

## SKILLS TRAINING BOOST FOR CLIENTS

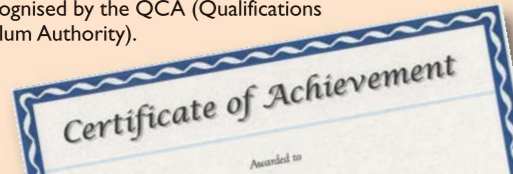
The Amber training programme was created 8 years ago in response to the lack of adequate or appropriate training packages for a sometimes reluctant client group and tackles many of the barriers to education and personal development that such individuals experience. It provides too, opportunities for staff to develop their skills and knowledge.

Over the coming weeks Julian House staff will be trained so that they can coach clients towards achieving skills qualifications called Practical Housing Units (PHUs). These comprise of a comprehensive package of 10 individually accredited units. They help students of all abilities to achieve sustainable independence and have the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to:

- **Maintain a tenancy**
- **Live a safe and healthy lifestyle**
- **Achieve financial stability**

The package is designed to have great flexibility and a client can choose to do any number of units (within the 10) and will receive certification after the successful completion of each unit.

Unit topics include – Budgeting & Debt Management, Maintaining a Healthy Diet, Planning for Education and Employment plus Safety & Risk Management in the Home. The programme is accredited and fully recognised by the QCA (Qualifications and Curriculum Authority).



## SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH FOR SHOP

Julian House opened its first traditional charity shop just before Christmas and so far trade has been brisk. The premises are located across the road from the back entrance to McDonalds at 17 St James' Parade.

In addition to a big selection of men's and women's clothes the shop also boasts a large display of paperbacks (over 1000 on show) and a great range of bric a brac items.

Shop manager, Jo Shepherd, hopes that supporters will continue to donate good quality clothes, DVDs & videos, jewellery and unwanted presents – "We've had a great start and people have said very positive things about the quality of stock but obviously we need to have regular donations coming in to keep up with demand. Most people have loads of items in their wardrobes that they're never going to wear again. Likewise items in the loft or on bookshelves that they're never going to use. Give them to us and we can help to generate much needed funds which will be used to support Julian House's frontline services."

**The shop is open 9.30-4.30 Mon-Sat.** Stock donations can be made directly to the shop or if necessary collection can be arranged **01225 337291**. More volunteers are also wanted to help to staff the shop.

Journalist and author Bel Mooney helps to launch the new shop with her own donation of clothes.



## MEMORABLE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Congratulations to the 80 plus hardy souls who slept out under the stars on a chilly night in March to raise funds for Julian House. The idea behind the event was to give supporters the chance to endure on one evening what some Julian House clients have to endure every evening.

The sponsored sleep-out took place in Alice Park. Participants registered with the supervising Julian House staff team and then they went off to find their preferred spot for the night. Organiser, Cathy Adcock, was impressed with how well prepared most people were – "Some brought cardboard boxes and others brought groundsheets. As it turned out it was a pretty cold night – down to - 4°C. This meant that even with lots of layers you still got a good sense of what it's like to be out in the elements and this was just for one night.

We are indebted to everyone who took part, to B&NES Council for allowing us to use the park and to the Alice Park Café for laying on the bacon rolls the next morning. Also to the 69th Bath Scout Group for doing their own sleep-out at their headquarters in Lower Weston."

Although dates are still to be confirmed it is hoped to stage another sleep-out early in 2010. Further details call Cathy on 01225 354656 or email [cathya@julianhouse.org.uk](mailto:cathya@julianhouse.org.uk).



It's amazing what a hot bacon roll and a glorious sunrise can do your mood – even after a chilly night under the stars.

**Julian House is a charity with limited liability registered under the Industrial & Provident Societies Act 1965. Registered No. 19305R**

**REGISTERED OFFICE - 55 New King Street, Bath, BA1 2BN**

**Email: [cecilw@julianhouse.org.uk](mailto:cecilw@julianhouse.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.julianhouse.org.uk](http://www.julianhouse.org.uk)**

### REPLY SLIP ADDRESS

Gift Aid Donors - To Gift Aid your donations you must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that Julian House claims on your donations in the appropriate tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give). The Government will also add an extra 3p per £1. The combined effect of this will be to enhance the value of your gift by 28%.

I am a UK tax payer  (Please tick  and sign).....

Name .....

Address .....

.....Postcode .....

Email .....

Telephone.....

Comments .....

Please return this form to **The Funding & PR Manager, Julian House, 55 New King St, BATH, BA1 2BN.**

Please send me further details on:

- 2009 Circuit of Bath Walk
- Tax efficient ways of supporting Julian House
- Bath Half Marathon
- Volunteering at Julian House
- Stroud Half Marathon
- Cotswold Way Challenge

I would like to make a donation and enclose a cheque for £..... (Payable to Julian House)

Credit card details. Account number:

Expiry date .....Signature .....

## BIG BLOW TO NEW HOSTEL PLAN

Staff at Julian House were bitterly disappointed to hear the news that capital funding for a new homeless hostel and training centre in Bath has been withdrawn. The new facility would have replaced the existing cramped dormitory in Manvers St and made a significant improvement to the process of getting homeless men and women off the streets.

In contrast 14 months ago the mood of the organisation was jubilant. News had just been received that an application for funding, jointly made with B&NES Council, had been successful. £2.5m was awarded by the Department of Communities & Local Government (CLG) towards new homeless facilities in Bath.

At the time of the award the target date for completion of the new project (March 2011) seemed entirely achievable. However during the intervening period progress on finding a suitable site for the new hostel has been painfully slow. Now Government officials have decided that there is no realistic chance of planning permission being achieved in an acceptable timescale. Instead the funds will be diverted to another local authority.

Julian House director, Ian Sutherland, shares the staff's disappointment – "Apart from the fact that a huge amount of effort had gone into securing the funding and then trying to find a suitable site, the real losers in all this are our clients. The existing facilities are inadequate, claustrophobic and difficult to maintain. Government officials were very complimentary about the quality of the services we are providing but were shocked at the conditions in which they are delivered. We all agree that dormitories have had their day; a replacement is long overdue.



The existing dormitory style hostel is cramped and claustrophobic with inadequate space for the numbers who need to use it – particularly female clients.

It is a major knock back for us. The process of reconnecting our clients back into mainstream society is challenging enough, without the extra burden of operating in such a difficult building. However we will not be deterred and the prospect of another hostel grants programme in the future may give us the opportunity to provide better support for one of the most marginalised groups in society."

## 2009 CIRCUIT OF BATH WALK



The Midford Valley is one of the many picturesque parts of the route which are unseen by Bath commuters as they battle in and out of the city.

This year's event takes place on Sunday 20th September. 2 miles or 20, the choice is yours – thanks to the unique shuttle bus service that operates throughout the day.

Julian House is indebted to its two main sponsors who will once again be helping to cover most of the costs. This means that almost all the sponsorship proceeds will go towards the charity's key projects. Big thanks to WPC Software and to outdoor pursuits retailer, Itchy Feet.

Please help to promote the event by displaying the enclosed poster on a work notice board, shop window or other public place.

**Further details can be found on the Julian House website – [www.julianhouse.org.uk](http://www.julianhouse.org.uk) – or by contacting Cathy Adcock – 01225 354656**

## ORGANIC GARDEN PROVES POPULAR

A group of clients from Julian House has turned a badly overgrown plot into a thriving organic vegetable garden.

Over recent years various horticulture projects within the meaningful occupation programme have proven to be very popular with differing groups of clients. 2008 marked a small milestone when they even took a successful stall at Green Park Station. This boosted self esteem, encouraged team working and even raised some funds to invest back into the project.



From small wasteland to productive vegetable patch in a matter of weeks.

This latest garden is providing the same rewards for clients and the Green Park Station stall has already caught the eye of some of last year's satisfied customers. Well done to all the clients and staff who have made these projects successful.

## HOLBURNE ART GROUP HAS VERY PUBLIC SHOW

Clients involved with the weekly art group which takes place at the Holburne Museum had the opportunity to show off some of their work in a very public way. Banners produced by the clients were on display outside Bath Abbey during the opening parade for this year's Bath Music Festival.

During the regular sessions over the past couple of years clients have had the opportunity to learn photography skills, work with clay, design posters and even put on a display at Bath library.

Our grateful thanks to the Holburne team for all their support and for providing access to activities and skills which are often denied to homeless people.



Some of the art group's banners on display outside Bath Abbey as part of the Music Festival launch

## NEW CONTRACT AWARDED

One of the great success stories over recent years has been Peter House – a short term hostel for prolific offenders. Operated in partnership with Probation and the Police it provides accommodation and targeted support which helps to break the vicious cycle of repeat offending, prison, out of prison for a while and then back inside again.

The initial contract to set up and operate Peter House was for three years. Now after a competitive tendering process, B&NES Council and Probation have acknowledged Julian House's success by granting a further two year contact.

Client Services Manger, Chris Stickler is delighted that the organisation's performance on this innovative project has been recognised – "Just setting the project up was a significant achievement - completed from a standing start in just four months. More importantly the work that we have done to help to reduce re-offending rates has been very impressive. The staff team have been excellent and the inter agency co-operation between ourselves, Probation and the Police, is a terrific template for joined up working, which really delivers results."

## MORE RESOURCES TOWARDS PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

The old adage that prevention is better than a cure applies equally to homelessness. This is why projects such as the Community Support Team (CST) are so important. By providing targeted support to vulnerable clients who have tenancies this can help to make sure that they sustain their accommodation. Sometimes that support can be quite light and over a short period and for others it is much more substantial.

The consequence of not providing this help can mean eviction, having to go back onto an interminable housing list and another long journey back from the streets.

Julian House will be able to expand this type of work with the award of a new contract to provide CST type support to a wider range of clients – all of whom are deemed to be at risk of losing their accommodation or have just been given the offer of new accommodation. This will include:

- Young people and care leavers moving on from supported accommodation
- Families with children
- Clients with learning difficulties
- Clients with a history of mental illness

Another notable feature of this new service will be the ability to respond to immediate referrals e.g. short notice allocation of a tenancy, discharge after emergency admission to hospital, discharge after a short prison sentence or remand, as well as longer-term referrals.

CST Team Leader, Juliette Parsons, is confident that this new service will have very tangible results – "Stopping individuals like these from becoming homeless is far more cost effective than trying to pick up the pieces afterwards. I'm sure that Julian House's experience in providing similar services to other groups had a major bearing on us being awarded the contract."

## BATH HALF MARATHON 2010

The 2010 event is scheduled for 21st March and once again Julian House will have a large number of guaranteed places. Details and entry forms available on the website – [www.julianhouse.org.uk](http://www.julianhouse.org.uk) or call Cecil Weir on 01225 354652.



Accommodation and targeted support provides a window of stability and an opportunity for clients to get their lives back on track.

## COTSWOLD WAY 2009 & 2010

After the two very successful inaugural events of 2008 the first of the 2009 hikes took place on 29 April - 3 May.

The format from last year was repeated once again. An early pick up in Bath meant that the team were in Chipping Camden by just after 9am. Then it was off on the 102 mile journey back to Bath – with stopovers at Winchcombe, Birdlip, Frocester and Old Sodbury.

Supporter, Vicky Coles, had never done anything like this before and was delighted to have completed the whole route in five days – "The Cotswold Way walk is one of the most challenging things I have done in my life, but also one of the most rewarding."

Another Cotswold Way Challenge is planned for 2-6 Sept and places are available. **Further details can be found on the Julian House website – [www.julianhouse.org.uk](http://www.julianhouse.org.uk) – or by contacting Cathy Adcock – 01225 354656**

The provisional dates for 2010 are 21-25 April & 11-15 Aug.



The Cotswold Way team take a well earned break – with stunning views over the Severn Vale.

## 10 YEARS OF BOOK SALES

The Julian House bookshop at 55 New King St is one of the quiet success stories of the organisation. On two Wednesdays every month the volunteer bookshop staff quietly arrives. They feverishly sort boxes of books for two or three hours and then they leave – returning the following Saturdays for the actual book sales.

New King St isn't in one of the main shopping areas of Bath so many people don't know the shop exists. But lots of people are aware that it's there and that there's always a great selection of books on sale (over 15,000), all at very reasonable prices. Since the shop opened it has raised the magnificent sum of £181,630 at almost nil cost to Julian House. This means a huge contribution towards the charity's work over the period.

Tim Graham, a long standing Julian House board member, is also in charge of the shop – "This is a fantastic achievement by a small but very enthusiastic group of volunteers. We've always prided ourselves on stocking what the customers want to buy at good prices – a huge range of paperbacks, specialist subjects such as poetry and psychology, plus a very popular travel section. There really is something for everyone – including a huge children's collection."

**The shop is open on the first and third Saturday mornings each month 0900-1300.** Stock donations are always welcome during normal office hours – Mon-Fri.

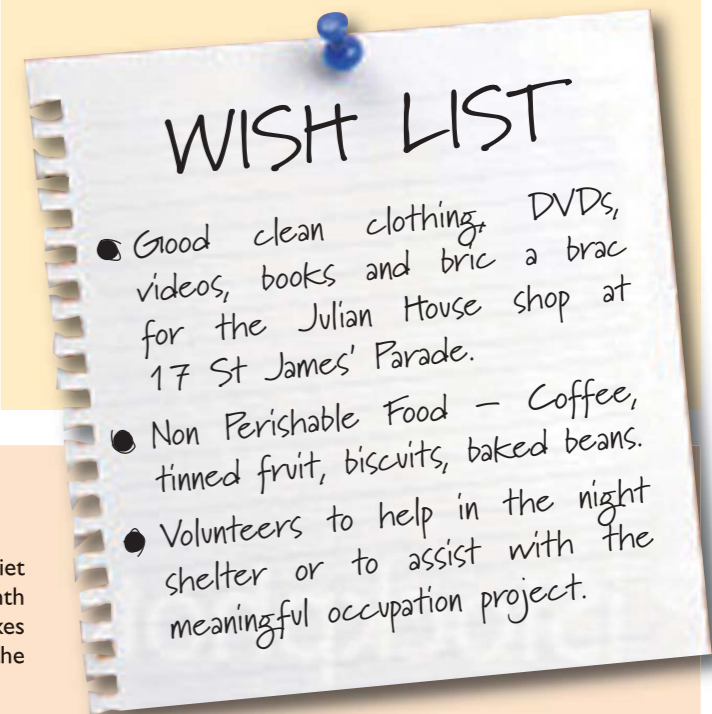
## 28TH STROUD HALF MARATHON

Done the Bath Half and looking for another good reason to stay fit? Or maybe you had to pull out because of an injury that you picked up prior to the event?

Julian House is taking a team to one of the best half marathons in the South West – Stroud on 25th October. We'll supply the transport and we also hope to organise showers and a physio. The rural course makes it great for novices and more experienced runners.

Funding Manager, Cecil Weir has taken part several times and would recommend it to anyone – "The single circuit course and the fact that the number of runners is a lot less than Bath makes it a very laid back run. Every year Julian House has supporters who have to pull out of the Bath event because of injury. Rather than waste all than effort on training Stroud is a great alternative. We'll look after all the logistics. All we ask that runners achieve a modest sponsorship target."

**Entry forms are available on the Julian House website or by contacting Cecil Weir on 01225 354652.**



- Good clean clothing, DVDs, videos, books and bric a brac for the Julian House shop at 17 St James' Parade.
- Non Perishable Food – Coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, baked beans.
- Volunteers to help in the night shelter or to assist with the meaningful occupation project.



Some of the bookshop team members getting ready to tackle the next batch of book donations