



In 1999 Worthing Homes was born, 10 years on in 2009 we celebrated this milestone by launching a year of special initiatives and events under the banner of 'a celebration of 10'!

The 10 initiatives were designed to not only be special to the staff of Worthing homes but to also have a lasting impact on our customers, organisations that we work with and also residents of the wider community.

The celebrations kicked off on the 28th May with a formal launch of the 10 initiatives at Davison house. This launch was attended by the Mayor of Worthing along with staff and directors of Worthing Homes.

Read on to find out how our 10 celebrations went:

- 1. Kids to Ethiopia** – we supported 3 boys from the community house who travelled to Ethiopia with the Cred foundation for a week to work in schools for disabled children.

In order to take part in the project the boys, despite coming from under privileged backgrounds, had to raise funds themselves to help fund their trip. They did this by washing cars, cleaning greenhouses, and dog walking.

The boys went to Ethiopia on the 17th October, returning on the 24th October. The time they spent there has had a profound effect on their lives.

- 2. Neighbourhood buddies** – is an initiative whereby we will be helping to support vulnerable at home through the promotion of our RedAssure telcare service. We are hoping to engage local businesses to help sponsor telecare packages for vulnerable in the community who might otherwise be unable to stay in their own homes.

This initiative is ongoing so please look out for our adverts or contact RedAssure on 01903 703 103 for more details.

- 3. Community Grants** – each year we support a few community activities with small grants. As part of our celebration for this year we have 10 grants of up to £1000 to give out.

So far we have awarded grants to 3 community groups they are :

Northbrook Guides, Brownies & Rainbows
Northbrook Football club
Davisons Youth University.

If you are a community group or charity that would like to apply for a community grant please contact us on 01903 703 100 for an application pack or download it from [U:\Application form for community initiative funding bids.doc](#)

- 4. Come to our party** – each year we hold a Fun Day for our residents and the wider community. As we were celebrating our 10th birthday this year we made the Fun Day bigger and better than before.

The event was held at Durrington Community Centre and had a seaside theme. As well as competitions to enter, we had a surf simulator, Punch & Judy, a craft corner, demonstrations from Black Belt leaders plus lots more.

Keep an eye on our website for details of the 2010 Fun day.

- 5. R + R= Renewal and Regeneration** – this is an ongoing programme which so far has seen Worthing Homes invest over £80million in new homes, open spaces and the refurbishment / repair of existing homes.

Our latest development, the iconic Norfolk & Suffolk house near Broadwater bridge was officially opened by the Mayor of Worthing on the 8th October. The development has made a significant impact on this area of town.

- 6. Business buddies** – this is an ongoing initiative which we are looking to develop. As well as providing work placement opportunities we are working with local businesses to help prepare troubled and underprivileged children for the world of work.

We are also involved in a pilot project with the Davisons Community action team who are setting up a local business

network group who can then work with colleges, secondary schools and universities in the area.

If you are or know of a local business in the area that would like to help or be involved please contact us on 01903 703 100.

- 7. Low impact living** – we have all heard about climate change and the effect it is having on our planet. As a part of our celebrations we wanted to see if we could do something to help. Relish (Residents 4 low impact sustainable homes) is a 12 month pilot to demonstrate how a reduction in CO₂ emissions can be sensibly achieved through a combination of resident education and low cost retrofit improvements.

Advice leaflets and calendars have been produced for the families that are taking part, and will be used to assist with the monthly education meetings.

This initiative will be carried forward into 2010 so keep watching for updates on the progress of Relish.

- 8. Carnival time** – 2009 is the first year that Worthing Homes joined in with the carnival fun. Our float was seaside themed and we engaged a local business, college, and community group to help build our float .

Not only did we thoroughly enjoy our day at the carnival we were awarded second prize for best float. We donated our prize money to the 3 boys travelling to Ethiopia.

- 9. Ageing well** – this initiative was about community support and events for older people. Worthing Homes has 7 sheltered schemes, one of these is Lovett court which also has a day centre attached.

As one of our birthday initiatives we gave the Lovett centre a makeover and opened it in style with a champagne and strawberry reception.

Not only have we given the centre a new lease of life with the makeover but the residents and users of Lovett court have also been transformed with the arrival of a Nintendo Wii. There are now regular bowling tournaments between

the staff and residents. This new level of interaction has had a positive effect on all who attend.

10. Community Football – Worthing Homes is proud to be a sponsor of Brighton & Hove Albion's Football in the community project. We have sponsored the project for a number of years but decided it was about time to really join in!

On a warm sunny September evening we held a football tournament at Worthing leisure centre for staff, residents and players who have benefited from either the RSL football inclusion project or the Worthing Homes sponsorship of their team. The event was run in association with Brighton and Hove Albion FC.

There was a fantastic turnout of both teams and spectators and a great time was had by all. The winning team were Northbrook Football club.

So that was the year we were 10!
Thank you to everyone that joined in with our celebrations we hope you enjoyed them as much as we did.

