

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE – September 2020

This has been a very difficult few months for everyone, but I like to think there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

Although our Services were suspended on 23rd March, our service users have not been forgotten and we have remained in contact with them through our 'keeping in touch' scheme. This has required a lot of phone calls!! In addition, in recent weeks, we have held some very successful and enjoyable 'Zoom' sessions. Some sessions have had over 20 participants for which a very large screen is required!!

In the last few weeks, a lot of hard work and planning has been undertaken to enable the limited return of Services such as Our Zone, Saturday Scene and PIP Youth. Further Services will resume as and when circumstances allow. Whilst we will do all we can to restart as many Services as possible, I think we have to accept it is highly unlikely we will return to pre Covid-19 levels. My son has been home from supported living since March and is really looking forward to seeing his friends again.

The majority of our staff remain on furlough which has helped to protect our finances. However, there is much uncertainty for the future given the termination of the furlough scheme at the end of October and the uncertainty in respect of our income from Services from November onwards. Thus, a big thank you to those of you who have voluntarily paid invoices for which no Services were received. Similarly, thank you to those who have made a donation which can still be done by clicking on the donate button on our Homepage.