



Press release

For immediate release

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A trip down memory lane

Residents at Nightingale House sheltered housing scheme took a trip down memory lane last week in an event organised as part of South West Supported Housing Week.

The focus of 'Memories Week' was an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia compiled by residents, Scheme Manager Gwynne Brown and GCH Resident Involvement Officer Lyn Scudamore.

Photos on display included wedding albums, family photos, first cars, homes, and wartime service photos.

The exhibition included a fascinating collection of memorabilia that included a wedding dress, 1940's and 50's clothes including an original 1948 Marks and Spencers nightdress!

Artefacts on display included furniture, electrical and household items from the early half of the 20th century.

Residents, their families and friends all enjoyed the experience, and there were many cries of 'I remember those!', and 'My mum had one of those!'

Young Gloucestershire volunteers visited residents, and wrote down their wedding day memories, which formed a part of the exhibition.

The week long event culminated in a party on Friday evening at Nightingale House, at which residents 'dressed up to the nines.'

Several tiaras were in evidence amongst the ladies, and 98 yr old resident Mr Sid Gadd sported a very snappy pair of 1920's shoes! The event was a great success overall as residents 'danced the night away' till almost midnight!

GCH Chief Executive Ashley Green who attended the event says:

"This is what makes my job worthwhile and I was honoured to go to the Social event last Friday night and view the exhibition with our residents. They quickly told me about their life experiences, about their families and loved ones. These events are very important in terms of the care and well being of our residents. It also certainly stirred some memories for me. I am so grateful to my fantastic team who are so dedicated and who really do make the difference to our residents' lives" **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 4800 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 2500 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 Gold Accreditation for performance management of our staff
- Achieved ISO 9001 for Quality Management systems, re-accredited again in March 2010 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 and Special Recognition Award in October 2009
- Achieved the Equalities Framework Award April 2009