

# YMCA Ripon Newsletter

Issue 3 – Spring 2018



## Sleep Easy raised over £2000

On March the 10<sup>th</sup> staff, trustees and volunteers slept rough on Ripon Market Square to raise funds and awareness of Youth Homeless locally.



“It’s important that Ripon YMCA raises awareness of the reality of homelessness in our area” says Emma our Housing Support Worker “Sofa surfing is common amongst young people, and whilst they are warm and dry, this is not how young people should live”.

### To support Sleep Easy you can.....

Donate via our Just Giving page:  
[justgiving.com/ripon-ymca](http://justgiving.com/ripon-ymca)

For more info, photos and videos of the event please visit our website and click on News & Blog

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



## Kates story

In November 2017 Kate, who is 19, visited the Young Peoples Housing Hub at Harrogate Borough Council. Her relationship with her mum and step dad had broken down, and she was staying with friends on the sofa or floor. Kate was keen to live independently but with no job or savings she was unable to move forward.

The Hub referred Kate to the YMCA, we accepted her application and started working with her to apply for the appropriate benefits she was entitled to. She moved in and settled quickly, liking her own space, and attending the weekly cooking social and job club sessions.

Kate was determined to get a job and quickly found an apprenticeship at a catering firm in Harrogate. Her travel costs are high, but she now visits her mum regularly for tea and feels much better about the future. We will continue to support Kate, who needs help to budget and save towards securing her own flat or room once her training is complete.

As a Supported Housing provider young people can claim full or part housing benefits to stay at the YMCA if they are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

## Become a Friend of the 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 £172 from the Co-op already. This funding has been used to pay for food for our weekly Cooking Social sessions.



## Building our Community

By sharing our news and stories we hope to engage fully with our local community for the benefit of our tenants and charity. In May we will be hosting our own fundraising dinner and we hope to see you at the Ripon Canal Spring Event on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May.

## We aim to support young people from dependence to independence

## Fundraising and community support

We have seen a massive amount of support over the last year and have used funds to develop our services and site for the benefit of our Tenants and Community users.

Gemma and David are both running the London Marathon to raise funds for YMCA England & Wales and Ripon YMCA. Both recently hosted quiz nights which raised over £1000 towards their targets.



Over the past 3 months we have had support from the following groups, organisations and individuals:

- St Wilfred's Christmas Tree Festival
- The Sawley Arms Quiz
- Ripon Rowles Rotary Club
- The Camp Hill Christmas Fair
- Screw Fix Community Fund
- Co-op Community Fund
- NYCC Locality Funding via Cllr Stuart Martin and Cllr Mike Chambers
- Mountain Warehouse, Ripon

Thanks to the Ripon Lions for £50 after we supported their Christmas Sleigh.

We have also been able to furnish our offices thanks to Harrogate Borough Council and Ripon Museums.

Thanks to the new volunteer maintenance group at Ripon YMCA for your work on Room B4.

And thanks to A & S Stoney (Lucy's Milkman) who supplies a pint every Monday for the office fridge.

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