

Keychange Contact

ISSUE 10 SUMMER 2019

A Community Roast Dinner



Jo Davis Support Worker, Esther Community

At the Esther Community we were delighted to receive a financial donation from the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) recently. SVP is an international Christian voluntary organisation providing direct practical assistance to anyone in need. Their main purpose is to offer people the hand of friendship through befriending visits.

SVP donated the funds in order for the Esther residents to prepare and cook a



meal with the idea of creating a community feel through the use of food. The residents were asked what they would like for their first meal and all came to the agreed decision that a roast should be on the menu.

The residents volunteered to prepare the vegetables and with assistance from staff cooked two lovely pork roasts with all the trimmings. The aroma of the food cooking filled the house, leaving both residents and staff with hungry tummies as well as looking forward to the meal to come.

The residents came together, sitting around the dining table and enjoying the meal they all had had a hand in preparing. Chatting, smiling, laughing and enjoying each others company as well as the roast dinner before them, this shared meal was a memorable occasion in the life of the Esther Community.

The young people shared a sense of achievement in coming together, and thanks to SVP a warm and homely environment was created, leaving all residents with full tummies and in a wonderful mood!

Prayer Focus

As you read this edition of Contact, we would be grateful for your prayers – some of the matters raised are summarised here:

Our Housing Communities:

Esther and Wayside – that the time young people spend in our care would make a lasting difference to their lives spiritually, emotionally and socially.

Our Care Homes – for God's peace to be on all those living in, working at and visiting our care communities.

Trustees – we give thanks for the dedication and commitment shown by recently retired trustees, and pray for the new members of the Board that the new team would settle and work well together.

Centenary Plans – we thank God for His faithfulness to Keychange for nearly 100 years and pray that all the plans and preparations to celebrate our centenary would be a fitting remembrance of this milestone.

Since that Sunday roast, residents have also enjoyed a steak dinner that was fully prepared and cooked by one of our male residents. Eating together provides a sense of family and community, and it is a joy for staff to see the young people enjoying their time together in a positive, homely environment.

Each and every one of the residents of the Esther Community as well as all the staff, would like to extend a big thank you to St. Vincent de Paul Society for their ongoing practical support. ■

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Change is Here to Stay

Phil Martin
CEO, Keychange Charity

How do you cope with change? Some people enjoy change and embrace it comfortably and confidently, others take longer to adjust to change and it can be an anxious process for people.

It seems to me in this modern and fast-paced world that change is happening more and more and quicker and quicker. Change is here to stay!

Keychange continues to go through a great deal of change. Three members from the Keychange Board of Trustees have stepped down recently – David Goddard, Honorary Treasurer, along with Roger and Imogen Taylor.

Each of them has served Keychange for many years and feel it is the appropriate time to step down to enable new trustees to come in and develop. We are very thankful to David, Imogen and Roger for

their commitment and contribution to Keychange.

We have appointed six new trustees in the last 18 months. These new trustees bring combined experience, skills, ideas and inputs for the effective governance and leadership of Keychange.

THE MOUNT

We are sad to report that we have closed The Mount Care Community in Plymouth. Following an extensive review and options appraisal, it became apparent that it would be impossible to continue to operate this care community effectively due to increased local competition, local authority policy, increased building repairs and the need for significant investment.

All residents and staff have been relocated successfully and we are very thankful that the whole process went so smoothly. Any proceeds from the sale of this property will be re-invested into a new,



Imogen and Roger Taylor, long-standing Keychange Trustees who retired in May 2019

modern and more suitable care community somewhere else in the South Coast region of England.

With so much change happening, I find great peace and security in these verses from the Bible: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever” – Hebrews 13 v 8, and Psalm 136 which repeats the refrain: “His love endures for ever” – meaning that regardless of what happens or changes in our lives and the world around us, God’s love lasts for ever!

Leaving a Legacy

Have you written your Will? It is not easy to talk about our own death, but it is important to think about and plan for what happens to your estate when you die. By leaving a set of instructions and details for your family or friends left behind when you die, you are able to feel confident that your wishes will be met and your instructions followed. It is very sad to see families and friends try and deal with a loved one’s estate in cases where clear instructions have not been left.

Our mission and work at Keychange has grown and developed because of legacies and donations that people have left. Here is a lovely story of a resident who lived in one of our Keychange Care Communities:

“Paul came to live with us - he was an unwell man and was diagnosed with cancer shortly after moving in with us. We did manage to get to know him and learnt a lot about him through his friends. Paul had always insisted that if he needed care he wanted to come to Keychange at Cressingham House.

“Paul’s father had a painting and decorating company and Paul worked with him. They were members of a local church in New Brighton (just up the road from Cressingham House) and knew about

Cressingham House through the church. He recalled to us how he and his father had decorated Cressingham House when it was only one building and they had done each house as it was purchased.

“Paul was an author and wrote about the history of New Brighton; he had a friend who took photographs for his books. Paul was also an avid art collector.

“Paul spent his last days with us on End of Life care. He was visited by many church members and his minister until his final days. He had a dignified death surrounded by staff and close friends who cared for him and about him.

“He was true gentleman and supported many different causes. Paul left a large legacy, besides leaving money to individual people he left monies to about ten Charities, one of these was Keychange, Cressingham House.”

Paul’s gift to Keychange will be used to ensure we continue to create caring communities for many more people like him.

Enclosed with this edition of Contact newsletter is our Keychange legacy leaflet which outlines the opportunity for you to consider leaving a gift in your Will to Keychange.

Give the gift of a Caring Community... Remember Keychange in your Will



Keychange
A Christian Charity, Creating Caring Communities

If you would like to know more about this please complete and return the Contact Form in the leaflet or call our office on 020 7633 0533.

Please consider giving the gift of a caring community to someone and remember Keychange in your will. Thank you.

Keychange Noticeboard



◀ Two smiling residents at **Alexander House**

Dorothy (right in picture) celebrated her 104th birthday in February with family and the community at **Rose Lawn**. Here she is receiving a cake especially made by head chef Jack ▶



Enjoying a game of giant Snakes & Ladders at **Walmer House** ▶

People living at **Erith House** were very creative in decorating a whole host of cupcakes for supper ▼



People living at **Cressingham House** have joined with a group of children from a local primary school in doing a weekly art project together ▶



Fair Havens

– Dorothy was presented with one of several birthday cakes by Brian James, Operations Manager, on the occasion of her 106th birthday on 1st April. She was also joined by her grandniece and other residents ▶



Residents from **Romans** went on an Oomph! outing to the café at Worthing outdoor bowling club where they sat outside overlooking the bowling green while enjoying a cream tea and the fantastic weather ▼



▲ This is the day that two-week-old baby Ruby met 99-years-young Dorothy on her first visit to **Rosemary Mount** with her mother, Sam, who until recently was a carer at the home



Preparing to make crafts using salt dough at **Scents** ▶



Keychange's 100th Birthday Celebration Plans

Next year – 2020 – Keychange will be 100 years young. Founded in 1920 as the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls, now Keychange, we are very thankful to God and so many faithful supporters, staff, volunteers and many more people who have contributed to the story of Keychange for the last 100 years.

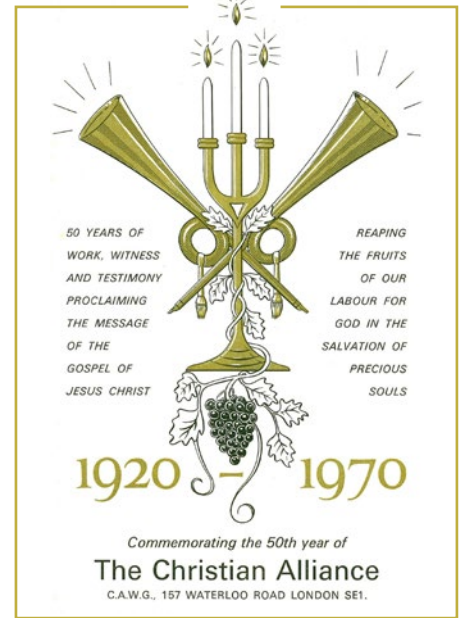
We will have many events planned throughout 2020 and throughout our communities across the country. All of these events will be times of celebration and remembrance of people who have contributed to the last 100 years.

We will keep you informed of these plans and events.

In addition, we are working hard to ensure that Keychange continues our work for the next 100 years.

We are planning new services, projects and communities and making sure that all we do continues to create caring communities for many more people in the future.

If you have been part of the Christian Alliance and Keychange story over recent years or more, please let us know your story by contacting us on 0207 633 0533 or email info@keychange.org.uk



Can you help?

SUPPORT US AT **give.net**
from *stewardship*[®]

We are very grateful for your generous donations which help to keep our work going. Please use this slip to contact us or alternatively, visit our website at www.keychange.org.uk or drop us an email at info@keychange.org.uk

I would like to donate £ (cheque enclosed)

Name

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Email:

If you pay income tax or capital gains tax, we are able to reclaim the tax on any money that you give us, thereby increasing the value of your donation, at no extra cost to yourself. To enable us to do this, please sign the Declaration below:

Gift Aid Declaration

I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer paying Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax to an amount equal to or in excess of the amount of tax to be reclaimed. I understand that Gift Aid will be claimed at 25p in the pound.

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Signed..... Date:

Please tick this box if you no longer wish to receive the Contact Newsletter

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Keychange Communities



Care Homes

- Erith House, Torquay
- Sceats, Gloucester
- 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

keychange.org.uk
keychangepcare.org.uk
esthercommunity.org.uk
waysidehostel.org.uk

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