

Note from Sarah

Welcome to our 'new look' newsletter. We are experimenting! There is so much going on at Hope UK at the moment – and things so often changing or developing - that we decided to move to a shorter, six-times-a-year newsletter. And if you get the newsletter by e-mail you will see it looks different from before. I hope you are ok with this - I'd love to hear your comments, please feel free to contact me at s.brighton@hopeuk.org.

At our AGM/Conference weekend this year we focussed on 'County Lines' - which sadly involves the exploitation of young people in moving and selling drugs. You can learn more about this on our website - and some of our volunteers are now leading sessions for groups wanting to know how to help/prevent these harms. If you missed this weekend but would like to see our Annual Report/Annual Accounts, you will find them on our website.

We have finished all our resources for schools - they are available at our resources website (resources.hopeuk.org) and we are currently running online courses on a variety of drug-related topics. (See hopeuk.org/events/). A few of our volunteers have re-started taking sessions, both online and in-person, and June looks like being a very busy month for us with many in-person sessions planned (hooray!).

Meanwhile, our June social media campaign '#AllDressedUp' has just started, and we will finally be finishing the training for a small group of volunteers who started training last January.



We plan to do a survey this year with as many former 'Band of Hope' people we can find - is that you? Or a family member? Or friend? Can you get in touch with me if you are a former Band of Hope person, or if you can help us find people who were?

Lots going on—sadly our work is as needed and as important as ever. Thank you so much for your interest in, and support of, our work.

Sarah

Meet Micky...

He's the boss of an Organised Crime Group running County Lines and he wants your child.

Every County Line needs 30-50 young people to operate.



Hope
UK

County Lines Training with Hope UK

You can 'meet' Micky, and other roles involved in 'County Lines' to help you learn what they are, what to look out for, and how to help protect young people.

To find out more head to the County Lines for Parents e-learning at resources.hopeuk.org, or book in to the online training course for parents at hopeuk.org/events.

Or you can book a specific session for your group, school, church—our volunteers and staff are happy to lead both online and in-person courses for all ages and types of groups.

Online Courses

A quick reminder that you can book places on our one-hour, introductory online courses. A staff member will be leading each session, and they will be a great opportunity for people to think through issues relating to drugs and develop some helpful knowledge for themselves, their families and/or their organisations:

Introduction to Drugs – 8th June 11am, and 15th June 8pm.

Drug Information for Parents – 5th July 8pm and 13th September 8pm

Drug Awareness for Youth Workers – 23rd June 11am and 27th September 8pm

County Lines for Parents – 12th July 8pm and 20th September 8pm

Drugs and the Management of a Building – 28th June 11am and 20th July 8pm

For more information, and to book, visit: hopeuk.org/events/

New school resources

As you will have seen in our last newsletter, we have developed a wide range of resources for teachers (and others) to use to teach about drugs – and other related issues. We have developed the following for each key stage:

- ◇ Lesson plans (five for each key stage)
- ◇ Games, quizzes, and other activities
- ◇ PowerPoints, handouts, and other resources
- ◇ Factsheets

Each lesson plan and activity are mapped against the relevant sections of the 'Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' section of the National Curriculum. The lessons do not just cover the drug information criteria, but also related areas, for example 'Caring Friendships' and 'Being Safe'.

We also suggest ways to use each lesson plan or activity in a COVID-safe way, or even online. Teachers can also encourage pupils to access our free e-learning units for further learning.

If you want to know more, or see an example of a lesson plan, you can find these resources at <https://resources.hopeuk.org/resources-for-schools/>

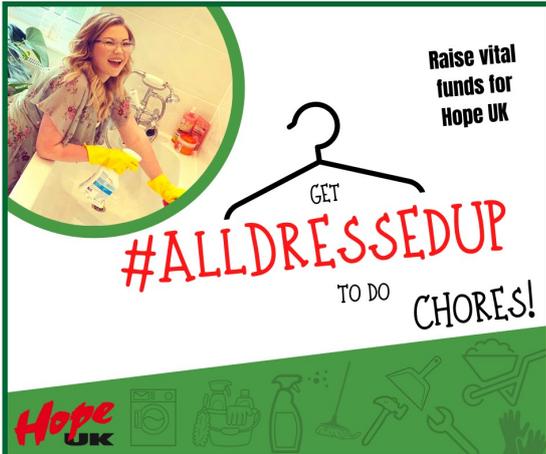
Exhibiting Differently...

You will often find staff, young people and volunteers running exhibition stands at festivals and events around the UK. We demonstrate our work by using interactive drug education activities, and show people what we do and why they might like to invite us to their group, or support us. Obviously, this has been impossible during the pandemic.

However, at Spring Harvest Online this year we got involved in a different kind of exhibition. Staff took turns to 'man' the 'stand' by sitting at a computer at home, 'chatting' to, or even hosting Zoom calls with individuals interested in our work.

Guests of Spring Harvest could 'visit' our page and view our resources, and then chat with us they wanted—most odd!





All Dressed Up

If, like us, you have been indoors a lot for the last year, you may have found yourself choosing to dress more informally than usual. (Anyone attended an online meeting wearing a formal top and pyjama bottoms?!)

We encourage you to join us by taking a photo of yourself dressed up—doing an ordinary household task. Post the picture on your favourite social media account, with the hashtag #AllDressedUp, and nominate some friends to do the same.

Mention Hope UK in the words with the picture, and encourage people to make a donation to our work!

Generation Hope

Our youth branch, Generation Hope, is still active. Aimed at 11-25s (in different groups), we encourage young people to join in, have a go at various activities, make friends, lead events and sessions, develop new skills and hopefully have some fun!

Hannah, our youth worker, has been leading regular online sessions with the young people throughout the various lockdowns, and has encouraged some of the older young people to lead online sessions.

At the Conference weekend, Generation Hope (GH) had their own Annual Meeting, electing new council members, had their own sessions, and joined in with general sessions and activities.

We are planning (hopefully) summer and autumn activities that will include in-person events, including two residentials (if that is allowed). Contact Hannah (h.luke@hopeuk.org) if you would like to know more about GH, or the future activities.

Looking for Volunteers

We are starting to train volunteers again. We are keeping each course small, so that we can keep everyone safe, but we do have spaces on the course starting in January next year.

Are you interested in helping us by training to deliver drug education and life skills workshops to groups in your local area? Or do you know someone who would be great at this?

If so, please contact us—enquiries@hopeuk.org—or have a look at the information on our website: hopeuk.org/volunteering/



Is your information up to date?

We hope you enjoy hearing from Hope UK, about our work. However, we are aware that we may be contacting an organisation and the person we used to mail has moved on — or maybe you would prefer not to hear from us any more.

Please contact us at enquiries@hopeuk.org if you would prefer not to hear from us again (or call us on 020 7928 0848).

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