

# Shropshire sound bites

## Pair step in to represent Telford

At a recent presentation on Lightmoor, newcomers Harry Williams and Mike Genockey were appointed tenant representatives on the Shropshire Advisory Committee.



Doreen Ledbury our existing tenant representative is pictured here with Harry Williams to her right and Mike Genockey to her left who are our new tenant representatives.

"Following the sad loss of John Humphries - whose tribute appeared in the last issue of Outlook - we were looking for new representatives for the Committee," BVT Shropshire Area Manager, Kevin Whitby, told Outlook.

"Both Harry and Mike have been Telford tenants for a number of years - Harry lives in Stirchley and Mike at Brookside - and both came along in

response to a letter mailed last year asking tenants if they were interested in coming on board."

"The men attended initially as observers and, after the meeting, asked if they could sit on the Advisory Committee. I would like to welcome them both to the Committee and look forward to a long and happy working relationship," Kevin added.

## Jason makes Telford team!

Former missionary Jason Basford is the new Lettings Housing Assistant at BVT's Shropshire Area Office.

He previously worked briefly as an underwriter for General Accident Insurance Company before going to Germany to teach in schools and colleges. After marrying his wife Elisabet, he lived in Paris for six months. After returning to England he worked in telephone and computer sales, customer services and insurance before looking for a new career direction and being offered the job with BVT. He has settled in Telford, where his wife now teaches at a local school.



## Who's that at the door?

Tenants in Telford are asked to note that Bournville PropertyCare Service - or BPS - is now responsible for annual gas servicing in the town and all their staff carry the necessary identification.

"We'd like to remind tenants of the need to request to see identification before allowing contractors access to their homes," BVT Shropshire Area Manager, Kevin Whitby, told Outlook.

Tenants who wish to report a gas central heating fault should call

**0800 393776**

or, in an emergency, to report a suspected gas leak,

**0800 111999**



Pictured at the ceremonial brick-laying are the partners in the Beech Road Scheme for Care Ironbridge. Back row, left to right: Carl Griffiths (Borough of Telford & Wrekin), Kevin Whitby (BVT Shropshire Area Manager), John Coughlan (Borough of Telford & Wrekin), George Badiali (Care Ironbridge), Peter Jackson (Paveaways). Front row, left to right: Alan Cartwright (Paveaways), Peter Roach (BVT Chief Executive), Councillor Rob Sloan.

# Care centre under way

A £1.3m residential care centre which will eventually provide five long-term residential places and two short-term or respite care places for people with learning difficulties is well under way at Beech Road, Ironbridge, Telford.

The development will be completed through a partnership between the Borough of Telford & Wrekin, Telford & Wrekin NHS Primary Care Trust, Care Ironbridge and BVT, which is funding the project.

The purpose-built centre will also provide a much-needed resource centre for other people in the area with learning difficulties, with support staff on hand from Social Services and the NHS. It will ensure the highest quality facilities are provided for the needs of disabled people and to meet care standard regulations. Completion and opening of the centre are expected in November 2004.

Taking part is a local advocacy group for people with learning difficulties. Speaking for the group, Julie Mellor told Outlook; "The development at Beech Road will bring much-needed services into the

community for people with learning difficulties. It's about valuing people whatever their abilities or disabilities, giving them choice and access to services tailored to their needs."

Councillor Rob Sloan, Telford & Wrekin Cabinet Member for Social Care, added: "Social care is a priority here in Telford & Wrekin and that is clearly demonstrated by the work taking place to strengthen services across client groups. This development is an extremely exciting and encouraging illustration of partnership working and the involvement of service users, carers and families will create enormous benefits for adults with learning difficulties in the area."