



Spreading the News



7th July 2025

In Spreading the News this month



It's all about



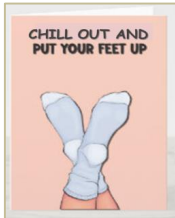
Robert ("Rob") Parkin



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In Spreading the News this month



1. Rob is retiring

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2. 1988 ... and all that !

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3. Rotherham and beyond

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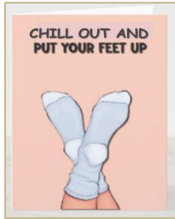
4. CQC Expert by Experience

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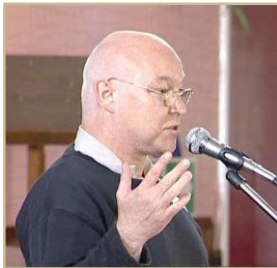




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1. Rob is retiring



After all his hard work for
Speakup since 1988



Rob is putting his feet up
and retiring



We'd like to tell you a
little about the things
Rob has done over the
last 37 years



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2. 1988 ... and all that !



In February 1988 Rob, and a small group from his Day Centre, came together to start

Speakup 



At that time People with a Learning Disability had very little opportunity to make their own decisions

Rob and his Day Centre friends thought things needed to change ...



All People should have a Voice, be Heard and be given the opportunity to make their own Decisions



3. Rotherham ... and beyond



Rob was elected “Chair” of the Speakup Committee

And shortly afterwards he became “Co-Chair” of the Learning Disability Partnership Board at Rotherham Council



The Partnership Board tells the Council what Services are needed for People with a Learning Disability

How the Services should work ...



And checks to make sure the Services are working well



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Looking towards the Health and Welfare of People in Rotherham Rob has also been a member of the Health Select Commission

... and beyond Rotherham



Rob was asked to sit on the Government Task Force



The job of the 4 people on the Task Force was to feed back to Government the things People with a Learning Disability saw as being important



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One of the biggest, and most important, pieces of work of the Task Force was their contribution to the writing of the ...

Mental Capacity Act



This Law has made a very big difference to the lives of People with a Learning Disability



People can now have their Voice Heard



And can show that they have the Capacity to make their own Choices and Decisions



4. CQC Expert by Experience

Rob worked with the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) to start the Expert by Experience programme



When the CSCI changed to become the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Rob became one of the CQC Expert by Experience inspectors



Rob travelled throughout the country to inspect Day Services and Residential Services to make sure that People were happy and safe



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Thank you Rob from
all of us for the work
you've done to give
People a Voice



Enjoy your Retirement