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# Headline NEWS

## CEO writes ...

These are certainly interesting times and I hope this edition of Headline News gives you an idea of some of the activity which has been going on at Keychange recently.

One significant development is that we are very pleased to be able to welcome two new Care Homes into our group. They are featured elsewhere in more detail, but much hard work has been carried out by many people into achieving the successful transfers of the two care homes in West Sussex.

In early August we were also delighted to be able to celebrate the completion of significant improvements to our care home in Southampton, Fair Havens. A new manager's office, clinical room and Arjo bathroom as well as major heating improvements have been provided thanks entirely to a legacy left to Keychange, for which we are very grateful.

We all know that these are challenging financial times for many of us. Our work in care for older people as well as the homelessness projects and street outreach which we are also involved with are no exceptions to this.

But then we face uncertainties every day; who knows what even tomorrow will bring. In a changing world however, not all is uncertain. In the Bible, James 1 verse 17 says:

***“Whatever is good and perfect comes to us from God above, who created all heavens lights. Unlike them, He never changes or casts shifting shadows”.***

God's principles for life never change. His guidelines, given through the Bible, give fruitful lives if we follow them. In all we do at Keychange or wherever, we can take confidence from belief in a God who is certain and who will always be there to guide us in the future.

Graham Waters

## Two New Homes in Keychange



We are excited by two new residential care homes coming into the Keychange group.

The homes have previously been managed by the West Sussex Housing Society, which was originally founded in 1954. Run as a charity along similar lines to Keychange, the Society more recently came to the conclusion that the best way forward for the future of the homes was for them to come into the Keychange Group. The operation of the two homes was taken on by Keychange therefore with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October.

The homes are Rosemary Mount (above, left), East Worthing which has 29 rooms, and Romans in Southwick, which has 30 rooms. The staff team is very enthusiastic and we are delighted to be able to welcome them into Keychange as we provide care in those areas of West Sussex.

## From Hostel Home to Own Home

*A former housemate at Esther Community in Exeter describes her journey.*

I moved into Esther Community to escape from domestic violence – at the time I was also battling with alcoholism, depression and flashbacks from my past. I felt very nervous, not knowing what to expect as it was the first time I'd ever stayed in a hostel.

However, on my arrival I was made to feel very welcome. For me, it was important that the hostel was secure and that it housed only women. My room was beautifully made up - it was much more like being in a home than a hostel. I didn't feel lonely or isolated anymore and it was good to talk to people who had shared similar paths in life.

During my stay at Esther I always found the staff to be very caring. They were willing to help with anything; it felt

as if nothing was too much trouble. They treated us all as individuals and I felt I could trust them.

After nearly a year at Esther I am now moving into my own 1 bedroom flat where I will be closer to my children and grandchildren. Moving on into independent accommodation has given me a real sense of achievement.

Esther couldn't have done more for me. For the first time in my life I have self-belief and self-confidence. I know that I couldn't have conquered the issues that I have without the support of Esther staff.

I am looking forward to the arrival of another grandchild and have been given the privilege of choosing a middle name. I had no hesitation in deciding that if I have a granddaughter, her middle name will be 'Esther'.



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**KEYCHANGE HOMES & HOSTELS**

- HOMES:**  
Erith House, Torquay  
Sceats Memorial Home, Gloucester  
Mount Eventide, Plymouth  
Rose Lawn, Sidmouth  
Fair Havens, Southampton  
Walmer House, Torquay  
Rosset Holt, Tunbridge Wells  
Cressingham House, Wallasey  
Alexander House, Wimbledon  
Rosemary Mount, Worthing  
Romans, Southwick

- SHELTERED FLATS:**  
Jubilee Cottage, Lytham St Annes
- HOMELESS PROJECTS:**  
Esther Community, Exeter  
Wayside, Reigate
- OUTREACH:**  
Door of Hope, London  
Rahab, Plymouth

**Luke 15:10**

**“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”**

Story-developer: Ruth Earl  
Editor: Peter Clark

**Margaret Crosses the Finishing Line**

Congratulations to trustee Margaret Douglas who successfully completed her sponsored walk as



scheduled on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2011 with a home-coming celebration at Head Office



in London. That morning she visited the last of the projects, the Door of Hope in East London before being joined by the Chairman of the trustees, Seton Bennett and the Chief Executive, Graham Waters for the last leg - walking to Head Office. Here bunting, balloons, drinks and cake awaited the successful walker, with thanks for her sterling efforts on behalf of our two projects helping women involved in prostitution. To date Margaret's walk has raised more than £7,000 for Door of Hope and Rahab. This is well above her total fundraising target. Well done and thank you, Margaret!

...



Thank you too to Rahab volunteer, Andy Laidlaw who has also undertaken a sponsored walk to raise funds for Rahab in Plymouth.

...

We are also grateful to Alex Waters (Graham's son), who is taking part in the Half Marathon in Birmingham on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2011 on behalf of Keychange.



If you would like to support him, contact Head Office or do so directly at the Just Giving page: [www.justgiving.com/alex-waters](http://www.justgiving.com/alex-waters)

**Rahab News**

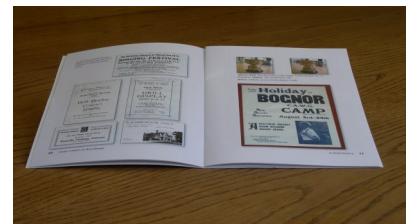
It is just over a year since Rahab joined Keychange. Rahab is an outreach ministry in Plymouth - reaching those involved in prostitution through love and friendship and with the message of hope of new life in Jesus.

Even as the request went out to the projects for news items for the Newsletter, the manager at Rahab, Karine Law, together with Christine, one of the volunteers, were talking with one of the women at the Rahab office. Karine writes: "The woman was ... showing us a passage from the Bible that we gave her last week, which she had read and loved." That afternoon Karine and Christine had the privilege of praying with the woman as she gave her life to Jesus. Karine again: "This is what Rahab is all about. We know that the road will be difficult even from conversion, but as we told God when we prayed with our woman, we make ourselves available to walk alongside her on her new journey of healing."

Karine reports on the start of a monthly jewellery workshop at the Rahab office as something positive and creative for the women to participate in during the day. Karine writes: "It went really well and they enjoyed it so much. They made beautiful things which they took home with them. But the most important thing for me is that the workshop was so conducive to the women opening up and being themselves. It was such a relaxed atmosphere and all that we had hoped for".

**Many Mansions ...**

...has been well received and brought back many memories. "Thank you so much for the book detailing the history of Keychange/ Christian Alliance. ... We had many happy times ... and made many friends and had wonderful fellowship." MG, Gwent



Copies are still available at £5 (inc. P&P), with proceeds going to Rahab and the Door of Hope. Email [info@keychange.org.uk](mailto:info@keychange.org.uk) or call 0207 633 0533 to order.