and was a great experience. It was physically challenging, as we walked about 100km in very hot and dusty conditions. To add to this, my bag was lost by the airline so I had to walk for seven days in the same clothes – a shower was very much needed by the end.

We saw a very wide range of wildlife: giraffes, lions, elephants, gazelles and so many zebras that we barely noticed them by the end.

It was also great being in a group of people all raising money for causes that meant something to them. Many were trekking for local hospices, air ambulance trusts or local charities working with disadvantaged people.

Overall I cannot recommend the experience enough. Anyone who wants an opportunity to get fit, have loads of fun and raise money at the same time should definitely consider doing something like this.

Sam Longair, September 2006

Most night shelter clients are aged between 26 and 49



Registered Charity No. 297806
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