

## chair's review september 2010

This year I wanted to focus on the continued efforts to constantly update the site – building on the previous years successes in terms of great new content – but also in terms of design and look to the site. Thinkingahead today has become vibrant, looks the best it has, and has now started to use different media forms.

We've achieved a new, more up to date, look and feel, with use of video, pictures, art and more. For this we've worked with organisations and groups to develop some key content areas. With additional funds from Community First, we've now produced new publicity materials, and obtained software applications and video and computer equipment (which have yet to be fully utilised.)

Local and national mental health news updates has continued but we've struggled to maintain features around local mental health, such as our 'getting to know' series.

We now have an increasing understanding of who actually visits us, as recently, we've introduced a visitor system where people can leave some status information.

In this year, we took part in the 130 year celebrations of St James Hospital working with Portsmouth Primary Care Trust, having developed a history section with Portsmouth museums.

As ever, people seeking information remains an important function of the website. Site visitors contact us about their experiences of using local services, or to seek initial information. Thinkingahead is often their first source of help locally, and we signpost and refer those who contact us.

Management-wise, it's been a challenging period with every member of the small management committee battling with time and energy to contribute to thinkingahead. It's been a struggle to maintain the level of commitment necessary, however, although this has prevented some developments and new ideas taking place, I look forward to the coming year with some new additions to the team, which will build our capacity and enable us to start thinking about new ideas to look at.

Indeed, the coming year we'll review progress and begin shaping and co-ordinating our future direction - against our mission and vision – to tackle promotion and awareness, community engagement and content development.

**Duncan Marshall, Chair, Thinking Ahead, September 2010**

- *Increasing awareness*
- *Providing up to date information*
- *Keeping people informed*