



THE GREAT ESCAPE BED PUSH

13th of July -14th of July



Dressed in pyjamas, a group of campaigners will be pushing a psychiatric bed from Callington Road Psychiatric Hospital in Bristol to Bath. At the same time similar ‘escapes’ will be taking place in Canada and the United States. We will be ‘on the run’ from oppressive psychiatry. The Great Escape bed push aims to raise awareness about the poor levels of choice of treatments and the widespread abusive use of force used in psychiatric hospitals. The Great Escape Bed Push Team believes in its current state psychiatric care often makes people’s problems worse and that the use of unnecessary force is on the increase. ‘Forcing patients to take medication against their will is a spirit-breaking practice. It can also put someone off mental health services for life, as it breaks down trust between staff and the individual they are supposed to be offering care to,’ Dr Rufus May, Clinical Psychologist and former patient. The campaigners have either experienced or witnessed the use of forced drug treatment. The Crazy Bed Push team will be pursued by a 6 foot Syringe squirting water at them. We would like more meaningful activities in hospitals, more access to alternative therapies and self help groups, more accountability about force used in hospitals and more alternatives to hospital (e.g. Crisis houses).

The Bed Push will start at 9.30 am, on Friday 13th at Callington Road Psychiatric Hospital and after proceeding to Bristol city centre we will then make our way to Bath to join the Mad Pride Festival in Queen Square on July 14th at 1pm.

For more info call Amy Sanderson 07931 542245 or Rufus May on 07984 480 224

Or go to www.bedpush.com