

ARCHIVED NEWS REPORTS 2011

Supported Accommodation (hostel) Culverdale gets "A Grade" Award from KCC Supporting People



4th August 2011 After a meeting with one of the Monitoring and Review Officers for Ken County Council Supporting People unit, we were pleased to hear that we have been awarded "A" Grade Status for Culverdale, our Supported Accommodation unit.

The grades range from A to D, with D been seen as failing the basic requirements and C grade as providing an adequate service. The top grade A is only awarded to a handful of providers who show that they are providing an excellent service across every benchmark set

This is a culmination of a great deal of work to improve standards of support and procedures by the Culverdale and admin staff. Thanks too for the advice over the years from Kent Supporting People who have passed on their wisdom in helping us to improve standards.

Carole Wicks gives Mental Health Awareness Training to Rochester Archdeaconry Pastoral Assistants



14th September 2011 Carole Wicks undertakes the first of two part training session for some of the Tonbridge Deanery Pastoral Assistants.

Mental Health was one of the common themes that they thought about as a group that was necessary to have more understanding on. We're hoping to offer this to the other two Rochester Archdeaconries.

World Mental Health Day 10th October 2011

World Mental Health Day raises public awareness about mental health issues. The day promotes open discussion of mental disorders, and investments in prevention, promotion and treatment services. The treatment gap for mental, neurological and substance use disorders is formidable especially in poor resource countries.

This year the theme is "Investing in mental health". Financial and human resources allocated for mental health are inadequate especially in low resource countries. The majority of low- and middle-income countries spend less than 2% of their health budget on mental health.

Many countries have less than one mental health specialist per one million population. Even a considerable part of the limited resources is spent on large mental hospitals and not for services delivered through community and primary health care.

We need to increase investment for mental health and to shift the available resources towards more effective and more humanitarian forms of services



Saturday 8th October 2011 - Crossways Thanksgiving Service.

We're grateful to the Rev Howard Flint, vicar of Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells for speaking at our service with a message inspired by his recent visit to Ely Cathedral.

Sarah Weller led the Crossways' Choir with Lord, I lift my hands to you in four-part harmony and Ian Lees gave a brief summary of his life and experience of his time at Crossways.



Supported Accommodation (hostel) Culverdale passes 5 yearly HMO Inspection



1st November 2011 As part of our licensing of Culverdale, our Supported Accommodation (Hostel), we have 5 yearly visits by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Environmental Health Officers as part of the HMO (Houses of Multiple Occupation) legislation.

Unlike Supporting People requirements that look at the support we offer to our residents, the HMO check that the building, structure and electrical/fire health & safety issues are maintained and complied with. We were one of the first organisations to apply for inspection when it was introduced and we're keen to ensure that we maintain a safe environment.

Thanks to a concerted effort from the staff and admin department to maintain the safety of the building, the inspection went without any problems.

Bishop James visits Crossways

2nd November 2011 Crossways welcomed The Right Revd James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester. Bishop James. To the delight of several residents he visited the care home and was shown round the supported accommodation by one of the residents. We later talked about the challenges we faced in our work Bishop James shared his concern for social housing and justice for vulnerable adults. We also discussed how the church and Christian organisations like Crossways Community could work together. We expressed our gratitude at the ongoing generosity; in prayer, practically and financially that we have received over the years from the local churches and community.



In the picture: (L-R) Mrs Ginny Swaffer (Supported Accommodation Manager), Mrs Jacky Taylor (Care Home Manager), The Right Revd. James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester, Mr John Neel (CEO), Mrs Stefanie Tegelaars (Chairwoman of Directors) & Mr Steve Howcroft (Administrator and Mental Health Awareness Trainer/Co-ordinator).

Mental Health Awareness Training given to CSBF

8th November 2011

Steve had the privilege of giving a mental health awareness seminar to 6 Kent volunteers of the Civil Service Benevolent Fund. The volunteers are the people who meet potential beneficiaries some of whom may have mental health issues. The Fund which provides support for current and ex-civil servants is celebrating its 125th year. One of the initiatives they are developing is [Health on your Mind](#) which is leading from the Governments "[No health without mental health](#)" strategy.

