Welcome to the Summer 2014 edition of the Stop Hate UK quarterly newsletter

Stop Hate UK has been providing support to victims and witnesses of Hate Crime for nearly 20 years. We believe that one of the most effective ways of tackling Hate Crime is to challenge the hatred, discrimination and prejudice from which they stem. Talk to people about Hate Crime; encourage people to report incidents; challenge prejudiced views and discrimination when you see it. This is something that we all can, and must, play a part in.

Some people have already answered the call to Challenge Hate, and are feeling a little more adventurous. This summer sees the launch of our yearly Challenge Hate Events, and the first one is a big one.

The highest peaks of the United Kingdom (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike & Snowdon). 24 Hours.

It’s a pretty simple concept, but the challenge is anything but! Over 12 hours of walking and just as much driving, little rest and even less sleep, painful legs and tired heads.

So on Saturday 16th August 2014, when you’re laid outside in your deckchair, or maybe your indoor armchair (it wouldn’t be a British summer without a bit of rain), spare a thought for our challengers: Simon Bishop, Richard Cartwright, Michelle Clough, Shaun Dennis, Claire Gibbs, James Gibbs, Kasia Granek, Andrew Muckles and Duncan Wells.

Our challengers would also appreciate it if you could spare a little money as well as your thoughts. You can support our walkers and help us to Challenge Hate at: https://mydonate.bt.com/teams/hatepeaks

All our challengers are covering their own costs, so every penny raised will go straight to supporting victims and witnesses of Hate Crime.

If you are not able to donate, you can still support the challenge by showing your appreciation on Twitter. Tweet the team and tell us what you are doing to challenge hatred and discrimination - #challengehate.
Roma Matrix Hate Crime Awareness Project

The Roma Matrix Hate Crime Awareness Project is being delivered by Stop Hate UK on behalf of Migration Yorkshire through funding from the European Union.

The aim of the project is to increase awareness and understanding of Hate Crime, Reporting Options and the support that is available, to members of the Roma Community in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Outcomes from the project will include the delivery of a number of sessions to Roma community groups in West and South Yorkshire which will provide the opportunity to consider the nature of incidents faced by the groups both in the UK and their experiences in their countries of origin. We will consider the issues raised and discuss the support options that are available to the community when they are subjected to discrimination and hostility identified. So far 2 sessions have been delivered in Calderdale, 1 in Bradford and 1 in Leeds, with further sessions currently being organised in Kirklees, Rotherham and Wakefield.

As part of the project we have additionally produced posters to raise awareness of Hate Crime in the wider Roma community and we have taken the opportunity to develop these not just for this project but for wider distribution throughout our Stop Hate Line areas.

We will also be producing an information document towards the project that will be made available to both the Roma community and partner agencies to provide assistance in supporting victims of hostility, by providing advice on local and national support organisations, details of reporting options and wider advice on Hate Crime.

As part of the project Stop Hate Line service is now available throughout the Yorkshire and Humber region for all the Roma Community.

Early indications from the sessions is that there is limited understanding of Hate Crime as we recognise it within the UK and equally limited understanding of how and where to report such incidents. Another general theme that is apparent is that whilst incidents clearly do happen in the UK based on the participants past experiences in their countries of origin, the community see the UK as a relatively tolerant society with less discrimination than they are familiar with from these countries of origin.

One interesting case was identified of a Polish shopkeeper who displayed a sign outside a shop stating “No Czech or Slovaks served”, when challenged by a member of the Roma community the sign was changed to read “Czech and Slovaks served but do not steal anything”.... A real indication of the nature of discrimination that exists within our communities and the challenges that face ourselves and partner agencies to improve community cohesion and integration...

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New Roma Poster

Available with your own area or town

Being Roma is not a crime. Racism is...

Racism can be...

Damage to your house or property
Getting the to your home
Writing graffiti about you
Attacking or insulting you
Calling you names

Report Roma Hate Crime in Nottinghamshire.

Call us:
STOP HATE CRIME
0800 138 1625
24 HOUR HELP LINE.

Registered Charity No. 198299 www.stophateuk.org June 2014 Images ©与时俱WEB www.themepal.ie.co.uk
Helpline Statistics

“What do the stats say about our work at Stop Hate UK?” I hear you cry......albeit faintly!!

Well I’ll tell you... here are some of the headlines from the last financial year:
This year Stop Hate UK answered 88% of calls to the 0800 and 0808 numbers within four rings, (Our organisational target is 80%) and over half of the contacts we received were outside of normal working hours – a clear indication that we are providing a service that is needed. - ‘Who else they gonna call?’ We continue to respond to victims when they need support. Our services are always open: available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Nearly a third of contacts to Stop Hate UK were via our electronic reporting mechanisms. These services are popular amongst younger people and, while this split has remained constant this year there is a small overall trend towards electronic methods of reporting.

56% of all contacts to the helplines were to report an incident – effectively nearly 900 victims receiving our support – when an incident has occurred.

This year, where the victim gave consent, Stop Hate UK made nearly 500 referrals to the police for investigation. We also made over 200 referrals to local authorities and more than 450 to other local agencies such as Victim Support. This means that victims are able to get the support they need, in their local area.

Stop Hate UK received 459 incident reports where Disability was a motivating factor and 349 where Race was a motivating factor. These two strands remain the most often reported Hate reports.

However we also received 27 incident reports relating to Gender Identity Hate Crime - an area that is very under-reported and is a significant increase on the level of reporting last year.

The most commonly reported incident types continue to be verbal abuse and threatening behaviour, across all of the monitored strands although Cyber Bullying is on the increase and is proving to be a significant contributor to Hate related abuse and harassment.

Victims who identified that they were disabled most often reported having learning disabilities/difficulties, mental ill health or physical/mobility disabilities.

Our Stop Learning Disability Hate Crime Line launched in January 2013 and went from strength to strength during 2013-14. As a result of calls to this line from across England and Wales, 19 victims of Hate Crime with Learning Disability/Difficulty were supported by our Hate Crime Advocate as well as many more we were able to help through the helpline

Some of the highlights – if you want more, then the Annual Statistical Report is available on our website.

Fundraising activity

Sing Freedom Event in Leeds

Sing Freedom
A story with songs of liberation

When ANC activist Rusty Bernstein was tried for his life alongside Nelson Mandela, his family’s life changed for ever. In ‘Sing Freedom’, his daughter Frances tells a deeply personal story, with the liberation struggle vividly recalled in songs of the apartheid era authentically sung by Free Range.

A fundraiser for Stop Hate UK
Friday 28th October, 7:30pm
At St Edmund’s Church, Lidggett Park Rd, Roundhay, Leeds, LS8 1JN
Tickets: £6 each (£3 tickets for £24) Advance Bookings only
To book tickets contact info@stophateuk.org / 0113 293 5100

www.freerangekili.org.uk

STOP HATE UK
Direct and indirect abuse – exploring the implications
How have social media changed the face of Hate Crime

For the second year running Stop Hate UK and the Northern School of Psychotherapy (NSCAP) are hosting a conference in Leeds for people concerned about current issues in abuse, bullying and hate crime. This year there will be a particular emphasis on the increasing use of social media as a tool for abusive behaviour and the specific effects this has on victims.

The internet and social media have brought new and different dimensions to bullying, stalking and hate crime that need to be carefully considered by anyone engaged in this area of work including educators, criminal justice, social workers, mental health services and charities supporting victims.

This conference is designed for representatives from all the above sectors and is open to anyone interested in this subject.

We are pleased to welcome back Ted Bowman, educator, author and consultant from Minnesota who will lead a thought provoking and moving session around direct and indirect acts of hate or bullying. The session will also explore some of the implications of using filters of loss and grief for victims.

We are also honoured to include Professor Carsten Maple from the School of Applicable Computing from the University of Bedfordshire as our second guest speaker. Carsten is an expert in online abuse and stalking and will deliver a presentation on the nature of online hate crime and stalking and the role anonymity plays in this form of abuse.

In addition to our two distinguished guest speakers, we are delighted that Helen Shaw, Co-Director of the organisation Inquest, will chair the day and Jason B Kaushal, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist at NSCAP will deliver a session in the afternoon entitled “why do I keep going back?”

The conference will be held at the NSCAP Bevan House centre in Leeds on the 10th September 2014, 9:30-16:00.

Follow us on social media
Twitter: @stophateuk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StopHateUK
New Board Members

We are delighted to have some new additions join our dedicated Board of Trustees. One of our new recruits is Graham Lewis. Here he tells us about himself and his support for our work.

Hi, I’m Graham and I joined the Board of Stop Hate UK in February - although this isn’t my first connection to the charity!

I’ve worked in the voluntary sector for 20 years - working in youth work, housing, HIV support and sexual health, victim support, hate crime, the LGBT community and also as a Trustee.

From 2004-2013 I was the manager of Victim Supportline, (Victim Supports’ national helpline), utilising my skills of volunteer and operational management.

When I was working for Victim Support I was asked to join the Home Offices’ Racist Incident Group which was implementing some of the recommendations from the Macpherson Report - specifically the development of a third party reporting helpline. I was very involved in the development of the project which went on to become known as Stop Hate UK! I loved the work of Stop Hate UK as it brought a number of areas of interest together - helplines, volunteers and providing support to people who were victims of hate crime.

When I told Rose that I had decided to leave Victim Support, she immediately asked me if I was interested in joining the Board!! So here I am, bringing knowledge and experience of helplines, operational management, volunteer management and national strategy.

I’m really looking forward to becoming more involved in the work of Stop Hate UK and the valuable work that it does.
**Hate Incidents and Hate Crimes**

A Hate Incident is any incident which may, or may not constitute a criminal offence, which is perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

A Hate Crime is any hate incident, which constitutes a criminal offence, perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate. The offence can be against a person or property and includes verbal and physical abuse and graffiti, letters and leafleting.

The prejudice or hate perceived can be based on any identifying factor, including Disability, Race, Religion or Sexual Orientation.

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**If you would like to become a member of Stop Hate UK, please contact Rose at info@stophateuk.org**

**If you are interested in volunteering with Stop Hate UK, please contact Duncan at Duncan@stophateuk.org**

**Check to see if your area is covered at http://www.stophateuk.org/report-hate-crime/**

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**Hate Crime Headlines**

The number of contacts made to the Helpline service was over 3000 during 2012/13. The highest volume of calls related to Disability Hate Crime, followed by Race related Hate Crimes. Victims reported a wide range of incidents including physical assaults. Verbal abuse and threatening behaviour were the most commonly reported incident types.

**Reporting a Hate Crime**

Remember, should you or anyone you know want to report a Hate Crime or Incident, we offer a variety of services for reporting Hate Crimes or Incidents:

- Stop Hate Line - 0800 138 1625
- Text Relay - 18001 0800 138 1625
- Email - talk@stophateuk.org
- Text - 07717 989 025
- Live web chat - www.stophateuk.org/talk
- Online form - www.stophateuk.org/tell
- Post - Stop Hate UK, PO BOX 484, LS7 9BZ
- British Sign Language via ‘Interpreters Now’
- Stop Learning Disability Hate Crime - 0808 802 1155

A person reporting a Hate Crime does not have to be the victim themselves, nor do they need full details of the incident. Any detail could help make an area safer.

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Thank you for taking the time to read the Stop Hate UK newsletter. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

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**You’re not alone...**