

“Skilled”

“Creative”

“Talented”

“Inspiring”

May 2020



Issue 16

In Focus

The Newsletter of Ivy Care



Welcome to this first edition of our renamed and revamped company newsletter which aims to put the work of our homes “In Focus” and highlight the numerous achievements that we have celebrated over the first few months of 2020.

Without doubt we (along with the rest of the world) have been faced with an unprecedented challenge over recent weeks as the Coronavirus has taken hold, and we sincerely wish everyone well.

Paul Laycock - Editor

Locked Down but not Knocked Down

From following the Joe Wickes exercise programme to arts and crafts activities, from BBQ's to baking sessions, everyone has been busy and keeping themselves occupied during this difficult time. Perhaps one of the most emotive activities takes place at 8:00pm on Thursday evenings when service users and staff have joined with so many others around the country and showed their support for those in the NHS by clapping long and hard.

See inside for a collage of activities from across the services to show what we have been doing.



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Providing Inclusive Quality Support for adults with Learning Disability and Complex Needs, ensuring they are involved in every step of their personal pathway.....

Human Rights Event

Brian from Ivy Dene attended an information event at Barnsley Town Hall on the 10th March. This was a full day, with lots of interesting material and resources available.

Brian reflected on the proceedings saying, "I really enjoyed finding out what my human rights are and there is loads that are there to protect and help us. It was very interesting. I especially enjoyed listening to the poem by Yvonne Urgarte and I also won at the Human rights bingo'.



Ivy Mead's New Manager: Brennan Peat



Hello to everyone at Ivy care. I have not yet had the opportunity to meet everyone but I'm looking forward to meeting all the staff over the coming weeks. I have a varied work history but all in social care either in the public or statutory sector, spanning over 20 years.

My first role in social care was as a support worker for south Yorkshire housing association working with people with a mental health diagnosis in residential care and outreach services for people living in semi-independent accommodation. After a couple of years, I was attracted to the big city and moved to London where I started work as a project worker for a Forensic Mental Health Service I worked there for 10 years, starting as a project worker then moving up to a deputy manager and then as acting manager. In this time I studied at London Metropolitan University to qualify as a social worker and went on to practice as a forensic mental health social worker for Camlet Lodge Psychiatric Medium and Low Secure Hospital. After this I went back into the private sector where I have been involved in developing and managing a number of mental health and learning disability services, as a registered manager and also as an operations manager. I feel that over the years my passion has changed from wanting to support people directly to wanting to be able to influence improvements to the person's environment and the support in which people receive and being involved in the bigger picture. I hope that I am able to put my many years of experience and knowledge to good use at Ivy Mead. I look forward to meeting people I have not yet had the opportunity to meet and also working with you as part of Ivy Care.

Well Done to Alex

Over recent months, Alex from Ivy Lodge has worked hard to undertake a number of on-line courses and, having successfully completed the assessments has gained certificates in the following subjects:

Autism, Biting in Early Years, Basic First Aid, Food Allergy Awareness, Sign Language, Blossoming Babies, Child Protection, Motivating Boys in Early Years, Let's Create in a World of Play.

She says that it was hard work but worth it as all of these should prove very useful in her voluntary work at Station House.

Well done Alex!



15 Years of Service

Michaela Gallimore, Assistant Manager at Ivy Mead, recently celebrated 15-years service with the company.

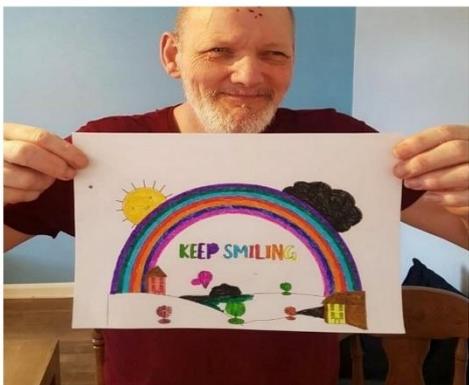
The service users made Michaela's day special by presenting her with a gift of a pamper session.

Over her 15 years, Michaela has undertaken a number of roles, starting as a support worker and, through developing her knowledge and skills, worked her way up to her current role as Assistant Manager.



When asked if anything had changed over the years Michaela said that the company have made a huge difference to a number of service user's lives and she is excited for what the future holds for Ivy Care.

Beating the Covid-19 Blues – Activities Across The Services



Building our Relationships

Beating the Covid-19 Blues – Activities Across The Services



Celebrating Success Together

The Management of Actual or Potential Aggression (MAPA) – New Trainer Appointed for Ivy Care.



Laura Hunton, Senior Support Worker at Ivy Mead and who has been with Ivy Care for 14 years, has recently successfully completed a 5-day “Train the Trainer” and diploma course with the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) and is now, alongside Paul Laycock (Registered Manager, Ivy Lodge), a trainer in the Management of Actual and Potential Aggression (MAPA) for us.

Laura says that the course was tough but is glad that she chose to complete it.

She has already provided Foundation and Refresher sessions for staff across the company.

Feedback

It is always good to receive feedback regarding our services and to share this with our readers. A recent visit led to the following comment being made:

‘I think Ivy Mead and the whole staff team are doing a brilliant job during what is a really difficult time for this person. The staff response is calm, caring and honest. Staff have read and understood the risk management advice I took over last week. This shows that you have really good communication as a team which is so reassuring.

I honestly am very impressed by the team at Ivy Mead.’

External professional



If you, or anyone you know, would like to give us feedback about any of our services, please ask for a feedback form or, alternatively, contact Claire Lee at the address below.



#StaySafe #StayStrong #StayPositive #StandByMe

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