



North-West Regional Hoarding Conference 2024:

'HOARDING: Unplugged & Unleashed!'

Conference Programme (Annotated)

- 09.30am Registration (Tea/Coffee)
- 10.00 am Welcome
(Mal Evans, Merseyside HHH Group Peer & Andrew Brown, Director of Housing & Supported Living, Onward Homes)
- 10.10 am Genesis: And so it begins.....(Prelude)
(Ian)

In the beginning was the word.....(which, centuries later, became a 'disorder'!)

- 10.15 am National Hoarding Awareness Week 2024
(Round table discussion I)

This year is the 10th Anniversary of National Hoarding Awareness Week. We'll kick-start our first round-table conversation by watching a short video before posing a number of questions:

- 1. What's CHANGED in 10 years?*
- 2. What NEEDS to change?*
- 3. How does 'chronicity' (long-lasting) affect people who exhibit hoarding behaviours?*

Approximately 20-25% of our conference delegates are people with 'lived experience' & we will have at least one of our people on each table - let's get this conversation started!

11.00 am The Capacity Conundrum
(Emma O'Hare, Solicitor)

Emma is our favourite 'legal eagle' & returns to our Regional conference for the second year running. She will critically explore the concept of mental 'capacity' in relation to people who exhibit hoarding behaviours

11.30 am North-West HHH Support Group Network: How groups work.....and why YOU need them!
(Group Peers & Group Facilitators)

The North-West network of psychosocial intervention and peer support groups is unrivalled in the UK. This is an opportunity for a delegate-led Q & A session with representatives from 4 of our 13 (soon to be 15) groups.

12.00 pm The Lodger (formerly 'Jam & Chemicals'): A work in progress
(Dora Colquhoun & George Jenkins)

Dora is a neurodivergent actor and George is a musician. Following on from her huge success with 'ADHD: The Musical - Can I Have Your Attention Please?'; Dora will outline her exciting new work in which she explores the questions: What is 'home' and how can she be 'home' to herself when everything else is so fragile. Dora & George will also perform a couple of numbers from the show to take us into lunch - on a high!

12.30 pm Lunch

At some point towards the end of the lunch break, you will be invited to join one of two short (15-20 minute) informal presentations which will take place at opposite ends of the hall: one will outline an assessment protocol which has recently been developed by the team of Hoarding Specialists at Onward Homes; the other will overview a multi-agency pathway to support people who exhibit hoarding behaviours which has been developed as part of the Wirral Hoarding Improvement Project (W.H.I.P. - if you want to get ahead - get an acronym!)

However, attendance isn't compulsory so please feel free to utilise all of the available time for quality interactions/exchanges with conference delegates

1.30 pm Sorry We Missed you or.....All You Need Is Love?
(Paul MacMillan, Hoarding Specialist, Onward Homes)

Paul will overview some issues relating to communicating with people who refuse to open their doors (for good reason!) and outline his own ingenious approach to securing peoples' engagement, often, in extremely distressing and/or challenging circumstances.

2.00 pm Landfill of Memories: The SEQUEL!!
(Susanna Amato - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!)

Please have a look at the audience participation invite from Susanna too please:

Susanna is an actor, writer, clown & theatre-maker. 'Landfill of Memories' is an autobiographical performance about hoarding and has recently premiered in London. Susanna will be performing an extract from the show so please expect storytelling, laughter andshredding! Please fasten your seatbelts!

2.30 pm Self-Neglect **AND** Hoarding? Changing the narrative: A Rant in E
Minor
(Ian)

I'll be challenging the (mis)use of the term 'hoarding' as a synonym for 'self-neglect'

2.45 pm We Need To Change The Way We Think About 'Hoarding':
(Round table discussion II)

Following on from the 'rant' (see above) we'd like peers and multi-agency colleagues to participate in round-table discussions which address some of the core issues associated with the 'lived experience' of 'hoarding' - some examples might be:

- 1. Relationships (Family or otherwise - we will have family members of peers in the room)*
- 2. Emotionality (Responses and reactions)*
- 3. Stigma*

It could even turn into a personal Q & A with the person/people with lived experience who are sitting on your table.

3.15pm Short Comfort Break (time permitting!)

3.30pm The F Factor!
(Faustina, Merseyside HHH Group Peer)

Faustina is 'Ms Motivator' within the Merseyside group and will overview her approaches to developing the other 'M' word - MOMENTUM and share some reflections on her most recent attempts at wresting control back from her immediate environment.

We might also include a short consideration of the difference between 'decluttering' and 'de-hoarding'.

4.00 pm What's Next? & Evaluation
(Ian)

We're hoping to launch a new 'legacy' website & Ian will very briefly outline some forthcoming initiatives across the UK as well as asking for our usual 'post-it' note evaluative comments.

4.15-4.30 pm Close