

# Shropshire sound bites

## Beech road hits the roof

BVT and its partners in a £1.3m residential care centre for people with severe disabilities have celebrated 'reaching roof level' and are now looking forward to the opening of the facility in Beech Road, Ironbridge.

The development will be completed thanks to the team efforts of the Borough of Telford and Wrekin, Telford

Above (l to r): Jim Broadhurst (site staff), Paul Donohue (Telford and Wrekin Borough Head of Resources and Business Development, Social Care), George Badialy (Services Manager, Care Ironbridge), Kevin Whitby (BVT Shropshire Area Manager), Phil Edwards (site manager for Paveaways, the contractors).

Right (l to r): Paul Donohue, Kevin Whitby & George Badialy meet service users and carers at the Beech Road Project of Care Ironbridge.

and Wrekin NHS Primary Care Trust, Care Ironbridge and BVT.

The building work is being funded through the Trust with Care Ironbridge to provide personal care for residents when the complex opens later this year. The costs of the new services are being met by the Primary Care Trust and the Borough of Telford and Wrekin.



The purpose-built centre will provide five long-term residential places and two short term or respite places for people with learning difficulties. It will also provide a much-needed resource centre for other people with learning difficulties in the area, 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 meet care standard regulations.



## Please keep 'em peeled

If you see a vacant property in your area, can you let your Area Office know?

"Sometimes when our properties are vacated, for whatever reason, local people fail to bring this to our attention and sometimes a property can remain empty for days or even weeks," BVT Shropshire Area Manager, Kevin Whitby, told Outlook.

"If you notice one of our properties is empty, please give us a call on 01952 293777 so that we can investigate promptly. This will help us to bring vacant properties into management again, and quickly make them available, assisting those most in housing need."

## Tenants Training Day

Kevin Whitby, the Shropshire Area Manager, in conjunction with the Shropshire Advisory Committee members, and the housing staff, ran a Training Day on Wednesday 17 March 2004, for the Shropshire Advisory Committee, covering issues such as lettings, anti-social behaviour, arrears recovery, importance of budgets.

Then, in the afternoon, they were joined by Zoey Stanton, the Trust's Tenant Participation Officer, to explore ways of encouraging greater tenant involvement in Shropshire, and the first steps to setting up a Shropshire Tenants Association. Look out in future editions to see how this progresses.



## Many thanks for our new kitchen

In a card bearing the verse 'A few short words, but they express the warmest thanks for your thoughtfulness' Irene and Horace Arrowsmith of Woodside, Telford recently wrote to BVT:

"We wish to thank all the Trust workers for our new kitchen, floor and smoke detectors. We are so grateful. Bournville is such a caring housing association we have never had any cause for complaint and we wish you all the very best for the future."

Irene Arrowsmith with Graham Biddulph from Bournville Propertycare Services, who installed her new kitchen.

