

YMCA

Ripon

Newsletter

Issue 4 – Autumn 2018

YMCA

We believe that every young person should be able to develop their full potential in body, mind and spirit.



## Homeless not Faceless



This summer we worked in partnership with Ripon Museums and Harrogate Homeless project to create a powerful exhibition telling the stories of 12 people who have been homeless.

Photographer Tim Smith supported 2 YMCA tenants to take part whilst museum staff interviewed and recorded the stories.

The exhibition was held at Ripon Workhouse Museum in June and July 2018. Feedback received from visitors highlighted how powerful the images and stories are, so we are working together to identify venues to display the exhibition again. We are in talks with a number of Harrogate venues and we are confident in bringing the exhibition to Ripon Library and Ripon Cathedral early next year.

Sign up to our mailing list to find out more.

Dates for your diary.....

October 16<sup>th</sup> Coffee Event at Oliver's Pantry – see next page for more details

March 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 Sleep Easy. We will be sleeping out so others don't have to.

May 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 Dinner and Dance in aid of Ripon YMCA at The Old Deanery

## Andrews story

In December 2017 Andrew\*, who is 22, contacted the Young Peoples Housing Hub at Harrogate Borough Council. He was from the Ripon area but had been living in shared accommodation and working in Manchester. He was in debt, struggling with rent arrears and became isolated and unable to work due to his mental health.

Andrew saw the Hub team who referred him to Ripon YMCA. Once he moved in it was clear that Andrew felt really low, was unmotivated and was finding it really difficult to see how he could move forward. Emma our housing support worker has met with Andrew on a weekly basis, sometimes checking in with him every day to build a relationship, show him we care and to develop a support plan.

Andrew had a number of assessments and visits with various mental health services locally, he didn't get the help he wanted or felt he needed.

Andrew started college last week on a course that will hopefully lead him to university. We have worked hard to ensure his benefits and housing placement can continue to give him some stability and the second chance he needs to be successful.

Emma has been able to support Andrew to get a grant for educational equipment and a local job to support his income.

Andrews is one of 20 young people we have supported since January 2018. All our young people have different needs and are supported as individuals to develop skills and independence.

\* Name and some details have been changed to protect the individual's identity

## Become a Friend of Ripon YMCA

For £1 you can buy a badge to show your support or visit our website to get on the mailing list.

[www.riponymca.org](http://www.riponymca.org)



## Are you a Co-op member?

Please sign in to your membership account and nominate us as your Community Cause. We have received regular funding to pay for our weekly Cooking Social sessions where tenants cook and eat together, try new foods and ideas and socialise.



## Calling all Coffee Lovers

Our fantastic local café Oliver's Pantry are holding an exclusive coffee event which will include demonstrations, tastings and workshops. 6.30pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. Tickets £15 from Oliver's Pantry with all proceeds going to Ripon YCMA.



We aim to support young people from dependence to independence

## Inside the YMCA – Governance

Our Board of Trustees are integral to the running of our local independent charity. We currently have 8 Trustees a Patron and President who all work voluntarily to support our work and help Ripon YMCA develop and improve. In July we held our AGM where James Parkes handed the Chairpersons role to Odette Robson and the Vice Chair role to Kari Munro. We thank all our Trustees for their ongoing commitment and support.



Odette and Kari our new Chair and Vice Chair



Our Trustees, Staff and Volunteer Chaplain

## What is going on with No.4?

Number 4 Water Skellgate is owned by Ripon YMCA. It's a 3-bedroom house that needs full refurbishment. We are currently fundraising to reach the 40k target needed for the full project, and are talking to various funders and grants providers. We aim to let the accommodation to a family or house share at an affordable rate once its finished.

5 Water Skellgate, Ripon HG4 1BQ  
01765 607 609 [www.riponymca.org](http://www.riponymca.org)