



Press release

Date: 10th July 2009

Gloucester City Homes Sheltered Housing Choir Launched!

In June 2009, Gloucester City Homes sheltered scheme residents launched the all new, all singing, all dancing 'Sheltered Housing Choir' who had their first informal get together on Monday at the Lonsdale Methodist Church hall in Elmbridge.

A total of 24 tenants and managers from Gloucester City Homes turned out for the first practice.

Local residents Frank and Iris Jordan kindly agreed to help us out with the musical side of things. "Frank and Iris have years of experience singing in choirs and playing instruments, but this was, to date, their biggest challenge yet" said Mike Vizor, Scheme Manager at Sherborne House.

Frank Jordan had agreed to lead the choir through such time honoured classics as 'You are my sunshine', 'When I'm 64', 'When the saints go marching in', just a few of the delightful sounds and memories conjured up in the hall and savoured by those who were present.

After several tentative tunes the whole group got into full swing with a repertoire that by the end incorporated songs old and new and surprised one and all with the close harmony and togetherness of the choir.

Sally Elway, Scheme Manager at Clapham Court in Kingsholm said:

"It is absolutely wonderful to bring our residents together in this way and everyone really enjoyed the singing and also the camaraderie was fantastic. Everyone is looking forward to meeting again on the 20th July."

Most Sheltered Schemes were represented and Scheme Managers took the time to support the venture and joined in with the vocalisation.

The next meeting is on Monday the 20th July at 2pm at Lonsdale Road Methodist Church. For further information, please contact Sally Elway or Jacqui Caine at Clapham Court on 01452 526356.

A big thank-you to the Clapham Court Scheme managers, Sally and Jacqui, for organising the event, that provided so much fun and entertainment on the day.



ENDS

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Gloucester City Homes is a 2 star Arms Length Management Company, which provides housing management services to 4500 homes in Gloucester on behalf of the City Council. The company is carrying out a £40 million improvement programme to bring customers' homes to the Decent Homes Standard. Since Gloucester City Homes was created in 2005 it has:

- Achieved a 2* rating (Good service) from the Audit Commission in June 2007
- Secured £39.6 million in Decent Homes funding to meet the Government's Decent Homes standard and completed improvements to over 1200 homes in the City.
- Become the first housing provider in the County to achieve a Gold standard for its supporting people services
- Achieved Investors in People Accreditation for performance management of our staff
- Achieved ISO 9001 for Quality Management systems, re-accredited again on the 9th March 2009 following re-inspection
- Achieved "managing for others" status with the Housing Corporation
- Achieved Investment Partner status with the Housing Corporation

- Implemented a programme of training for staff to achieve the Institute of Customer Service Awards
- Achieved the Customer Services Excellence Award in April 2009
- Achieved the Equalities Framework Award April 2009