

Keychange Contact

ISSUE 8 SUMMER 2018

And the beat goes on

Adrienne Hennessey
Project Worker, Esther Community

Tyrone is the gentlest of young men; a gentleman. He takes what life throws at him, however hard it may be and draws strength from the situation, before moving steadily onwards and upwards; never blaming, never questioning, just quietly accepting.

His early life was overshadowed by many disruptive events, including a family breakdown, but at the age of 15, he was dealt another blow. He began suffering from excruciating abdominal pains and although he was referred to hospital for investigation, it took a full year for a diagnosis to be made. Doctors eventually established that he had the worst case of Ulcerative Colitis they had seen in 20 years. During this period and despite being in severe pain, Tyrone continued to study for and sit his school exams and gained five GCSEs, including an A* in his favourite subject, music. Once the diagnosis had



Tyrone: Determined to succeed

been made, he was hospitalised and fitted with a stoma bag, due to the complete removal of his large intestine and the partial removal of his small intestine. Following this Tyrone enrolled on a BTEch Level 3 College course in music technology and production, which he is still attending today.

Unfortunately Tyrone was to endure yet more hardship when he was made homeless. Thankfully he was referred to Esther, where despite being incredibly shy at first, he soon settled in and now loves to engage staff in lively debates, whilst also enjoying the company of his peers and regularly meeting up with his girlfriend of three years.

DEDICATED

Due to his passion for music, with support from Esther staff, Tyrone was able to secure a volunteer position assisting at the 'Lost Weekend' festival, which is a musical collaboration between local live music venues and Exeter City Council. He helped set up music equipment, lighting and sound systems under professional guidance and said that it was the best day of his life. Tyrone made such an impression that a work placement offer was made by a local venue, where he would be given the opportunity to develop his creative and technical skills further.

Tyrone is so dedicated to fulfilling his dream of working in the music business that he has also secured an apprenticeship at degree level, as a sound and lighting engineer, once he has completed his college course.

His commitment is not without reward – he has been able to see many of his favourite Rock bands in action, whilst working at the music venue and has also been given free CDs, posters and paraphernalia, which he has used to create a unique backdrop for his room.

Tyrone is determined to succeed in his chosen career path and yet he remains polite, friendly and considerate – he will always be our 'gentle man'.

Care Home Open Day 2018



Ruth Earl
Story Developer

This year Care Home Open Day was held on 21 April 2018 and it was aligned with International Care Home Open Day. Both organisations make a huge difference to older people across the world. The theme was Linking Communities, and again Keychange care homes took part in this international initiative, including Rose Lawn in Sidmouth, Devon.

Diana (pictured above) lives at Rose Lawn and celebrated her 92nd birthday on Care Home Open Day. Every year her birthday is special because she was born on the same day as HM The Queen, but this year the celebration was even greater as Rose Lawn opened its doors and welcomed people from the local community.

Special visitors included Councillor Ian McKenzie-Edwards and Sir Hugo Swire MP who popped in for a surprise visit and a cup of tea!

CARE HOME
Open Day

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Living and working together in community

Phil Martin
CEO, Keychange Charity

It is so good to enjoy some warmer, brighter and longer days that the late Spring and Summer seasons bring. I enjoy watching nature come back to life following a long Winter.

I enjoy planting seeds and young plants and watching them grow. I love seeing all the colours, smells and varieties of flowers, blossom, roses and plants reminding us of God's creativity in nature. I firmly believe that we can see so much of God's character through His creation.

TOGETHER

Another important part of God's character I believe is displayed in how we work and live in Community together. As part of the Creation story, the Bible tells us that God created Adam, but that it was not good for a man to be alone (Genesis ch.2), so God created Eve. Right at the start of the Bible God sets out the importance of

His creation not being alone, but that we should live together in community.

The Bible tells us that God is a community – The Trinity – God as three persons – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Because we are created in the image of God we should seek to live in community together.

CARING

It is very important for Keychange that we refer to all our care homes and hostels as Communities. We firmly believe that the best care we can provide should be done in as homely a facility as possible. As a Christian charity we seek to provide caring communities for people of all ages and their families to live well and receive the best quality care and support we can. We often remind ourselves that Keychange residents do not live in our workplace, but rather we work in their home.

I firmly believe that God's character of Love and Care can best be demonstrated by living and working together in Community.



“
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Wayside community reunion

Jenny Harber
Manager, Wayside

Wayside has recently been active in contacting many ex-residents to embrace the community theme for those who have lived at Wayside. There have been many positive phone conversations, visits and questionnaire responses as we sought to catch up with their life experiences and results of their time at Wayside.

We were repeatedly told how much Wayside had helped, especially in giving an opportunity to rebuild their lives in a safe environment where they felt supported and cared for. There were many successful stories especially of employment, new accommodation and rebuilt relationships.

Wayside residents and staff then hosted an evening where ex-residents were

invited for a meal and to speak about their experiences of moving on.

There was a wonderful atmosphere between everyone and much useful advice was given and received, which will help the current resident group utilise their time at Wayside to prepare for successful move on and so the cyclical community theme goes on.



Prayer Focus

Please join us in praying that each Keychange location would be a place of Community for those who live there, those who work there and for all who visit, including friends, family and volunteers.

We give thanks for answered prayer and welcome two new Trustees to the Keychange Board. We pray that God might bless them in their new roles.

Please join us in thanking God for GOOD ratings following recent CQC inspections of our care homes.

Keychange Noticeboard



◀ Residents at **Alexander House** enjoying a craft activity with Hannah, the Activities Co-ordinator

Walmer House – A resident ▶ enjoying hot chocolate from a hand-decorated smiley-face cup.



◀ **Rose Lawn** – Residents on an outing to Buckfast Abbey, a trip organised by Oomph! Wellness



▲ At **Rosemary Mount** residents enjoyed a Mexican-themed meal, musical instruments and hats!

The Mount – It's not every day that a real live donkey comes to visit! ▶



There were many congratulations for the resident who turned 105 at **Fair Havens** in April



◀ There was a 100th birthday celebration at **Erith House** on 4 March – thick snow outside added to the excitement!



The table and dining room are decked ready for a special St. Patrick's Day meal at **Cressingham House**



▲ Children from a local Nursery School came to visit residents at **Romans** – it was difficult to say who was more entertained, the children or the residents!

▲ Children from a local nursery school brought smiles to the faces of both residents and staff when they paid a visit to **Sceats**

We would like to keep in touch...

We wanted to take a moment to say thank you to readers of the Contact Newsletter for all your support and interest in the work of Keychange Charity, for taking time to pray for us and for supporting us financially and in other ways.

Communication with our supporters is essential in order that we are able to share news about our ministry to vulnerable people and we would like to keep in touch with you about the work we do.



On 25 May 2018 the law is changing with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This regulation is designed to put you more in control of your personal information, who you share it with and how it is used.

OUR PROMISE

We want to be certain that you are happy that we have your personal contact information and that we will always treat any personal information provided with respect and only use it in a way that is relevant and appropriate. We will never sell your data and we promise to keep your details safe and secure.

If for any reason you would not like to continue to receive the Contact Newsletter we will totally understand and ask that you let us know by sending an email to: info@keychange.org.uk

Alternatively, you can tick the box in the form below, fill in your name and address and return the form to us.

Keychange

Communities



Care Homes

- Erith House, Torquay
- Sceats, Gloucester
- The Mount, Plymouth
- Rose Lawn, Sidmouth
- Fair Havens, Southampton
- Walmer House, Torquay
- Cressingham House, Wallasey
- Alexander House, Wimbledon
- Rosemary Mount, Worthing
- Romans, Southwick

Homelessness Communities

- Esther Community, Exeter
- Wayside, Reigate

Retirement Housing

- Jubilee Cottage, Lytham St Annes

Useful links

- keychange.org.uk
- keychangecare.org.uk
- esthercommunity.org.uk
- waysidehostel.org.uk

If you would like to receive Keychange Newsletters via email rather than post, please send an email to: info@keychange.org.uk

Contact

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