



Supporting those who need it most
for 125 years

June 2014



FOCUS

Newsletter of BCM (Belfast Central Mission)

Welcome to IN FOCUS. We hope you find it interesting and, as always, your comments or suggestions are greatly appreciated.

- Advice & support for people in need
- Residential care for older people
- Care in the community for young people and families
- Housing support services for young people and for older people
- Support services for care leavers
- Short breaks for older people
- Christmas support programme
- Support for children with autism and their families

Focus on ... Copelands, Dementia & Nursing Care

Innovative! Unique! Specialist!



Copelands, Dementia & Nursing Care is an integral part of BCM's 125th Anniversary celebrations. With plans moving forward, this Innovative, Unique, Specialist development is becoming a reality.

local community about the plans, the care model, and the benefits this will have within the local community. This event was open to all residents and politicians from the local area. This was a great success with interest throughout the community from those who

wanted to find out more information about this exciting new development. The second and biggest of these events was our official Launch event

For those of you who have not already heard:

- Copelands will be a 64 bed en-suite development offering a 24 hour residential and nursing service
- will address the needs of people living with dementia who are still physically active but require a safe and supportive environment.
- will be a one of a kind, state of the art exemplar model and will provide market leading care in Northern Ireland.

BCM have held two large events to help promote Copelands and obtain further endorsement from the local community and politicians. The first of these events was a Community Consultation held in the Millisle Youth Forum which had the BCM Development Team talk to the



Community Consultation in Millisle

at Parliament Buildings, Stormont. Speaking at this event was Minister of Health, Social Services & Public Safety Mr Edwin Poots MLA who opened the event with a positive speech that highlighted his respect for BCM in "Supporting the Department's efforts to promote independent living".

Peter Passmore, Professor of Ageing and Geriatric Medicine at Queen's University Belfast praised the

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“**Innovative approach**” of our care model as this “Encourages people to live independently for as long as possible”.



Director Brian Burns at Copelands' Launch at Stormont

The audience were also given an opportunity to hear the heartfelt story of Shelagh McCaughan and her mother, Jean, who is currently residing in Kirk House. Jean will be one of the first residents of the new and improved Memory Wing, which is specifically designed for dementia living. Shelagh praised the **specialist dementia care** which her mother currently receives at Kirk House.

Fundraising

BCM has been very active in ensuring that we raise a total of £1.5 million towards the development of Copelands. This has involved extensive fundraising and the creation of our Buy-a-Brick campaign. So far BCM has raised:

£519,645.02

which has been made possible through our Buy-a-Brick website, our appeal mail out, Grant Making Trusts and a legacy. The Grosvenor Hall Congregation has been very active in the fundraising efforts to help BCM towards their total. Some of these fundraising events have included a Barn Dance and Table Quiz and some of our Congregation have held coffee mornings in their own homes inviting friends and neighbours to learn more about Copelands and encouraging them to donate. These coffee mornings have been a great success so far and there are plans for more in the future. We still have a way to go before reaching our target and you can help. If you would like more information on how to do this then please visit the website below, Thank You!

www.belfastcentralmission.org/buyabrick

Copelands will be constructed according to the University of Stirling's Gold Standard in dementia design. Copelands will promote a person-centred approach, based on the 'Household Model of Care' defined by Norton & Shields (2006). This involves breaking down the traditional care home structure into households of eight residents, so that each household has their own front door, kitchen and living area as well as a communal outdoor area. This makes Copelands a truly **unique development** here in Northern Ireland.



Artist's impression of households

Memory Wing, Kirk House

As mentioned earlier Kirk House are in the process of opening their Memory Wing, in which they have already employed many new approaches to care, with staff who truly embrace the culture of enabling everyone to have a good day with outstanding results.

Residents are able to choose how and what they wish to do and their day can be as spontaneous as they wish.

'Tea at 3' everyday is an opportunity for a cuppa, a chat, often a sing a long, sometimes poetry, sometimes a documentary and debate and always a laugh.

Staff in the Memory Wing will undergo a six month intensive training programme, run by the Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC), teaching best practice in dementia care which will ensure our staff are trained to gold standard.



Sarah Penney, BCM Dementia Lead

One of the main people at the centre of the development of Copelands is Sarah Penney. Sarah has been Manager at Kirk House for a number of years and has recently announced that her role within BCM is changing. Sarah explains how her involvement with BCM and other outside organisations will be developing:

"My new role as Dementia Lead with BCM places responsibility with me to ensure all new developments in relation to dementia are of the highest standard and meet current research and best practice. I will be involved with Copelands and the development of the Memory Wing at Kirk House. I have started working with the University of Ulster (UU) which involves doing research into best practice for dementia in care homes and the effect of training on this.

My other role with the Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC) is as an Associate doing consultancy and training for them on an ad hoc basis. Both the roles outside of BCM (UU & DSDC) give us phenomenal access to key people, research, advice and support".

Sarah says her life is now centred around dementia and the best part is Sarah now gets to see changes and ideas implemented and see the positive impact these changes have on those people living with dementia and their families.

"Nothing beats seeing someone with dementia become happier, more content and better able to communicate".



"One of my lovely relatives told me yesterday she slept through the night for the first time in 10 years as she doesn't have to worry about her mum any more, she knows she's safe & happy with us".

New address?

Don't forget to tell us if you change your address so that we can continue to keep you up to date with all our news.



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BCM NI



Follow us
on Twitter
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Will to Give

A lasting gift to Northern Ireland charities

BCM has officially joined Will to Give, a not-for-profit organisation founded in January 2011 operating in Northern Ireland. Will to Give is a charity managed by a voluntary committee and has been set up to allow charities and solicitors to work together as a strong voice for encouraging members of the public to leave a legacy in their will to a chosen charity. For further information on Will to Give or how you can leave a legacy to BCM please visit www.willtogive.org.

Giro D'Italia

BCM Room Hire welcomed the Giro D'Italia Volunteers in May to overwhelming success with over 500 volunteers through the doors of Grosvenor Hall. All of the staff and congregation were delighted to be host to this once-in-a-lifetime event happening right here in the heart of Belfast and all got into the pink spirit. This was a great weekend for BCM.



Housing Support for Older People - Dungannon

Housing Support for Older People commenced in Dungannon in November. The project provides support to older people across Armagh and Dungannon, to assist them to remain independent in their own homes for as long as they wish. The project, which is funded by Supporting People to provide support for 50 older people, has reached 92% capacity within the first six months of operation, demonstrating the great need for the service in the area. Almost half of the current older people have no family support or contact with members of their family. The intervention of our dedicated support workers is at times critical. At present the project has two full time Support Workers who are skilled and enthusiastic about their role, and most importantly possess the abilities required to do this job whilst keeping dignity and respect at the forefront of all that they do.

The support offered to each older person is unique and based on their individual needs. We are delighted with the feedback from our older people to date.

"This service has given me a new lease of life, provided me with hope when it appeared I had no hope left"

Supported Housing - Ards

Supported Housing in Ards has undertaken some major redevelopments recently. The Supported Housing units across North Down and Ards got an internal revamp and redecoration to keep them feeling fresh and new. This is great news for the staff and, most importantly, the young people as this gives them somewhere to feel proud of and maintain. The properties are now looking welcoming, fresh and homely and all the staff and young people are delighted with the changes.



Belfast City Marathon 2014

A huge congratulations to all our staff and supporters who participated in the Deep River Rock Belfast City Marathon 2014. Over £1,500 has been raised so far by our dedicated and committed athletes and we could not be more grateful for everyone's continued support and generosity towards BCM. Thank You.

