



East Boro Housing Trust
Faulkner House
31 West Street
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 1JS

For media enquiries contact:

Emily Cambrook
Communications & Tenant Liaison Manager
Tel: 01202 883503
Email: ecambrook@ebht.org.uk

Press Release

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For immediate release

EAST BORO CELEBRATES GOLDEN GLORY

East Boro Housing Trust is celebrating its Golden Jubilee marking its fifty year history within the Wimborne and broader Dorset area and commemorating the work and inspiration of its founder Peggy Bartley.

The Trust's Annual General Meeting formally marked the Golden Jubilee on Wednesday 7th July with Board Members, shareholders, members of the Bartley family and other invited guests in attendance. Presentations were made highlighting milestone achievements during the fifty years with special recognition given to Mr Ray Faulkner.

East Boro's Chief Executive Kevin Hodder explains: "This is a hugely significant year in the Trust's history and the Golden Jubilee year will recognise not only East Boro's organisational achievements since its inception in 1960 but also the commitment of Board Member Ray Faulkner. His dedication is simply remarkable and without doubt Ray deserves to share in the special recognition of East Boro's fiftieth year."

Involved in the early formation of the Trust, Ray has actively followed the Trust's progression from its first days in 1960 to the present day. As one of the founding members Ray worked alongside Peggy Bartley and others in the '60s to realise the vision to help local people in housing need. Over the years Ray has been involved as Trust Surveyor, general advisor and in 1990 was Trust Chairman for 12 years. Now in his eighties, Ray continues to partake in Trust business and the Golden Jubilee celebrations honour his remarkable dedication and contributions to the organisation.

Ray Faulkner says: "The Golden Jubilee of the East Boro Housing Trust is an opportunity to pay tribute to the members of the original Management Committee who used to meet in the

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lounge of the home of Dr Christopher Bartley and Peggy Bartley in Rowland's Hill, Wimborne. They were – Mr R.N Noscoe, Mr E Smith, Lt Colonel A Card, Mrs H.M O'Shea, Mr A.Y Stirrat, Mrs H.L Macintosh and Dr E Markby, with the Reverend R.E Garrard as Chairman, Mr W.H.T Udall as Honorary Treasurer and Mrs Peggy Bartley as Honorary Secretary. All the above played a vital part in the success of the Trust as it is today, and special mention should be made to the late Mrs O'Shea who acted as tenant contact and rent collector for many years. I also wish to pay particular tribute to the late Dr Christopher Bartley who was Chairman of the Management Committee in the formative years 1964 to 1973. The survival and success of East Boro Housing Trust is a classic example of achievement by a succession of enthusiastic volunteer Board Members supported by a dedicated group of employees.”

Originally conceived in 1960 by Peggy Bartley, a local doctor's wife, East Boro, formerly known as the Wimborne Area Housing Association, began its roots in the heart of Wimborne Town with the aspiration of meeting the housing need of local people. The first property at Station Road in Wimborne, then the old Bakehouse, became home to married couples and from thereon in the Trust developed its property portfolio. In the mid seventies it merged with Cranborne Housing Association at which point the company name officially changed to East Boro Housing Trust.

Over the years East Boro has continued to grow and in 2010 the Trust remains a local Wimborne company committed to providing housing for local people. The Trust now owns and manages over forty housing schemes across the Dorset area, which equates to 341 units of accommodation, specialising in housing and support services for the sheltered elderly, adults with learning disabilities and other vulnerable client groups in social housing need. In addition to its core tenant base, East Boro also offer services to a wider customer base to provide housing related support to people living in their own homes in Bournemouth and Poole through the Handy Van Repair Service, Visiting Support Service, Poole Safer Homes Project, its Housing Related Support Service for people with physical disabilities and Handy Van Security Service.

In the delivery of these services East Boro prides itself on the close working relationships with all the district councils in Dorset, Dorset County Council, the Borough of Poole and Bournemouth Borough Council as the key Local Authorities in the region. The Trust is also a member of the Source Development Partnership, a development consortium in which local housing associations work together to ensure housing need is met and through which consortia members like East Boro apply for Government grant funding for new housing developments.

Kevin Hodder says: “As a specialist supported housing provider East Boro aims to continue Peggy Bartley's vision for many years to come. Both the Trust's Board of Management and entire staff team strive to achieve this and we look forward to the new decade and further still, to the challenges of the next fifty years! From the one young mother that inspired Peggy to found the Trust fifty years ago, East Boro now houses over 350 local people.”

The Golden Jubilee is being celebrated throughout 2010 with a variety of events involving tenants, Board Members, Shareholders, representatives of the Bartley family and corporate associates.

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East Boro Chairman David Cawdery comments: “All at EBHT are extremely proud to be involved with this Housing Association. We are all determined that Peggy’s legacy will live on and in this regard will continue to manage very carefully our sound financial situation, and take advantage of good financially viable opportunities that present themselves to us. We see the next 50 years as a challenge, as well as an opportunity, to grow the Trust and continue to develop the extraordinary initiative that Peggy Bartley started 50 years ago.

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Note for Editors:

East Boro provides accommodation for the sheltered elderly, adults with learning disabilities, single parent families, single young people and general needs housing for young couples/small families. The Trust’s other services include a Sheltered Housing Warden Service, a Learning Disability Support Team, a Direct Labour Response Repair & Care-taking Service, a Handy Van Repair Service and Handy Van Security Service in Bournemouth & Poole, a Visiting Support Service in Poole, the Poole Safer Homes Project and a Housing Related Support Service to people with physical disabilities in Bournemouth. For more details visit www.ebht.org.uk

The Source Development Partnership is one of the largest consortiums in the South and is committed to providing high quality, affordable housing whilst supporting the local communities in which it works. For more information visit www.source-development.co.uk

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Encl.

Photographs issued with this press pack include

- Mr Ray Faulkner
- Ray Faulkner with Chairman David Cawdery and Chief Executive Kevin Hodder, presented with a photo board of properties developed between 1960-2010
- Ray Faulkner shaking hands with Chairman David Cawdery