

Project helps people on the road to recovery

Work is well under way to convert a former derelict garage in Bristol Road into a specialist residential home for people recovering from an acquired brain injury.

The move means that more people suffering acquired brain injuries will be put on the road to rehabilitation and have the chance to rebuild their lives.

Such injuries are typically caused by a road accident, stroke, disease or assault.

The new supported housing scheme will provide single-storey accommodation for eight people. This will take the form of private, independent living facilities with specialist medical and clinical support provided by the national charity, the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust (BIRT).

The land on which the scheme is being developed is owned by the Bournville Village Trust. Building work began at the end of last year and is expected to be completed this autumn.

The development - which complies with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act - was designed by Bournville Architects. Barry Oldham, Director of brain injury services for BIRT, said: "We



• BVT Chairman Roger Cadbury (left) and Chairman of BIRT Graham Anderson

are very excited about this new facility, which will enable us to respond to the needs of even more people with acquired brain injury from across the West Midlands. Services such as this are vital to help people regain lost skills and re-integrate into the community, and the new unit will complement the existing specialist rehabilitation service in West Heath, in Birmingham. Director of External Affairs and Estates at Bournville Village Trust, Alan Shrimpton, said: "We have worked closely with local residents to come up with an appropriate building and are proud to have such a special and much-needed facility being built."

Awareness Week

Brain Injury Awareness Week took place in March this year.

Here are some facts and figures:

- Awareness Week is a campaign devoted to raising great awareness of the possible consequences of head injury.
- Road traffic accidents account for 40 to 50 per cent of all head injuries.
- 20 per cent of all head injuries in children are caused by cycling accidents.
- Cyclists who wear helmets are 85 per cent less at risk of head injury.
- Around one million people in Britain attend hospital each year as a result of head injury.

Event Alert!

To celebrate the Carillon Centenary, Bournville Village Trust is organising a trip to Belgium which will incorporate a Carillon Concert in Bruges. The dates are September 14 to 17 and the trip will cost £220 for single rooms and £175 for twin or double rooms.

There are limited spaces available so please contact the Community Team for further details as soon as possible on 0121 415 6481 or email mariedocker@bvt.org.uk

Families couldn't be happier in Shenley's award-winning properties

Residents have been busy settling into the award-winning Shenley redevelopment over the past few months.

The development has 42 new flats, houses and bungalows, all incorporating the latest environmentally-friendly measures, which makes them very economical to live in.

Amongst the many people who have moved in are Harold and Betty Robinson, who took up residence in their property in Hazel Drive just before Christmas. Harold, who had previously lived in nearby Burdock Road for 47 years, said he "couldn't be happier" with the property. "Moving after 47 years was a big wrench," he said, "particularly as you build up such a large circle of friends in that sort of time. However, I have to take my hat off to the Trust because a lot of the neighbours who were near us in Burdock Road have moved as well, so it's not like we have lost touch



• *The Robinsons' living room and sunspace*

with anyone. It wasn't just important to us, but to all our neighbours as well that we remained close, and that's exactly what the Trust has provided for us," he said. Harold and his wife have two children and seven grandchildren and the whole family loves the new property he says, particularly because there is so much room.

"The lounge area, for example, is ideal for a couple like us and there is plenty of room when we have visitors," he said.

The redevelopment was designed by Bournville Architects and built by Bullock Construction. David Orr, chief executive of the National Housing Federation, visited Bournville at the end of last year - his visit co-incided with the Trust's 105th anniversary. He spent several hours discussing a range of topics with the executive team, including his vision for the future. He was able to see first-hand the progress made on the Shenley regeneration project, and planted a tree to commemorate his visit.



• *Harold and Betty Robinson at their home*

Carillon still 'a-pealing' 100 years on

This year marks exactly 100 years since the inauguration of the first Bournville Carillon.

The carillon is a set of bells which was presented to the village by George and Elizabeth Cadbury as a "crowning glory" to the new village school in 1906.

The secretary of the "Friends of Bournville Carillon," Peter Jordan, said: "Although we no longer have the original 22 bell Carillon we felt it appropriate to mark this centenary year, particularly as the junior school will be having its centenary celebrations as well. We hope to be teaming up with the school for some of their special events."

The present Carillon dates from 1934, when an extensive rebuild was undertaken. Between June 20 and 25 Bournville will be playing host to the tenth Eurocarillon Festival and it is hoped a number of distinguished carilloneurs will be visiting from abroad. Especially welcome will be representatives from Bruges, where the sound of the famous old Carillon in the town hall tower gave George Cadbury the idea of installing a Carillon in Bournville. Part of the Eurocarillon celebrations will be an open air concert at the end of the village festival on Saturday June 24. On Saturday October 14 this year the Friends will be staging their autumn concert - especially exciting

this year because it will be preceded by the opening of the carillon school that the Friends have worked hard to establish. This is the first time that such an educational facility has existed anywhere in the UK and will be a unique asset to Bournville.

Peter added: "As you can see, 2006 is going to be an extremely exciting year and we hope to see as many Bournville residents as possible during our celebrations."

For further information contact the Carillon Visitor Centre on Bournville Green or ring the Friends on 0121 451 2194 or visit the Bournville Carillon website at <http://carillon.atspace.org>