



Our 50th year!

2015 marks the 50 years of service provision for Worthing Scope. A landmark that everyone connected now and in the past are pleased to achieve. It is however rather sad that we do not still have some of the key people who were there at the start still with us, especially Dorothy Till who passed away last year. This year I am intending to mark each event and any occasion that occurs with an accompanying tag of 'We are 50'

Late 2014 saw quite a few improvements throughout our premises especially some rather stunning artwork in the courtyard at the Fitzalan Howard Centre that was designed by students at Cornfield School in Littlehampton. The school have supported our day services for a number of years.

Local support is invaluable to us as Worthing Scope is very much a part of the community. The donation towards disabled facilities at Splashpoint enabled more appropriate changing facilities to be available and a further donation will soon support the refurbishment and provision of changing facilities in the toilets on the promenade opposite the Dome. Changing and toilets may not be too important to most people but when a person with disabilities has no access it is a major issue.

Access is also needed when around the town. If only shopkeepers would realise that wheelchairs need room to manoeuvre. Large A boards on the pavement may advertise lovely products but try getting round them in a wheelchair, or if your mobility or sight is impaired.

Our day service clients regularly visit local hostelrys and are always pleased to report back to me that they had no difficulty actually getting into the building. Positive feedback remains my preference any day. Rather belated, but my very best wishes to all our members and supporters for 2015 and let's hope for a positive, productive and happy year.

Pauline Fox (CEO)

THE CENTRE



Cornfield School

At Worthing Scope we have had a relationship with **Cornfield School**, Littlehampton for many years. Recently a group of students undertook an art project to brighten up our somewhat dreary courtyard area at the Fitzalan Howard Day Centre.



Worthing Scope Online

Worthing Scope is also online! visit the website at- www.worthingscope.org.uk/ and Facebook and Twitter - <https://twitter.com/worthingscope>

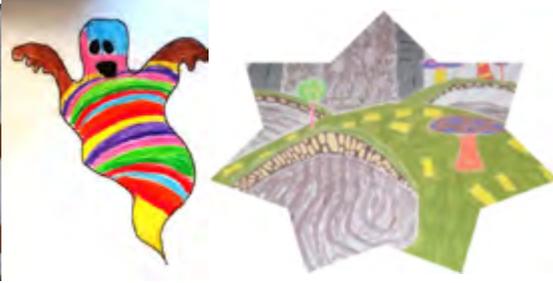


My Name Is Karen McDonald

I am sure some of you already know my face as I have been working on the bank for Worthing Scope for the last 18 months. Prior to this I have worked in care for more years than I would like to admit! I am enjoying now being a permanent member of the Worthing Scope team at the Fitzalan Howard Day Centre and look forward to getting to know the service users even better.



Fitzalan Howard Centre

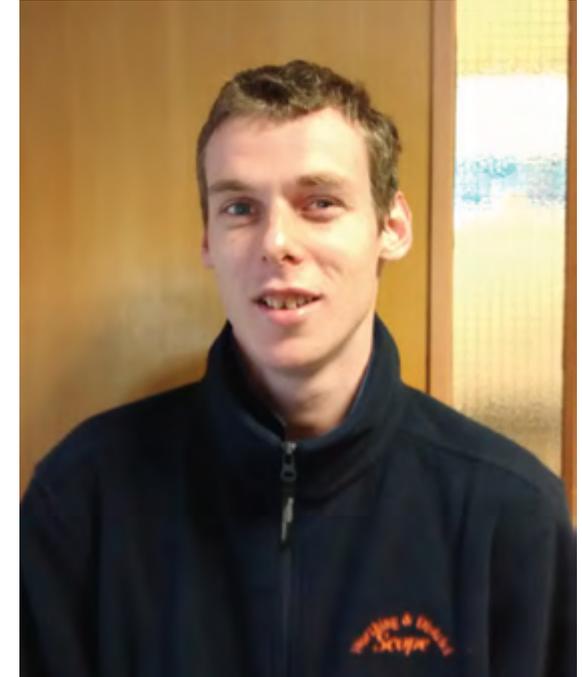


Path To Success

I first went to Worthing Scope in 2005 with college as part of my life skills course. I really liked it and stayed on as a volunteer at the Fitzalan Howard Day Centre. I got to know all the staff and users of the centre. In 2009 after four years of volunteering I was delighted when I was able to take part time employment at the day centre. I was also supported to complete my NVQ level 2 that same year.

In 2014 I was able to work more hours for Worthing Scope. This made me feel really good. It doesn't seem that long ago that I had no job and was really unsure what I would do after college.

Tony Corocran
Support Worker



Hi, My Name Is Anna



I worked in care services for 6 years before joining the team at the Fitzalan Howard Day Centre in October 2014. I enjoy supporting people to learn new skills and find it very rewarding to see people develop.

Standing Tall For Ms

I was diagnosed with degenerative condition Multiple Sclerosis in 1990 and am now classed as having secondary progressive MS. What this means is that I have become more and more dependent on care to meet many daily need that most people take for granted.

Pressures on my health and family life have at times been very difficult. Not least for my wife Dawn who not only co ordinates my care but that of our 5 year old autistic daughter Chelsea. Last year I realised we needed something to change. Being a fulltime wheelchair user creates many barriers in my life not to mention the exacerbation of various health conditions. I was prevented from a lot of the tasks

required to help bring up my lovely daughter and fully participate in family life. It was then that I discovered I could in theory stand once more.

I came across the Levo C3 wheelchair that could give me the support I need whilst raising me to a standing position. That's what I will have, I thought. Then came the reality, "How much!?"

My wife began contacting everyone she could think of about financial help. She started a GoFundMe online campaign which saw the general public donate over £700 and local clubs fundraise £700 for my cause. Then came along the the Worthing Scope Community Liaison



Me and Jo McCaffrey, Worthing Scope.

Worker, Jo McCaffrey who helped secure £5000 from Worthing Scope, MS Trust and ACT Foundation.

This was all amazing but still such a long way off the final target. One day at a good friend of mine Mark Radford put me onto the Dennis Wise & Frankham Group Charitable Trust. As a big time, lifelong Chelsea FC supporter I was fully up for this!

To cut a long story short (and I have many stories I would happily tell) they were willing to make a donation of the remaining funds needed for us to order my new chair.

In the few short weeks since having my Levo C3 chair I have been pleasantly surprised by how well and positive I feel. While Dawn and I are both trying to get used to my new access mobility after years of "can you get me...." we feel hope and excitement for our family's future.

So many people have had a hand in making this happen for us that I could not begin to mention everyone. But I thank you all and ask that people know how much difference they can make to others.

Gary Allen



Me in my Levo C3 chair

My Return to Worthing & District Scope

Last February I was pleased to be invited by the Trustees to join the Board again. I retired as Treasurer in 2008 and on my return found that very little had changed. However as I became more familiar with the organization I found it was very different.

Soon after I visited Vicky Golds the Manager at the Centre in Birkdale Road and found a very different service. I was introduced to a team providing a person centered service to users with complex and varying needs.

I was sorry to learn that our bungalow in Exmoor Crescent was sold after WSCC would no longer fund this type of facility. However I was delighted to see that in the last year two flats have been purchased and adapted to meet the needs of our tenants. Having met the tenants it is clear these independent tenancies are much appreciated. It is a capital intensive programme to provide these homes but I am confident that we will be able to add to our housing provision in the years ahead. The Community Liaison Service continues to provide important support to people who are struggling to get to grips with the complexities of the benefit system, get the support they need and are entitled to and find the right service to meet their needs.

My one area of concern is our ability to attract both the right mix and number of volunteers that we need. We have an urgent need to appoint two additional Trustees to join the Board and oversee the direction and performance of the Charity. Terry Loftus our Treasurer has given us tremendous service over the last 7 years but is due to retire from this role during 2015. We must find a Trustee with the financial skills to take over this role. I am delighted that he will continue as a Trustee.

Our three shops urgently need more volunteers to work at least half a day a week. As we do not have a salaried manager in each shop we do ask our volunteers to take on more responsibility than most other charities. In exchange a volunteer can more easily see the contribution they are making to Worthing Scope.

I am looking forward to working with my fellow Trustees to meet the challenges that 2015 presents.

Peter Robinson

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

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