

Press Release

7 October 2009

First birthday celebrations at Torfaen's first extra care scheme



Residents, staff and invited guests attended a party at Ty George Lansbury last week to help celebrate the scheme being open for 12 months.

In addition to a special lunch and birthday cake, staff organised a raffle and entertainment for residents and guests.

Ty George Lansbury in Croesyceiliog is Melin's first Extra Care scheme in Torfaen. The £6.1 million development, built in partnership with Torfaen Council, opened last October. It has 35 self-contained apartments, providing high-quality homes for people over 55 who need care and support that will help them to continue to live independently.

Shared facilities for residents include a restaurant/dining room, hairdressing salon, laundry, bowls area, reading, craft, computer and physiotherapy rooms. Support workers are available on site to deliver individual care packages.

The scheme currently has 42 residents. John Morgan age 82 was one of the first to move in. He said: "I am very happy in my new home. I feel safe and secure and enjoy going to the dining room for lunch. I also like the fact that there are always staff here if I need them."

Fellow resident Jean Faulks, age 78 has seen huge benefits since moving in. She said: "I like the company here as I didn't have this before and it has made a real difference to my life. It is very reassuring that carers are on the premises and help ensure that I have regular meals and take my medication".

Rosa Rees age 76 added: 'In the year I have lived in my new flat I have felt happier and life has become enjoyable again. This is mainly to the kind, caring and friendly staff. Being profoundly deaf can be very lonely at times, and it can be very hard to be included in the hearing world but here I really feel part of the community.'

Melin's Chief Executive, Mark Gardner said: "It's great to see how well everyone has settled into their new homes and there is a real sense of community within the scheme. It's very satisfying to know, and see first hand, that we are helping people retain their independence in a happy and safe environment."

For further information about Melin Homes please contact Melin Homes on 08453 101102.

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For more information please contact Helen Ball, Head of Communications on 01495 745920 or email Helen.ball@melinhomes.co.uk

Photo caption: Residents Rosa, John and Jean enjoyed the celebrations and helped cut the cake.

Notes to editors:

- Melin Homes is a not-for-profit landlord providing quality homes and services across Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport, Powys and Torfaen. For further information please visit www.melinhomes.co.uk
- Melin manage Ty George Lansbury. The care provider is Hafod Care Association and Torfaen Council's social care team are responsible for allocating homes at the school.