

SPEAK UP

SPECIAL 20th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

53/2012



Speaking **UP** for ourselves
1992 **FOR** **2012**



The voice of the learning disabled



Manchester People First

All of us at Manchester People First are happy and proud to be celebrating our 20th birthday. We started in 1992 and now have over 500 members. We may have got bigger and do more, but are still run by and for adults with a learning disability. A couple of years ago, we wrote a mission statement which tells people what we want to do. We think the people who started Manchester People First would like it:

Our mission is for all learning disabled people in Manchester to have control over their lives, make their own choices and be confident self-advocates.

We will work with other groups to help us reach our goal.

We will be brave and strong in how we support people.

We will be positive and move forward together.

We hope you enjoy this special issue that looks back over our history, but you can be sure our committee is looking forward to the future.



Manchester People First

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Manchester People First is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 6339300.

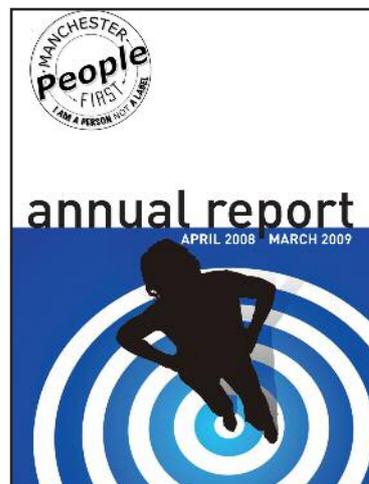
We are a registered charity, number 1124426.



@firstmcr



We are run by our members



To be a member of Manchester People First you have to have a learning disability. Only members can vote at our Annual General Meeting or be on our committee. We tell everyone what we have done in our quarterly newsletters and Annual Report.



See the back page for details of this year's Annual General Meeting



Computer course



Personal safety



Photography exhibition

We hold regular workshops to give people the skills and knowledge to speak up for themselves and make their voices heard.



Personal development course

20

We work with others



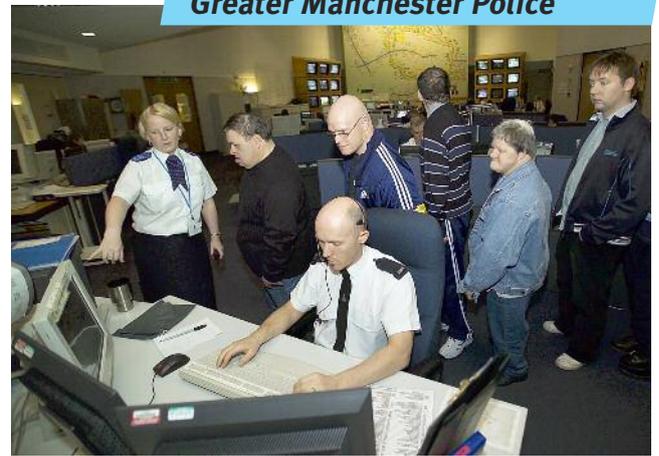
Co-op community work



Venture Arts



The Edge Theatre Group



Greater Manchester Police



Greater Manchester
POLICE

MANCHESTER
1824



We work with other groups who need to know more about adults with a learning disability. Our Just Info project helps them make their work more accessible to us. We ask others when we need their help.



Circus skills workshop



Christmas

Barn dance with the Shaw Centre



Summer BBQ



Many people with a learning disability feel isolated or do not get the chance to meet new people. So we know the importance of social events, trips-out and parties – and how to let our hair down!

20

Celebrating 20 years of work

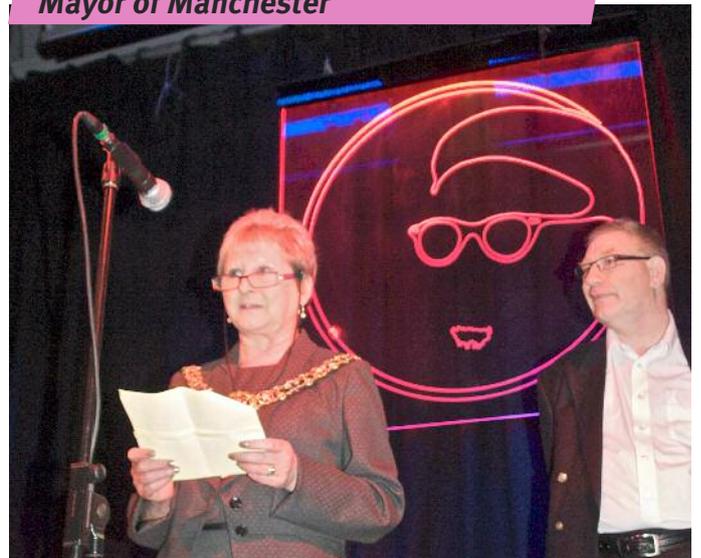


Cyril from OPAL and the Co-op staff



I ♥ MPF

Mayor of Manchester



The Band On The Wall



The co-operative banking group

In June we had a great 20th anniversary party at The Band On The Wall in the city centre. Thanks to Co-op Banking Group for their help.



20 The early days



Anna - first member of staff

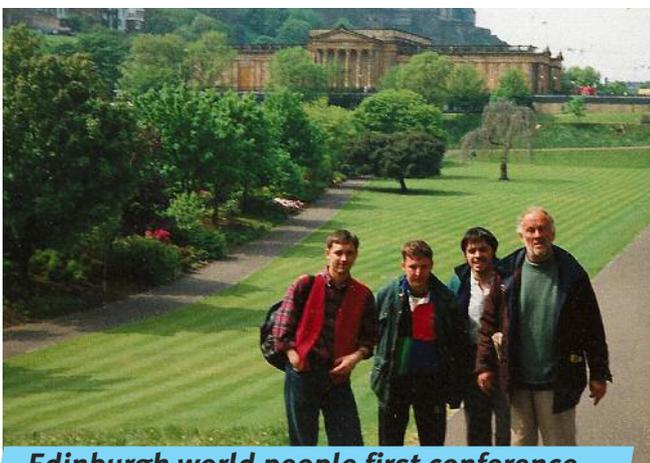


The portakabin - our first office

Outside at BEVC



Lorraine (middle)



Edinburgh world people first conference



The office in Newton Heath from 2003

Manchester People First started in 1992 when 4 people came together at Abraham Moss to help each other speak up.



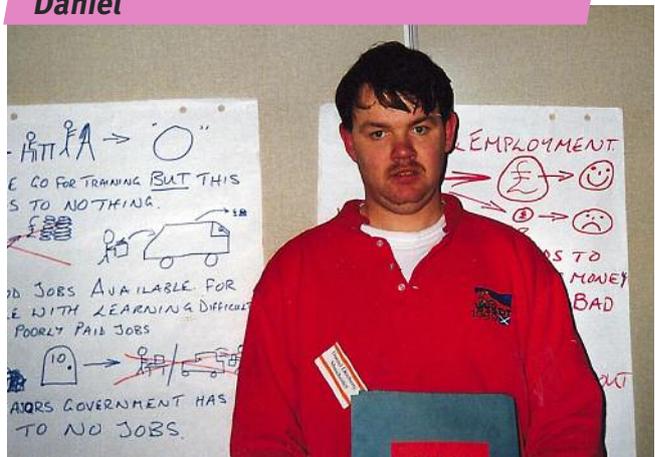
Christmas Party (Bennet in tartan)



Winning a health award 2003



Daniel



Learning Disability Today stall 2007



Our very first conference



20 What we do today



We give advice, information, training and support to our members and people who work with adults with a learning disability.

We run workshops, meetings and conferences for self-advocates and outside organisations.

We hold social events and have groups for men and women.

We share our offices with OPAL – Older and Positive About Life.

We run Club 3 an evening social group for younger people and Lounge at 3 an evening social group for older people.

We run a Service Audit Project which inspects services for the Joint Commissioning Team.

We have an office in the south of Manchester which hosts the Young People’s Parliament and runs social activities such as Culture Vultures.

We run Just Info to make accessible information for other groups and we host the Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board.



Design a poster competition winner



In June we ran a competition to design a Manchester People First poster. We got loads of good entries, and the winner was Christine Beasley who goes to Hall Lane Resource Centre. Here's Brian from MPF awarding Christine her £25 prize.



Join us and be part of the next 20 years

If you are over 18 years of age have a learning disability and live in Manchester, you can join Manchester People First Just fill in this form and send it back.

Name

Address

Post Code

Phone

Email

Send the form back to:
Manchester People First
3 Broughton Street, Cheetham Hill, M8 8RF