



# York Personal Support Newsletter

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## Staff Profile: Annette Brassey



Well, I started my career as a chef. I trained at Raymond Blanc's Le Manoir Aux Quat Saisons, and then I headed to London and worked at The Ivy Restaurant and Harrods. It was here I found my love of making desserts, cakes and posh breads. Returning to Yorkshire some 15 years ago, I worked as a pastry chef designing my own menus and creating all sorts of sweet things.

I won Pub Chef of The Year Awards 2008 in the Dessert Category at The Grosvenor Hotel in London.

As my mum got progressively worse with Parkinsons, I gave up work to look after her. She sadly passed away last year, and it was at that point I decided I wanted to change my career to care work. I started working for YPS 15 months ago now and I can honestly say I love my job. I find it so rewarding helping my clients with their daily tasks.

When I get home after a long day at work I like to unwind watching my favourite TV soaps Corrie and Emmerdale. I also like Victoria Wood and Julie Walters in Acorn Antiques and Dinnerladies and Vicar of Dibley. I might not hang my pinny up for good just yet as I've always had a dream of having a B&B in the Dales near to when I retire, but for the next 10 years or so I am very much happy with learning my new career and being part of such a great friendly team.



As we head into Autumn we would like to welcome some new additions to our team:

Claire Pearce

Michaela Reynolds

Polly Halliday

Pauline Midgley

We also sadly say goodbye to the following members of staff, who we wish every success for the future:

Emily Hake

Maxine Maynard

Meika Tomlinson

William Hardy

## Student Profile: Natalie Curran

Hi, I'm Natalie, a 4th year student at the University of York (UOY). I lost my sight when I was 8 years old, due to a misdiagnosed brain tumour. Since then, I have gone above and beyond to try to achieve as much as I would have done with sight, and preferably more. I attended four different secondary schools, switching regularly to ensure, as far as possible, that I reached my full potential. I thereby acquired the necessary grades to secure a place on the Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) course at UOY. Special I might be, but psychic I am not. I therefore arrived in York the week preceding Freshers Week (2015), with the intention of firming up support arrangements and familiarising myself



with the campus. Enter Wendy! A friendly, chatty lady with whom I giggled my way round campus. People sometimes joke about the 'blind leading the blind', but even funnier is 'the blind leading the sighted!' And thanks to Wendy, come the first week of actual lectures, that was often exactly what I was doing! I would hate to give YPS too much praise- heaven forbid they get overconfident! Nevertheless, here I am, three years on from my first meeting with Wendy, at the beginning of a second degree/ masters in Maths. And once again, Wendy and I can be tracked round the university by the trail of laughter we've left behind!

**Please Note: If at any time you are unable to contact York Personal Support on the office number, you can contact us on the following mobile numbers: 07949 328682 (Deborah) or 07988 628338 (Wendy)**