



**national survivor
user network**



Monday 18th April 2011

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NSUN news

Read the article 'Putting users in control: How the Department of Health's new mental health strategy is helping the NHS deliver services effectively' [The Guardian Newspaper on 6th April 2011](#).



NSUN members' offer

One in Four magazine – a 25% discount for NSUN members

As a member of NSUN you can now take advantage of a great discounted price for the country's only independent national mental health magazine written for and by people with mental health difficulties. For just **£7.50 a year** you will get four quarterly issues – that's just £1.88 a magazine - delivered to your door.

One in Four looks at issues that interest everyone but does so from the point of view of people who experience mental health difficulties. Each issue:

- has articles, news and information
- explains services and treatments
- discusses lifestyle, health and wellbeing
- inspires by showing positive images of people with mental health issues.

Just go to the One in Four [website](#) where you can see some sample content.

If you want to buy a discounted NSUN annual subscription to One in Four online, just click [here](#).

Alternatively you can send a cheque for £7.50 made payable to 'One in Four' by post to: Membership Offer, Social Spider CIC, 5 Hatherley Mews, London, E17 4QP remembering to quote "nsuoffer5" and include your address for posting the magazine.



Art: Emma Wolfindale

Emma Wolfindale communicates her experience of Bipolar Disorder through a variety of media including print, poetry, painting & film.

View and find out more about Emma' work [here](#) and watch her latest film piece 'Circles and lines' on [YouTube](#)

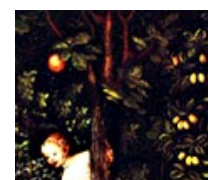


Event: Power & Knowledge Creation

Association of Research in the Voluntary and Community Sector (ARVAC) annual lecture: Power and Knowledge creation: towards a theory of user control and community integration in voluntary action research

Date: 9 May 2011, 2 – 5pm

Venue: The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101 Newington Causeway London SE1 6BN

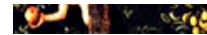


The speakers are:

- Ian Bruce, Cass Business School
- Bernard Harris, University of Southampton
- Angela Ellis Paine, Third Sector Research Centre
- Andy Benson, NCIA

See the [flyer](#) and [programme](#) on the ARVAC website.

Attendance is **free** but places are limited, please register and book a place by contacting: community@uea.ac.uk or 01603 591561.



Benefits: Information & Support

Turn2us: Benefits Awareness Month and Benefits Checker. [Find out more.](#)

Benefits check up tool - click [here](#) for the check up tool produced by Martin Lewis Money savers website

The Warm Front scheme (previously the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme - HEES) provides grants for energy efficiency improvements to the home, and energy advice, for people who need them most. To do this, Warm Front provides Government grants which can help cover the cost of insulation and heating improvements up to the value of £3,500 (up to £6,000 where oil, low carbon or renewable technologies are recommended).

Visit the [website](#) for or more details on eligibility criteria and applications.



Survey: The Big Squeeze 2011

London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC) and its partners have launched a third 'Big Squeeze' survey to study the impact of the recession and public spending cuts on the capital's voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations. LVSC is encouraging all VCS organisations in London to take part in the [survey](#) and have a say on how the cuts are affecting their organisations and the crucial services they provide.

The deadline to complete the [survey](#) is Friday 27th May 2011
For more information contact policy@lvsc.org.uk.



Campaign: National Protect Against Benefit Cuts

Disability activists, claimant groups and anti-cuts campaigners have called a week of action against AtoS Origin beginning on Monday 9th May with a picnic and party in Triton Square, home of their head office, at 2pm.

If you are holding an event, protest or action in your home town you can add details of the event added to the [website](#). Alternatively [email](#).



Report: Mental Health Officers, Our Experiences of Them

The views of 88 people who have experienced mental health problems on the role of Mental Health Officers – August 2010

In the summer of 2009 HUG was asked if it could canvas its members' opinions on Mental Health Officers (MHO's); both their views about them and their direct experience of the work that they do. In the last few years HUG has carried out a lot of work on the Mental Health Act with its members. Many of their members have experienced hospital admission, so it could be assumed that they were likely to have as much (if not more) experience in this subject than many other groups of people with experience of mental ill health. HUG was provided with a set of questions by the Lead Officer for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities at Highland Council and asked these questions at the regular rounds of meetings that were held with their members across Highland.

Follow this [link](#) to read the report in full.



Capacity Building: Pilotlight

Pilotlight enables small, ambitious charities and social enterprises to help a greater number of people, more effectively. Pilotlight currently helps over 80 charities who tackle issues such as crime, drug abuse and homelessness.

Pilotlight matches and manages teams of senior business people, 'Pilotlighters', with local charities and social enterprises that are tackling social disadvantage in the UK. The teams coach the charities through the process of planning for growth, development and sustainability. Find out what Pilotlight offers and more about the application process on the [website](#).



Information: Fair Deal Political Pack

The Royal College of Psychiatrists Fair Deal Political Pack is a set of information sheets, which can be used as practical tools for anyone who might want to raise [Fair Deal priorities](#) with parliamentarians.

The political pack and the first six information sheets were produced in 2009. Political information sheets will also be produced for Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Visit the [website](#) to access the Fair Deal Political Pack.



Department of Health

The NHS Future Forum members announced: they are a group of clinicians, patient representatives, voluntary sector representatives and others from the health field, including frontline staff, that will oversee the NHS listening exercise. It will drive the process of engagement with staff, patients and communities over the coming weeks. The group will be chaired by Professor Steve Field, immediate past Chairman at the Royal College of GPs.

[See the full list of NHS Future Forum members](#)

[See details of NHS Future Forum leaders](#)

Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS – Managing the transition
Sir David Nicholson, NHS Chief Executive, published his latest transition letter to NHS staff. The letter reiterates delivery commitments, updates on transition activity, and provides further information on the listening exercise.
For further information [click here](#).

