

Walcot Street Shop—Following on from the Volunteer Thank You Event at the end of April, we'd just like to say a huge thank you to all of our volunteers at Walcot St for their loyal support to Julian House and to the shop! Whether you've been with us for years or months (or weeks), we really do appreciate all your help and couldn't keep the shop running without you... we'd also like to invite anyone thinking of volunteering to come and see us here at the shop – you'll be assured of a warm welcome (and a cuppa)! Sian and Nikki

Chippenham Shop—We welcome our new Deputy manager Caroline who replaces Guy, who left us in April. Previously Caroline volunteered at the shop so she will be a familiar face to many of you who volunteer there. A huge thank you to my team of volunteers who have adjusted smoothly and worked tirelessly to carry on the support our store has required to carry on the consistency in the business. We also had a successful weekend with the folk festival in Chippenham recently, again supported by Caroline and our team, lots of visitors learning about the work that Julian House undertakes plus a few purchases! Thanks to all! Linda

Fundraising—Julian House and St Vincent's Fundraising Team

Julian House is proud to be helping more and more socially excluded people in Bath, Bristol and Wiltshire. With your help, we support people who face homelessness, addiction, worklessness and domestic abuse to rebuild their lives, and fundraising helps to ensure some of societies most vulnerable people get the help they deserve. You can help us to make a real difference by supporting the events we have planned. There are many different roles to choose from - whether it's packing bags in Waitrose for a few hours, helping at the Opera events, making cakes or helping for a few hours at the Ashley Open Gardens, or even nominating your organisation for the Brain of Bath. Equally we would be delighted if you were able to take part in any of the events and help spread the word. Please take a look at the separate list of events attached and let us know how you, or anyone you know, can help. Please note that 'Bag Packing at Waitrose' and 'Ashley Open Gardens' take place this weekend. We need more volunteers to help pack customers' bags in Waitrose on Saturday and help and / or cakes at the Ashley Open Gardens on Sunday. If you think you can help please contact Cathy at cathya@julianhouse.org.uk.

Volunteer Intern—Events and Fundraising Assistant. Do you know anyone who is returning from University and is looking for a rewarding Internship for the summer? We have exciting new opportunities to work on voluntary internships as Events and Fundraising Assistants with both our Bath and Bristol Fundraising teams for the summer and / or beyond. Please contact cathya@julianhouse.org.uk for more information or go to <http://www.julianhouse.org.uk/volunteering/volunteering-opportunities.htm>

Forthcoming Events— See the accompanying Diary of Events sheet

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Volunteers' News Bulletin June 2015

Introduction — Sandra Lockwood, Volunteer and Health & Safety Coordinator

Thank to those of you who came to our Volunteer Thank You Event at the Function Rooms, Green Park Station on the 28th of April. It was great to see so many of you and to get the opportunity to thank you in person for the great work that you do throughout the year. Our Chief Executive, Peter Denning, awarded certificates to volunteers who had completed over 5,



Volunteers from different Julian House projects getting to know each other at the Volunteer Thank You Event

10, 15 and 20 years service —amazing! We also asked you to nominate a fellow volunteer for recognition of their achievements and there were 3 well deserving recipients of this award.

This will be my last Volunteers' News Bulletin as I will be leaving Julian House at the end of the month. It has been a privilege to be part of an organisation that does so much good for homeless and disadvantaged people in Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire and you should be very proud of the part that you play in making this possible. I will be volunteering on the Lunchtime shift at the hostel so hope to see some of you in the future.

Very best wishes to you all, **Sandra**

Henrietta Street

At our Henrietta Street property we have regular volunteer cooks covering each week day, cooking the evening meal for residents. In a few weeks we will have volunteering opportunities for Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Wendy, our new volunteer gardener has, with the help of some of our residents, made a great impression in the garden.

A volunteer's view — Hello, I am Kieran, a social work student at the University of Bath. I've been volunteering at Henrietta Street for 8 months. My volunteering experience is totally enjoyable and rewarding. Getting to know staff and residents I have expanded my understanding of the good work that Julian House does, and the intricate way in which it supports others, in this case people with Asperger's Syndrome and autism.

Social Enterprise—Simon Brand, Social Enterprise Area Manager Julian House Bike Workshop Bath, Trowbridge & Bristol

Welcome to our new volunteers, Matt in Trowbridge and Nigel, Tom, Darren, Stuart and Lee in Bath. Almost 300 refurbished bikes were sold over the March, April and May period across the 3 workshops, thanks largely to our volunteers who play a huge part in keeping the bikes coming.

Two new members of staff have started in Bath both of whom were volunteers. We would like to welcome Albert who is now a paid member of staff as well as volunteer and he has been trying to keep up with the demand for refurbished bikes in Bath, building many to order! Welcome to Elin too who is focussing on supporting the servicing side of the Workshop. The revised Tuesday Meaningful Occupation Build a Bike programme started in Bath earlier this month with a format that is more structured in the morning, with a drop in session in the afternoon. It is hoped the quality of the course will increase and more participants will complete the full 6 weeks.

The Bristol team have built up a good selection of refurbished bikes and we are now focussing on getting the word out in Bristol and the surrounding area. Standard Services seem to be the call of the day with the majority of customers needing new chains and cassettes too! Martyn, one of our volunteers, has been taking photos of his refurbished projects, including the treasured Marin above, which sold for £200.

In Trowbridge, the Build a Bike Course has had 7 successful completions which means 7 more people are able to get out and about and gain independence, fantastic! We won a Bike Service and Repair contract with Trowbridge Police Station and are now responsible for maintaining their fleet of 9 bikes. A grant has been won from Trowbridge Area Board to build an IT suite at Trowbridge which will mean us being able to run online training courses and provide more opportunities for local people.

There are a couple of good quality refurbished electric bikes (Giant Twist Express) available, one at Trowbridge and one at Bath, price £550 each.

We have won a proportion of the Travelwest Dr Bike and Cycle Maintenance Training tender which covers BANES, Bristol, South Gloucester and North Somerset. We are receiving lots of event requests and also developing our own 'Smoothie Bike' service. We successfully applied for funding to take part in the national Big Bike Revival to deliver some open Workshops and Dr Bike events. The campaign has been about getting those with bikes using them again so we have been doing lots of Safety Checks and repairs free of charge. Anyone who thinks they may be able to help with these events should contact Simon Brand at Simonb@julianhouse.org.uk.



Volunteer Martyn at Julian House Bike Workshop Bristol

Manvers Street Hostel for the Homeless

Thank you to all of our volunteers at the hostel who continue to prepare, cook and serve the lunchtime and evening meals. At our Volunteer Thank You Event several volunteer Catering Assistants at the hostel were given long service certificates and Rosemary, Judy and Massimiliano were nominated by the volunteers who work alongside them to receive recognition of their achievements.

We are approaching the time of year when we start to see gaps on the rota as Bath students move away for the summer and people go on holiday. If anyone can help out, particularly on the Lunchtime or Afternoon shifts, this would be greatly appreciated.

A Volunteer's Perspective—Margaret Tanner—Manvers Street Hostel

I am a volunteer at Manvers Street Shelter, preparing, cooking and serving lunch every Friday morning. My career was in Special Education, working with young people who had a wide range of special needs: learning difficulties, social, emotional and behavioural problems. Many of our pupils had troubled family backgrounds and when I retired I thought of volunteering to help adults who wanted to improve their language and literacy skills. However, I decided I would prefer to cook for them instead.

My three years as a volunteer in the Julian House Kitchen have proved a delightful experience. I like to work a regular weekly session and enjoy the morning "shift" because it means contact with clients. It has been lovely meeting other volunteers and, more particularly, during the past year, working with an Italian chef who manages to find the time from his regular employment at one of Bath's hotels to share his passion and skills in cooking. When I started volunteering I enjoyed the challenge of cooking with the weekly ingredients provided by Fairshare and generous donations, now I can't wait to learn new skills and ideas working alongside Massimiliano. The refurbished shelter is a very pleasant place in which to volunteer, the atmosphere is calm, clients are great and the Staff couldn't be more helpful. I really look forward to my Friday mornings there.

Charity Shops

The **Frome Shop** is doing well despite it being a more challenging market place. The fact that we are holding our own is due to the hard work provided by our loyal group of volunteers. Donations and more volunteers are urgently needed!! We would like to thank our volunteers for making our working hours so rewarding – long may it continue!
Angie M and Angie S



Frome Shop, 17 Market Place