

The Editor, Society Guardian

Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of the Write way campaign, I would like to congratulate you on an article by Deborah Orr entitled “My day with the mental health professionals” which appeared in the Society section of the Guardian on 9.12.09.

Write way is an email network set up by Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust to praise positive reporting of mental health issues in the media and to take issue with negative coverage.

We feel that the article was well balanced and gave a true insight into the experience of people facing a section as well as that of the mental health professionals whose job it is to work with them.

The stigma surrounding mental illness often casts a veil around the fact that it is experienced by ordinary people every day – one in four will experience it at some time in their lives - so this candid and dignified examination is especially welcome.

Rather than highlight instances where things have gone wrong, Ms Orr’s article paints a vivid picture of a challenging area where a combination of agencies are doing their level best to help some of the most vulnerable people in society.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Mayor
Write way