

## Forthcoming Fundraising Events

- **Cambridge Open Studios 2-3, 9-10 & 16-17 July.**  
**Exhibition & sale of John & Jenifer Cooper's art work in the Garden Room. Refreshments also on sale**
- **Another Book Sale will be held within the next 12 months**
- **The concert planned for 14 May has unfortunately had to be cancelled, but we hope to organise another concert in the foreseeable future, probably at Selwyn College**

**Link Houses** Wardens: Mel and Lil Robson  
17 – 19 Chesterton Road Cambridge CB4 3AL  
Tel: 561202

Assistant Warden: May Jelbert  
7 East Hertford Street, Cambridge CB4 3AJ

Assistant Warden: Phyllis Shaw  
The Lodge Hertford Street, Cambridge, CB4 3AG

**Email:** [wardens@linkhoustrust.com](mailto:wardens@linkhoustrust.com)

**Website:** [www.linkhoustrust.com](http://www.linkhoustrust.com)

### **Trustees:**

Jenifer Cooper MBE, Dr Chris Gaston, Prof Sir Colin Humphreys CBE  
Elizabeth How, David Jones OBE, Angela Palmer, Shirley Scott.

### **Patrons:**

Lord Anderson, Lady Catherwood, Sir Fred Catherwood, Prof Sir Brian  
Heap CBE FRS, The Revd Dr John Polkinghorne KBE FRS, Dr John  
Sentamu, The Archbishop of York, The Rt Revd John Taylor KCVO,  
Prof Hugh Williamson FBA



# Link House Trust

## Annual Open Meeting

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011

*A home from home for international graduate  
students*

- For friendship and support
- For international understanding
- A 'home from home' for key people in tomorrow's world

### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR FOR 2010**

2010 has been a year packed with activity at Link House. In January, the contractors were finishing their work on the new building, to be called The Lodge, and the Trustees were ordering the furniture, curtains and kitchen equipment needed. February 19th saw the completion of the building, with a 12 months maintenance period to follow. Marion Thompson, the new assistant warden for The Lodge, had been appointed and she moved in straight after it's completion, ready to welcome the new residents as they arrived. The house was immediately filled.

Because Martin and Nic had given their notice of leaving for family reasons, the Trustees advertised for new Wardens. Candidates were interviewed and, after much prayer, Mel and Lil Robson were appointed. They are a couple with the wide, varied experience needed to take on this task.

May 10th saw the opening of The Lodge when Dr John Sentamu, the Archbishop of York, cut the ribbon, spoke to us all and prayed for blessing on the house. He has since agreed to become a Patron of the Trust – he is a true international. We are very glad to be able to welcome him. We also welcomed Phyllis Shaw as our new secretary to fill the gap left by Helen Blake at the end of last year.

In July, a party was held to thank Martin and Nic, to say farewell to them and to welcome their successors to Link House. Mel and Lil both got 'stuck in' immediately and have been doing a huge amount to improve the original Chesterton Road house following on a tradition started by earlier Wardens. The houses get a lot of wear and tear as there is a continual stream of graduate students from all over the world coming and going.

## Continued

We owe a great deal to Mel and Lil for all their hard work and in dealing with present problems and for their friendliness which is much appreciated.

Fundraising has taken up our thoughts, as we still have a huge loan to pay off. We thank John Horne for his loan and God Himself for providing, through many of you, gifts to help the repayment process along.

Lastly, we wish Marion every blessing. She will be getting married shortly and making her new home in Great Yarmouth, with husband Richard. We shall miss her and want to thank her for her contribution to Link House.

*Jenifer Cooper*

## Accounts

Income	2010 not audited	2009 not audited
Rents	127,310	86,657
Donations	28,209	46,646
Fundraising	9,885	5,873
Investment Income	168	579
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	165,572	139,755
Cost of houses, wardens etc	<hr/>	<hr/>
"Surplus"	131,414	102,924
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	34,158	49,383

## Bank accounts

	2010	2009
Operations	18,665	17,755
Building	30,893	36,081
Bursary	12,444	12,419
Contingency	59,796	59,677

Valuation of properties           £2,685,000

Total Golden Stable loan taken   £374,775

A copy of the full 2010 accounts will be available from the treasurer or online from [www.charity-commission.org.uk](http://www.charity-commission.org.uk) in due course. *Elizabeth How*

## Continuing the work. (Wardens report)

Although there has been a tremendous amount of practical work to undertake since our arrival we have tried not to let this detract from the real objectives of Link House: the relationships, the support and care of the residents, to foster a real sense of community and to maintain the tradition of a 'home from home'.

Currently we have 41 residents, from 16 countries, studying at 12 colleges in addition to a number of research facilities including Addenbrookes hospital.



*Some of the residents in the lounge at Chesterton road representing 9 nations.*

*"The last 8 months were wonderful. It was such a pleasure to be a member of the Linkies family".*

*Emilie Cros (France)*

Since July we have hosted numerous functions and activities for the residents to take part in and enjoy. They include quiz nights, challenge nights, games night and probably the highlight was the Burns night celebration with haggis (duly piped in and addressed) followed by a traditional Ceilidh dance.

The Christmas celebrations were, for many, the first time they had experienced such festivities. Thirty plus residents enjoyed a full Christmas fare followed by parlour games. The New Year was also joyfully welcomed in.

As so many of our British celebrations are of Christian origin, we have highlighted their meaning and purpose: enjoying carol services at local churches, held the nativity story in the garden room and at our weekly bible study looked into the Christian faith and its relevance and importance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *Mel and Lil Robson*