



Press Release

Tuesday 9 January 2007

Art exhibition gives voice to homeless people

Artistic residents from a local supported housing charity will hold their 46th Art Exhibition next month. Wellingborough Mayor, Councillor Tim Allebone, will formerly open the exhibition at Wellingborough Library on Monday 5 February.

Mayday Trust is a registered charity, which provides temporary supported accommodation and life-skills training for vulnerable, homeless people. Project staff work with vulnerable people from all walks of life; helping them get back on track and move on with their lives. Mayday was established as a Charity in 1979 and now runs nine Projects across Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Bedfordshire. Last year Mayday supported over 500 people to achieve greater independence.

Mayday Trust in Wellingborough

The Wellingborough Project, based at Bassetts Court, West Street celebrates its 21st Birthday in 2007. The year will bring double celebrations for the Scheme, as a £2.5million Major Refurbishment is due for completion during the spring. The building work has only been possible thanks to funding from Leicester Housing Association (owners of the property) and the Housing Corporation.

Janus, Mayday's second Wellingborough based-Project opened in December 2004. The Scheme is collaboration between Mayday Trust and Wellingborough Borough Council, providing short-term tenancies for pregnant women and homeless young families whilst they are assessed for Council Housing.

Mayday Trust's Chairman, Chris Holman said: "**A key focus of Mayday's work is to provide new opportunities for our clients.** Art sessions offer an excellent opportunity to learn new skills and widen horizons. **By nurturing hidden talents our residents have discovered new ways of expressing themselves, and a chance to be heard.**"

The work, on display from 1 - 28 February, will include a variety of medias ranging from digital photography, to more traditional paintings and pottery. Information about Mayday Trust and pictures of the Bassett's Court Major Refurbishment will be on display.

The exhibition will also provide the first public engagement for Mayday Trust's new Chief Executive, Caroline Ward. Caroline takes up her new post on Monday 29 January.

Ends