

# ACM NEWS

Autumn / Winter 2011

Welcome to our Autumn / Winter newsletter, where we highlight changes and developments at ACM; we have also focussed on two of our clients' exceptional achievements.

The roles we play in our clients' lives and how we deliver their support is crucial to their progress. It is essential that we keep up-to-date with changes and research in the field of brain injury, disability and treatment, and that we invest in training and staff development. Our commitment to training is reflected in the development opportunities we provide throughout the year for our professional staff and support workers.

Case Managers recently spent a highly informative day looking at treatment provided by our Community Rehabilitation Service, reviewing approaches to anger management, and cognitive and vocational rehabilitation. In addition to formal training, our



professional networking and sharing of ideas, information and resources also benefits our clients and their families.

As you will read in this issue, a targeted and goal-focussed approach can assist clients to attain amazing achievements.

## Two of our clients have recently achieved outstanding successes



*Peter*

ACM have been working with Peter for over ten years, since he suffered a brain injury in 1996; he was hit by a car whilst cycling.

Peter has shown great dedication to his academic studies and has completed numerous courses with the Open University. He has achieved a BSc (Open), BSc (Hons) Life Sciences, MSc Science, Post Graduate Diploma in Science and Society, and Post Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies in Education. He is also an active participant in the OU Student Association in Cambridge.

Peter lives independently in his own home with some Support Worker help 7 to 10 hours per week. His Case Manager and Support Worker help him with daily living tasks, and support him with resolving housing related issues.

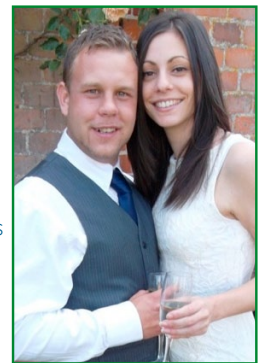
Peter is continuing his studies; he has recently completed Beginner's Chinese and has started Beginner's Italian. Peter is hoping that this course will increase his social opportunities and he is looking forward to being able to use it on holiday.

John incurred a brain injury when he was involved in a serious hit and run accident in October 2004; he has had support from an ACM Case Manager since August 2005.

When we started work with John, he found it very difficult to motivate himself, manage his fatigue and deal with his memory deficits; he also had problems organising his time, prioritising tasks and planning for his future. His Case Manager supported John to manage and overcome his problems, create his own long-term goals and plans, and to enrol on suitable courses.

John had always had a keen interest in health and fitness, and after starting his physical rehabilitation he was encouraged to look into fitness training courses; he has since completed a YMCA gym instructor course, a National Pool Lifeguard qualification and the PADI diving certificate. John's self-believe has increased, so much so that he has moved away from fitness courses to something more challenging - he has recently enrolled on a vocational plumbing course!

The input from the Case Manager has given John confidence in his abilities, and with the right amount of support he is able to maintain focus and implement a structured and practical approach to his daily life.



*John and Kelly*



**ANGLIA CASE MANAGEMENT**

WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED ACQUIRED OR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

# Experienced staff further strengthen ACM

ACM is delighted to welcome two Case Managers, who are both working with Adult clients.



**Jo Forrest** is a physiotherapist and has worked in the field of neurology since 1999, and has specialised in working with clients with brain injuries since 2005. She has worked with a wide range of neurology clients in settings which have included nursing homes, hospital wards, outpatients and the community.

Prior to joining ACM, Jo worked for the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust in a residential neuro-behavioural rehabilitation unit specialising in working with clients with acquired brain injuries.



Having qualified as a Social Worker in 2003, **Stephen King** worked in a Community Care Team with adults who experienced physical and mental health disabilities.

Stephen was also the Social Worker for a community hospital which specialised in neurological conditions, and worked with people who had complex needs as a result of having a brain injury. This involved working in partnership with health colleagues, solicitors and voluntary sector agencies to enable people to maintain their independence at home.

**We have also welcomed Amanda Bailey as Personal Assistant to Caroline Ferber.**

## Half Marathon

In October three members of the ACM team completed the Royal Parks Foundation Half Marathon.

Linda Marsden, Pam Foreman and Sue Stoten ran 13.1 miles through the London parks to raise money for the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. Their "Just giving" fundraising pages are still open if anyone would like to donate.

Many congratulations to all of them.



## Congratulations!



Two of our Support Workers, Ann Le Lievre and Kayleigh Edevane, recently won their categories at the East of England Care Awards.

Kayleigh received the "Care Newcomer" Award and Ann won the "Dignity in Care" Award; they are pictured above with Andrew Castle, who presented the prizes. Two other Support Workers, Karen Gardiner and Deborah Tyler were also finalists at the Awards Ceremony.

Kayleigh and Ann now go through to the National Finals of the Great British Care Awards to be held in London in 2012, and we wish them luck.



**ANGLIA CASE MANAGEMENT**

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