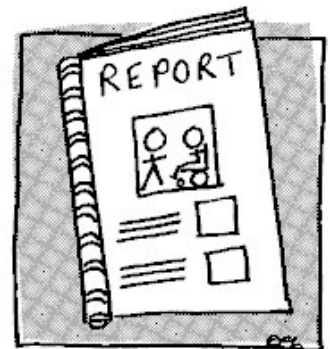


Speakeasy Advocacy annual report June 2009 - May 2010

“Well done to everyone at Speakeasy for continuing to make such a difference in Basingstoke”

Rob Hannah - Chair of Trustees



“Speakeasy has done good work and we have enjoyed making decisions about how Speakeasy runs”

Richard Dean and
Simon Jeffery - Trustees

“I think the whole board of trustees have been involved very well in Speakeasy this year. The issues raised are interesting and challenging. There is a lot going on”

Matthew Ansell - Secretary

Message from the manager

“This has been the busiest year ever for us all at Speakeasy Advocacy. We have worked with over 400 people this year, which is almost 10 times more than we worked with 7 years ago! This is a team effort, so thank you to all of the staff, volunteers and trustees who have worked so hard and so well over the year”

Amanda Kent

Coming up inside...

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people who have complex needs
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Some highlights of the year



Favourite things in Basingstoke

The Wednesday Network had a display at the Willis Museum in March and April called "My favourite about Basingstoke is...". 2 members helped set it up, and they all came to see it and invited their friends and families along to see it as well.

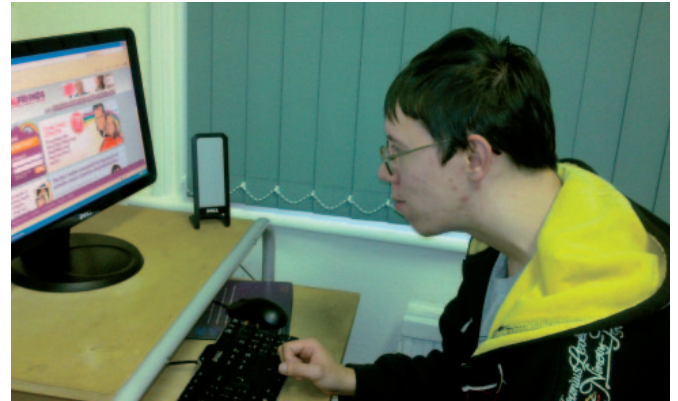
Family support

Lynda continues to work with parents with a learning disability. This year she supported a lady to be referred to a specialist residential unit so she could learn how to look after her children with support from staff over several months.



Job placement

Darren started his job at Loddon Alliance with support from Lynda - this is a picture of him working on the computer. Ken also works at Loddon Alliance, and they are both part of the management team working on projects like person centred planning, quality and training.



Congratulations

Lynda and Amanda have completed 2 units of the new Independent Advocacy Award with City and Guilds, and now have the qualification to be Independent Mental Capacity Advocates.



Big Health Talk

The Friday Network group took part in the "Big Health Talk" at Popley Fields in Basingstoke. The group gave their views on all the different health services in Basingstoke and enjoyed eating all the colourful fruit.



It's in the BAG

We supported a group of local parents who have children with autism to set up their own support group. It is called "Basingstoke Autism Group" (or BAG for short) and they meet at Speakeasy on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Internet Explorers

Some of the older members of the Internet Explorers group started college in September so have moved up to the Virtual Friends group. They now go out once a month with the group for a meal or to the cinema, and spend the other evenings in the group room playing on the Xbox and computers, or chatting with their new friends.



Hampshire Partnership Board

Joanne continues to attend the Local Implementation Group, which is part of the Hampshire Partnership Board. This year Joanne came up with the name for the "Big Health Talk" events that happened all over Hampshire.



A Guide to Basingstoke

The Wicked and Wacky group have been working on a project called 'A Guide to Basingstoke' to help people become more independent. It features places in Basingstoke and also includes workshops to help people think about how they would deal with tricky situations.



Taking part

This year we have had a new volunteer called Odun who has been supporting Joanne to take part in the trustee meetings. Odun meets with Joanne before and after the meetings to help her get ready and make sure she understood what was discussed. She also sits with Joanne during the meetings and supports her to take part in them.



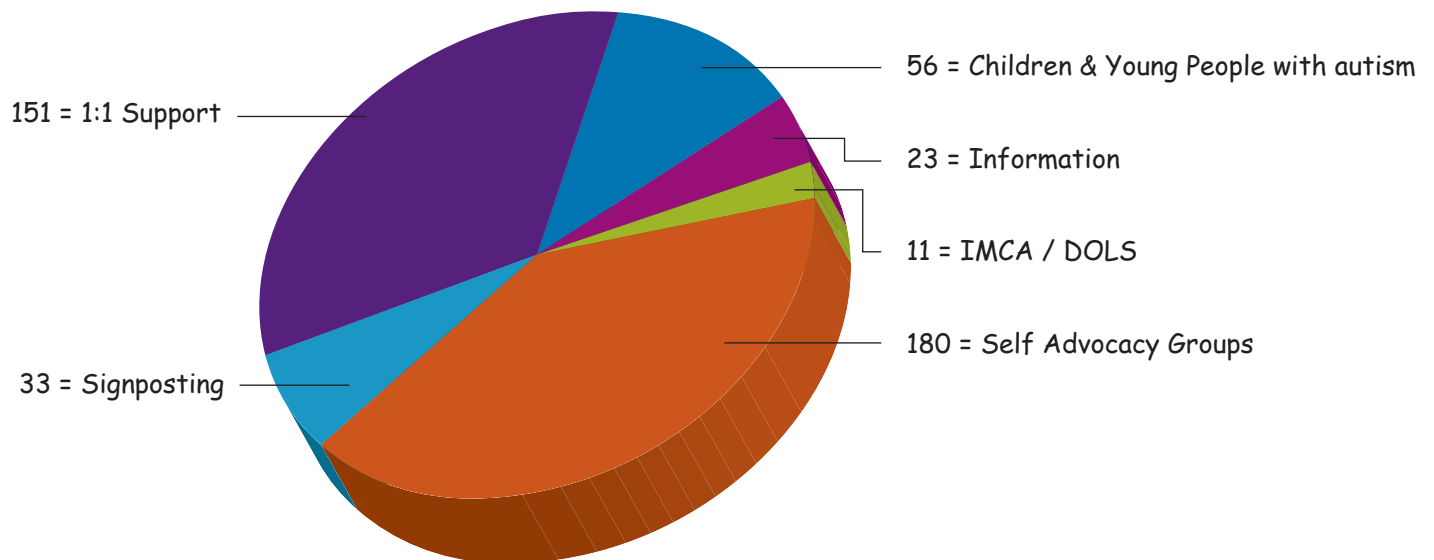
Happy times

The Happy Club made a complaint about their Christmas meal as the manager was rude to them and his staff. Jackie supported them to write a letter and speak to the area manager, and the group got a £200 voucher and an apology. The group have just had their 2nd Christmas meal and this time it was a happy Happy Club outing!

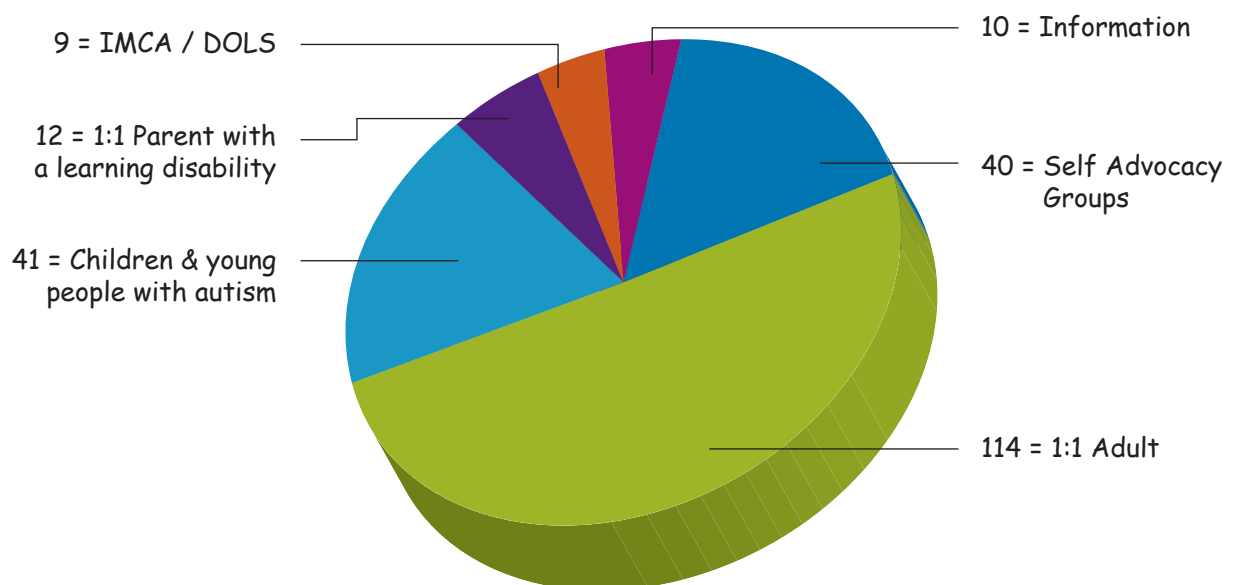
People we have worked with this year

Thank you to all of our staff and volunteers who have supported people during the year.

Total number of people we worked with = 454



New referrals this year = 226



Focus on our work with people who have complex needs

This year we have been part of a new Hampshire wide project working with people in day services, residential homes, and people who used to live in NHS long stay hospitals. Speakeasy started this work in October 2009, and other organisations involved are members of Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group (HARG) and Winchester and District Mencap. The funding has come from Hampshire County Council and the Department of Health, and is for advocacy and person centred planning.

“We are really pleased that we have been able to work with so many people in just 6 months”



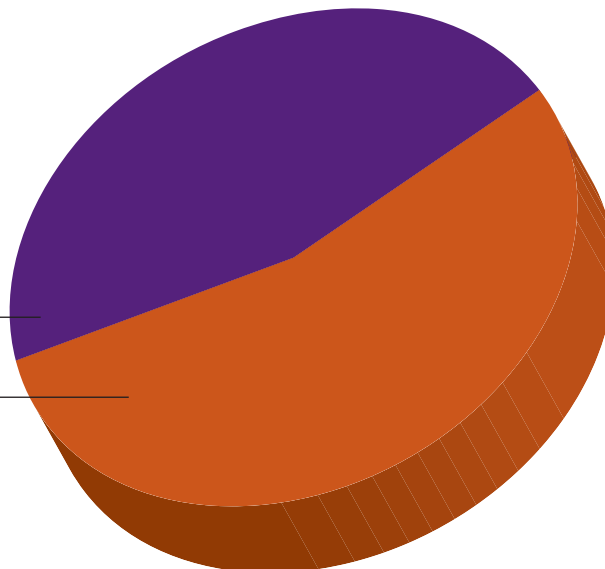
Christian our advocate and Sammy our Person Centred Planner looking at photos to help someone put together a plan.

Person Centred Planning and advocacy for people with complex needs = 71



32 = Advocacy

39 = Planning



Some good news stories from the project >>

Focus on our work with people who have complex needs

Some good news stories from the project...



Richard

Sammy and Christian worked with Richard, his family and support workers to find out what should be included in his person centred plan. Richard can't see, so they decided that the best format for the plan was a box full of objects that represent the things that are important to him. There are 2 sets of objects - 1 for the things Richard does inside the house, and 1 for the things he does outside. Richard and the staff now communicate to each other using the objects, so Richard knows what is happening next and can ask to do an activity.

David

David expressed a wish during his person centred planning meetings to see more of his family and have a longer holiday. David has just got back from a longer holiday, and is now seeing his family regularly.



Julie

In Julie's person centre planning meetings, the advocate and Julie's family suggested that Julie might like to go on holiday. The support workers hadn't thought too much about this before, but everyone worked together to make it happen. Julie has just got back from her holiday and enjoyed her time away.



Maria

Maria recently had her review at day services and Christian supported her to have her say in the meeting. Maria had told people before that she wanted a job, but this time people listened. She is now waiting for a support worker and will hopefully start working in a shop soon.



Person Centred Planning putting me at the centre of my life

The money stuff - 2010 accounts:



“The accounts show an excess of income over expenditure of £43,013. This is largely due to delayed income received from last year. At the end of May the Accounts show that we have reserves of £188,949. This is a good position which secures our continuation for the immediate future but we are mindful of the possible effects on future funding due to the huge cut back in Government spending”

Derek Easton - Treasurer

Who's who at Speakeasy

Trustees during the year:

Rob Hannah
Chair of trustees

Carole Over
Vice Chair of trustees

Derek Easton
Treasurer

Matthew Ansell
Secretary

Maureen Taylor
Volunteer

Colin Watts
Volunteer

Joanne French
Wicked and Wacky representative

Marie Le Warne
Virtual Friends representative

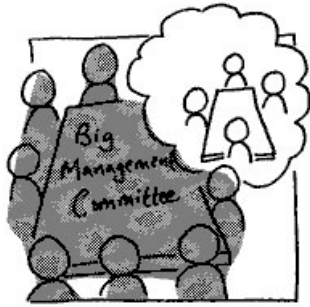
Simon Jeffery
Virtual Friends representative

Clive Richards
Happy Club representative

Richard Dean
Happy Club representative

"It has been really interesting being a trustee and I have helped represent Happy Club well".
Richard

"I like the responsibility I have been given, and it is an honour to be a trustee. I have been able to get points across that people have asked me to."
Simon



Staff team during the year:

Amanda Kent
Manager

Ruth Jewell
Office Manager

Lynda Awan
Advocate

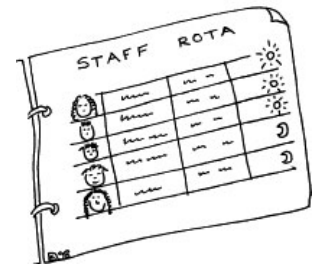
Jackie Elmer
Self Advocacy worker

Sarah Hawden
Self Advocacy worker

Jen Sharpe
Children and Young People's advocate

Christian Alger
Advocate


Sammy Mpofu
Person Centred Planner



Speakeasy Advocacy  Giving a voice

Get in touch with us:

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Thank you to all of our volunteers who help Speakeasy to keep doing what we do!

Some pictures used in this document are from CHANGES Picture Bank.