

**A fond farewell**

Everyone at Compass would like to wish Jo Thompson a fond farewell. Jo was the Young People's Co-ordinator for the Drug Action Team; however, as of January 2008 she took up a new post in Luton.

We all want to thank Jo for all the work she has completed in Milton Keynes and wish her all the very best for the future.

**New Ventures for the New Year**

As well as continuing to provide a number of well established drop-in services in and around Milton Keynes this coming 2008; Compass will be marking the New Year by starting up a drop-in service at Sir Frank Markham Secondary School.

Drop-In's are a great opportunity for young people to ask any questions they may have about drug and alcohol use. We look forward to establishing this new service.

Compass will continue to provide Targeted Prevention group work Sessions at the Youth Offending Team through 2008. In addition, we will be providing a drug awareness workshop for Children's Social Care at the close of January. We look forward to the year ahead...

**Compass Young People's at Xscape**

During Christmastime '06, a number of services working in Milton Keynes got together and carried out a well received project titled 'Sex and Drugs: No Regrets'. So when winter '07 came round it meant it was a great opportunity to repeat the success we had last year.

As the title suggests, last years' event was centred around the risks of combining excessive substance use and unsafe sex - this year it expanded to include Connexions amongst the services present..

Setting up a table in the Xscape venue (right outside the Ask restaurant, whose aromas became increasingly tempting throughout the afternoon!) we created a base to work from placing literature, freebies and workers right in front of Xscape's busy foot traffic. Hayden from Brook soon established the attitude of the afternoon- *nobody escapes Xscape without being caught, talked to and loaded up with leaflets!*

Throughout our time there, we spoke to everybody from groups of young people to a team of fire-fighters out on their Christmas do (some of the staff at the event may have considered this a highlight!) and handed out information and literature to all.

After a second successful Christmas excursion amongst the patrons of Xscape, I hope that we continue to do a third in winter '08 and if any services would like to be part of it feel free to contact us. On the subject of Christmas, my advice is plan early, remember there are only 300 and something shopping days to go!

Alan Goss

You can find Compass Young People at the following locations in 2008:-

**CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION** (2-4pm):-

4 February  
3 March

**SIR FRANK MARKHAM** (12.25-2.05pm):-

13 February  
12 March

**BROOK EVERY FRIDAY**(3-5pm):-

11 January

**KILN FARM WITH BROOK** (12-2pm):-

1 February  
7 March  
4 April

**Rathbone** (12-1pm):-

5 February  
11 March

**Chaffron Way** (1-3pm):-

25 January  
(12-2pm):- 28 March

**SPOTLIGHT** (12-1.30pm):-

18 January  
15 February

**STANTONBURY** (12.15-1.10pm):-

12 February  
26 February  
11 March  
25 March

(3-4.30pm):-

8 February  
14 March

**Bletchley** (12-2pm):-

29 February

**CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE**

25 January at 09.30, Avebury Boulevard

Just a quick note to let you know that I'm leaving my post as the YP team's Senior Practitioner on February 6<sup>th</sup>.  
It's been a great 4 years working in Milton Keynes and a huge reason why is down to the wonderful staff that this town is lucky enough to have working in it!  
Good bye and good luck in everything you do.  
- Alan

