

**South-West Devon
Service User/Carer
Network**

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Mental Health Involvement Workers
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MENTAL HEALTH, SOUTH-WEST DEVON - NEWS & VIEWS! **23rd MARCH 2007**

JANET & PENNIE'S MONTHLY SERVICE USER/CARER NETWORK GATHERINGS

These meetings usually run from 1.30 till about 4, all welcome! We normally have a speaker who tells us about what they do and then takes feedback, questions, comments and ideas; then we have a chance to catch up with what everyone's doing and what's going on. Expenses & light refreshments are available, and we help organise lifts for people, or can pick you up at the train station.

The next two meetings will NOT be in Dartington.

THURSDAY 29TH MARCH, with Imelda Walker from Devon Partnership Trust 'PALs', Patient Advice & Liaison Service, in the old Day Treatment Unit beside St Michael's Ward, **Newton Abbot Hospital**, East St. - parking on the hospital site is free, but can be tricky. **Please ask us for a MAP if needed.**

MONDAY 30TH APRIL, with Linda Stapleton, Public & Patient Involvement Lead, Devon Partnership Trust, on service user/carers involvement and expenses/payments [*venue to be decided*]

FRIDAY 8TH JUNE, with Trevor Snowden, Terry Grace, Shawn Tait – Interim General Managers, Devon Partnership Trust, South & West Devon and Torbay, to hear about developments in local services, and to give our views – at the **Lescaze Offices, Dartington**, in the Boardroom

We're also arranging a morning meeting for people in & around **DARTMOUTH** [venue to be agreed]
TUESDAY 19TH JUNE, 10 a.m., with Peter Whittle, Clinical Psychologist, on **psychological therapies**.

The notes from our last meeting, with the two former managers of Day Treatment in South-West Devon and Torbay, are now available – please ask for a copy.

SOUTHWEST NETWORK OF USER GROUPS [SNUGS!], 14th MAY, DARTINGTON

We're hosting the next quarterly SNUGS gathering in South Devon on Monday 14th May, 10.45 till 4. [Details attached.] SNUGS meetings include service users from Devon, Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset, and circulate around the different counties. Fill in the application form to be sure of a place!

CREDITON CONFERENCE: "THE FUTURE OF MENTAL HEALTH IN DEVON: AN HOLISTIC APPROACH?"

This event earlier in March was very interesting, and included a local speaker, Graham Hocknell from Tavistock, who talked very honestly and movingly about his own holistic approach to recovery. Graham's keen to meet up with other people to explore all aspects of the holistic approach, and to support one another in this. Email Graham on graham_hocknell@yahoo.co.uk or ring Janet/Pennie.

LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS – BUDDING JOURNALISTS??

Janet and Pennie would really welcome contributions to the newsletter from local people – are there any budding journalists out there?! Maybe you'd like to give us your perspective on the recent holistic conference if you were there? Or a piece about what helps support your own recovery? Or tell us about something going on in your area which deserves a wider audience? Or a short piece about a group you attend which is doing something that people need to hear about? Or perhaps the artist in you would like to jazz up our newsletters! **We'd love to hear from you!!** Call 01803 861974

CHANGES TO MENTAL HEALTH TEAMS IN TORBAY, 17th APRIL MEETING

This meeting with local managers (including Shawn Tait) on 17th April, 11.45 till 12.45, is to provide an update on developments in Torbay. The Community Mental Health Teams are likely to share an admin base in Paignton in the future, on the Clennon Valley site adjacent to the leisure centre, as part of a proposed 'Healthy Living Centre'. Clients of the CMHTs will mostly be seen at home or in community settings, e.g., local GPs' surgeries or Community Care Trust facilities. This meeting is for service users and carers to find out more and to air their ideas and views. [Venue to be agreed.]

TORBAY 'LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION GROUP'

The Torbay 'Local Implementation Group' (so-called 'LIG') brings together managers, staff, service users, carers, to take forward the planning & rolling-out of local services according to the National Service Framework for Mental Health. There's currently a vacancy for a 2nd service user to join the group – please talk to Pennie/Janet for more information. The group usually meets every 6-8 weeks.

DEVON PARTNERSHIP TRUST 'COMPULSORY AND ESSENTIAL' TRAINING REVIEW

The review of "compulsory and essential" staff training is at Langdon Hospital, Dawlish, on Thursday 29th March, 10 -1.00. The key question that will be addressed is "What are the characteristics of a good compulsory and essential training system?" If you'd like to feed in your views & ideas, you can contact Stephen Carter, Learning & Development Tutor, stephen.carter@devonptnrs.nhs.uk or on 01392 403478, or talk to Janet/Pennie. Many South-West Devon service users and carers have taken part in staff training (e.g., induction training, 'In My Shoes' sessions, and the Admin & Clerical staff conferences), so may have views on this – do ask us for a copy of the details of the review.

CRISIS RESOLUTION HOME TREATMENT & INPATIENT SERVICES

We have an updated version (Feb 2007) of the Devon Partnership Trust 'working draft' paper on these services locally by Chris Burford, called 'Moving Forward' – if you'd like a copy, please ask.

COMPLAINTS, APPRECIATION & PALS QUARTERLY REPORT, July-Sept 2006

We've recently received a copy of this (10-page) report, which gives information about complaints, appreciation and contacts with the Patient Advice & Liaison Service [PALS] in the Devon Partnership Trust [DPT] – it makes interesting reading, especially in comparing figures across the different areas of Devon. Do ask us for a copy. **This is one of the many DPT Trust Board papers available to the public via their website - <http://www.devonpartnership.nhs.uk/>.** Do ask us for more info.

SELF-HELP / SUPPORT IN SOUTHWEST DEVON

Please ring Janet/Pennie if you'd like a copy of our latest list of self-help/support in SW Devon.

COOL RECOVERY, SOUTH DEVON

Do get on the mailing list for the monthly 'COOLNEWS!' – ring Cool Recovery on 01803 299511.

INFORMATION ATTACHED

- ◆ **OUR APRIL 2007 PLANNER**
- ◆ **'SNUGS' INFORMATION & APPLICATION FORM FOR 14TH MAY**
- ◆ **HOLISTIC CONFERENCE HANDOUTS**
- ◆ **TORBAY BIPOLAR SELF-HELP GROUP FLYER**
- ◆ **DEVON WELLNESS WEBSITE FLYER**
- ◆ **PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK – LEAFLET ON GETTING INVOLVED IN NEW EXETER SERVICE USER/CARER GROUP [Ask us if you want another copy of the Plymouth group's leaflet too]**