



REPORT FOR HENLEY TOWN MEETING

April 2016

Riverside has continued to grow in response to the ever-increasing demand for our services. In the past year we took on 4 new counsellors, for a current total of 25, and our client numbers grew from 60 to 80+. We now see clients at 6 different locations across the Henley area and 2 locations in Wallingford. It is encouraging that people are more and more willing to acknowledge their difficulties and seek the help they need.

Our new youth counselling service – The Space – is now up and running. The Space's Clinical Lead, Becky Saunders, is contacting schools, doctors and youth groups to give them information about the professional service we can offer young people.

Riverside offers affordable counselling, with nearly all our clients paying something towards their sessions. This income doesn't cover the costs of running a rapidly expanding service, however, and we rely increasingly on fundraising and grants to remain viable. This past year we have been very fortunate to receive money from the Henley Town Council and Stuart Turner has awarded us a grant for the third year in a row. We also enjoyed taking part in the Living Advent Calendar again this year. We could not manage without this generous support from local government and businesses.

Our fundraisers have had another busy and successful year, with their Annual Tennis Day last June, an enormously successful (and glamorous) Fashion Show at the Quince Tree, a Quiz Night at the same location and a recent shopping event at Badgemore Golf Club. We are very grateful to all the people who attend our events and help make them such a success, and to those who support us in many other ways.

We consider that we also have a responsibility to inform and educate and have again offered a 10-week Introduction to Counselling course this year. In addition, we have a full programme of talks and workshops for our own counsellors and other interested professionals, some of which are given by members of our own staff. Riverside benefits from a great deal of in-house expertise.

Each year we work hard to achieve our goal of meeting the growing demand for counselling in our area and reaching the people in greatest need. We are very fortunate to have such strong local support, which enables us to continue with our work of transforming lives.

Hilary Arthur
Director and Clinical Lead

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