

THE SPEAKER

the quarterly newsletter of



Independent Advocacy
Perth & Kinross

Spring 2009

A New Year

Now that we are into February and the Christmas festivities seem a long time ago, we thought it would be a good time to send out a brief update on what is coming up this year.

Last year saw quite a few changes, with 5 new staff in the Home Team and 12 new volunteers; thanks to the existing staff and volunteers we all felt very welcomed and part of a good team.

We are hoping for 2009 to be a year of consolidation on all the developments of Independent Advocacy, and to raise more awareness of the organisation; reaching more people who may need our support or wish to volunteer. We are particularly aiming to get in touch with people in the rural areas, who may be isolated and unaware that advocacy support is available.

We would also like to explore other areas where there may be an unmet need, such as prisons or people in the early stages of dementia, and we are still monitoring any increase in referrals for the new Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. So this could be another busy year!

On behalf of myself and the Home Team I would just like to finish by saying thanks for all your ongoing help and support, and we look forward to seeing you at the various training and support events throughout the year.

Clare Gallagher
Manager

60 Seconds on Jordan

Well where to start? I studied nursing at Dundee University but decided that I did not want to be cooped up in the hospital wards for the rest of my days so I accepted a job as a Youth Development Worker with PKAVS. I was at PKAVS for 18 months before I decided to pack everything up to follow my passion for presenting. I am now studying radio broadcasting at Adam Smith College in Fife, which I love. I managed to get a traineeship with Dundee's Wave 102 radio station. The guys are showing me the ropes there, so watch this space.

My hobbies are DJ-ing and singing either on my own or with various bands around Dundee.

When I first saw the job advertised for the Children & Young Peoples Post, I thought that is the job for me. When I was offered the post I was over the moon. Now I have been here 4 months I am still getting my head around things but the team is very supportive and put up with my constant questioning. It is all going great (so far) and I am enjoying every minute of it. I look forward to meeting and working with you all.



Bye for now

Jordan

Date for your Diary

Networking and Training Opportunity

(with Lunch)

22 April 2009
1pm – 4.30pm
IAPK Office

This is a new initiative where we have invited 2 speakers:

- * a local solicitor who will speak about Guardianship and
- * Welfare Rights who will give an overview of benefits.

The speakers will be giving two separate hourly sessions, so everyone will have the opportunity to hear both of them.

This is an opportunity to network with all volunteers and staff and we look forward to seeing you all.

Please let us know if you are unable to come

Independent Advocacy Perth & Kinross

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Mission Statement:

To enable those people in Perth and Kinross experiencing mental health problems, learning and physical disabilities, dementia, frailty, people experiencing age related problems and also those who are carers, to have their voices heard by providing Independent Advocacy so that they are involved in decisions which affect their lives. We work together with volunteers to create a stronger community where people are valued.

The Home Team:

Clare Gallagher (Manager)
Sandra Young (Mental Health Support)
Jordan Burns (Children & YP MH Support)
Rhona Spowart (Carers Advocacy Worker)
Amanda Moore (Administration)

Norrie Stewart (Mental Health Support)
Sheina Bell (Strathmartine Advocacy Support)
Angela Wright (Mental Health Support Worker)
Adrienne Ruddock (Volunteer Co-ordinator)

The Board:

Christine McLeod
Norma Bibby
Marion McFadzean

Peter Fleming
Frank Parnell
Jim Dow

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