



CONTRIBUTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

David Best is Associate Professor in Eastern Health Clinical School at Monash University, Melbourne, and Head of Research and Workforce Development at Turning Point in Melbourne. He was the founding chair of the Scottish Drugs Recovery Consortium and the UK Recovery Academy and he is currently Chair of Recovery Academy Australia. David has worked in a range of research and policy roles in the UK and Australia both in the area of addiction and in criminal justice and criminology. His third book on recovery - "Strength, Support, Setbacks and Solutions" - will be published in the summer of 2014 in the UK. His work focuses on pathways to recovery including research on recovery capital, recovery contagion and therapeutic landscapes of recover.

Tony Bullock is a drug and alcohol commissioner at Public Health Staffordshire and has previously fulfilled a similar position in Blackburn as well as various research roles, not least in relation to drug use and treatment in prisons, while at the Home Office. He is interested in the development of proportionately balanced strategic approaches, but has a particular interest in the social aspects of drug/alcohol problems and responses. He is currently developing a number of community-led initiatives designed to complement 'specialist' commissioned approaches to prevention, early intervention and treatment.

Dr Ed Day is a Senior Lecturer at the National Addiction Centre and a Consultant in Addiction Psychiatry with Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Trust. His work is split between clinical research and teaching at King's and clinical practice in a drug treatment team in Erdington in Birmingham. Much of his research focusses on developing and testing innovative psychosocial interventions for tackling addiction. Ed is currently the Vice President of the Society for the Study of Addiction, and has been a member of a number of expert working groups to develop national clinical guidance in the field including the 2007 UK Guidelines on Clinical Management of Drug Misuse and Dependence ('the Orange Book') and the 2012 Medications in Recovery report.

Steve Dixon established Changes UK in 2006 after recognising a gap in accommodation for vulnerable people affected by homelessness as a result of addiction. From that original concept of supported housing provision, Changes UK has developed into a range of recovery services which includes a detox facility, offender peer mentoring and an exciting new Recovery Academy. The Recovery Academy offers community based interventions to enable people to engage in a structured programme of support as well as skills building and training opportunities. Over the years Steve and his Changes UK team have been widely recognised and respected for their impact on developing a strong recovery community with great success in reducing the likelihood of relapse and offending behaviours and helping people to make enduring lifestyle changes and move forward with their lives.

Dr Wendy Dossett is Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies at the University of Chester, and Principal Investigator of the Higher Power Project. She is a former Associate Director of the Alister Hardy

Religious Experience Research Centre. She has research interests and publications in Japanese Buddhism, religious education, and in spirituality and recovery from addiction. She has worked with addicts in a residential rehab, and undertaken field research amongst those in twelve step recovery programmes. The first findings of the Higher Power Project are published in 'Addiction, Spirituality and the Twelve Steps' in *International Social Work*. May, Vol. 56, No.2, 2013

Mark Gilman is the Strategic Recovery Lead for Substance Misuse in Public Health England. He is also assisting NHS England and the Ministry of Justice in the implementation of the substance misuse elements of the North West Through The [Prison] Gate programme. Mark is developing ways in which ideas drawn from Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) can be linked to the social processes of recovering from addiction. One of the biggest 'assets' that we have are the experts by experience found in the rooms of AA, NA, CA and SMART.

Peter H (Narcotics Anonymous Public Information Committee),

Geoff H is the Trustee for Health Liaison, General Service Board, Alcoholics Anonymous. Service experience includes liaison with the professional community in Health and Criminal Justice Services at Intergroup, Region and Board level.

Megan Jones has worked in the drug treatment field for over thirty years as a nurse, a counsellor, a researcher, a service manager and an information scientist. She has also worked as a local authority drug and alcohol strategy manager in two Inner London boroughs. In her current role as a Senior Programme Manager in Public Health England's Alcohol & Drug Team, she is overseeing the development of a series of resources to support the development of local mutual aid networks within the alcohol and drug treatment field.

Chris Lee is currently the lead commissioner for substance misuse in Public Health, Lancashire County Council. He has worked in the substance misuse field for 18 years and in commissioning since 2007 where he has been commissioning substance misuse services, research and related projects in Lancashire, formally as part of Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (LDAAT) – now Public Health, Lancashire County Council.

Tim Leighton is Action on Addiction's Director of Professional Education and Research. He joined Clouds (residential treatment centre) as a counsellor in 1985 and in 1987 went to Hazelden in Minnesota in order to develop a course suitable for British counsellors in the field. Since 1988 he has developed and taught a number of counselling courses at Clouds, King's College London and a Foundation Degree in Addictions Counselling in partnership with the University of Bath. Tim has been a UKCP registered Cognitive Analytic Psychotherapist since 1994 and is also an accredited trainer and supervisor. His current research interests are Addictions Counselling as a social practice, and theory-based evaluation of treatment programmes, attempting to identify mechanisms of change leading to recovery.



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Tony Mercer is a Health Improvement Manager (Alcohol and Drugs) for Public Health England, providing specialist and technical support to commissioners, public health teams and treatment services in the Midlands. He is also leading Public Health England's work in the Midlands to increase facilitated access to mutual aid for drug and alcohol recovery. Tony has worked in different roles in drugs and alcohol treatment for nearly fifteen years in South Wales, the West Midlands and the North West of England, including DAAT Commissioning Manager and National Treatment Agency Deputy Regional Manager. He has post graduate qualifications in public health and bioethics and an interest in the social determinants of addiction and recovery, mutual aid and public mental health.

Dr Luke Mitcheson works for the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist working in the community alcohol and drug services in Lambeth. He is also seconded to the Public Health England Alcohol and Drugs Team. His clinical and research interests are in the application and implementation of psychological interventions to enable people to overcome their addiction related problems.

Richard Phillips has worked in the substance misuse field for 25 years, in roles ranging from street outreach, commissioning, national policy work and senior management. He is currently the Director of SMART Recovery, a charity which runs a network of peer-led mutual aid meetings for addictions and also works in partnership with treatment services. Previously, he was the Director of Services and Director of Business Development at Phoenix Futures and before that Director of Policy and Services and interim CEO at Alcohol Concern. He has developed software for substance misuse services since 1990 and recently developed a website analysing inspection reports about care homes. Phillips sits on the Advisory Council on the misuse of Drugs, co-chairing its standing committee on recovery.

Caroline Phipps is Chief Executive of Drugaid, which is a third sector organisation delivering a range of services and interventions to individuals and families with substance misuse issues across south Wales. She has been working in this field for 18 years and in Drugaid for 14 years. She is a member of Gwent and Cwm Taf Area Planning Boards and sat on the Advisory Panel on Substance Misuse (APoSM). She represents the third sector substance misuse network on the National Strategic Implementation Board. Caroline was Chair of the Recovery sub group of APoSM which delivered the Recovery Framework for Wales, launched in February 2014. She is passionate about delivering recovery oriented services and involving service users in all aspects of service deliver and design.

Jonathan C Roberts BA (Hons) is a recovery practitioner and counsellor, currently working as Mutual Aid lead, Leicester Recovery Partnership. He is director/founder of 'Dear Albert'; a peer led social enterprise and recovery adversary organisation. His primary interest is in creating sustainable models that facilitate engagement into positive social networks and making connections with recovery communities more assessable/viable.

Alistair Sinclair is a founder Director of the UK Recovery Federation (UKRF). In the past 31 years he has been: a trainee journalist, student of literature, residential social worker, disabilities support worker, alcohol rehab worker, drug user, road protestor, political activist, homelessness worker & manager, drug worker, drug service manager, consumer of mental health services and general manager of a drugs charity. He is a qualified person-centred counsellor and community worker and is currently a community builder, consultant & trainer in strength-based community development and recovery-orientation. Alistair is a member of the ACMD Recovery Committee.

Mario Sobczak is founder and coordinator of Recovery Initiative Social Enterprise (RISE), a peer-led support and personal development group in Kingston, Surrey. From a base of personal experience of rehab and service user involvement, he has worked on the London Service User's Forum, Kingston Service Users Council, Chair of the Better Life Forum and CRI Steering Group prior to founding RISE.

John Stoner is a career scientist and manager with interests in environment and health, he has been a Professorial Research Fellow at the Centre for Research into Environment and Health (CREH) at the University of Aberystwyth for the past 15 years. Since 2008 he has developed his knowledge and experience of recovery from addiction by working at a 12-Step treatment in West Wales and latterly as researcher on the Higher Power Project and associated 12-Step recovery projects. He is currently a Visiting Professor in addiction, recovery and spirituality at the University of Chester, where he is also Director (Projects) of the recently formed CSARS Group.

Samantha Weston is a Lecturer in Criminology at Keele University. Before this she worked as a Research Associate for 8 years at the National Drug Evidence Centre, University of Manchester where she was involved in a number of Home Office and Department of Health funded research projects and had a leading role in the largest UK evaluation of drug treatment to date - The Drug Treatment and Outcomes Research Study (DTORS). Samantha has also worked as a researcher for Matrix Knowledge on the evaluation of drug testing in the criminal justice system. Her most recent research focuses on the effects of medicalisation and subsequent criminalisation of drug policy, with a particular emphasis on the consequences of being labelled as an 'addict' and 'drug using offender' on treatment progression.