



LINK NEWS

February 2009

Link House Trust

'a home from home for international graduate students'

Experience of the true spirit of Christmas at Link House

I am a Hindu and have lived in India and UAE and to me 25th December has never meant more than a kid enjoying sitting in a cute looking Santa Claus's lap and getting chocolates or just another public holiday, but only until 2008. Being part of Link House gave me not only an opportunity to experience the traditions of Christmas but also an insight into true meaning and spirit of Christmas.

Christmas is not only about gifts and holidays it's also about spreading and understanding true meaning of **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**; which we talked about on each of the Advent Sunday's while relishing the yummy minced pies and cranberry juice. We lit the advent candles, sang Christmas songs (my favourite being "Twelve days of Christmas") and went to the wonderful carol services at the Church.

December was full of Advent Sunday's, together baking mince pies and Christmas cake, decorating the house and Christmas tree, Christmas party and games and beautiful moments. All this made it so much more special to look forward to 25th December which no longer was just a holiday. It now, was that special day which we all together were looking forward to. On 25th we had special Christmas meal and opened our Christmas presents.

Christmas was also special because of those who made it possible: Nic, Martin, Tony and the Trustees. I would like to heartily thank them all for being so generous and thoughtful. Christmas 2008 and Link House will remain for me as one of the best memories and experiences which I will remember and talk about **forever.** (by Nitu Bhojwani)

New Build Project

As of January 2009 Link House no longer owns the house at 95 Gilbert Road which was used as our family house. We now own a plot of land next to our East Hertford Street house which we plan to transform into purpose built accommodation for 12 international students. This is both a very exciting and daunting time in the life of Link House Trust as we set about raising the £500,000 needed for this project.

We are really excited at the prospect of having all three Link House homes on the same site. This will enable us to build a stronger community for the residents as well as providing more up to date accommodation in line with the needs of residents.

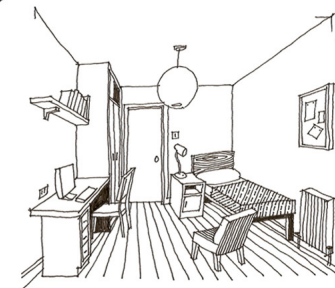
We are excited about this opportunity this development provides for us to raise the profile of Link House in Cambridge. We hope to be able to visit churches and other organisations over the coming months

to explain the work of the trust.

We will be sharing more about our plans for this new build at our Annual Open Meeting (details on the back) and we hope to have a launch for this project later in the year. We will also be providing further information in future Link News but see attached flyer for ways to be involved now.



**Artist's
impression
of the new house**



Congratulations!

As many of you may have heard, our very own Jenifer Cooper has been awarded an MBE for her services to International Students in Cambridge. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate her on this much-deserved award. She continues to play an important part in the work of Link House Trust, and there is no slowing her down!



Jenifer said that she had pleasure in accepting this MBE, wishing it to include everyone who

has helped over the years.

New Trustee

We welcome Angela Palmer as a new Trustee to Link House Trust. May we also take this opportunity to thank Lady Elizabeth Catherwood for all her work as a trustee of Link House over the years. She has decided to step down from this role after over 20 years, and we wish her all the best.

Trip to London



In November Martin and a group of residents spent a day in London seeing the sights and the Christmas lights. Martin led a walking tour starting at Parliament Square and ending up in Covent Garden for lunch and taking in the various sights on route. Most of the group then went on to Camden Market and later enjoyed the Snowmen lights in Carnaby street.



Friday 20th March 2009

Annual Open Meeting

Eden Chapel, Cambridge

6.30pm Supper (ticket required) followed by

8pm Open Meeting (all welcome) to hear news of Link House from 2008 and about our New Build Project

Guest Speaker to be confirmed

Tickets (£5) available from Link House

Please would you consider if we could e-mail Link News to you in the future? This will reduce our printing costs and be more environmentally friendly. If you would like us to, then please could you e-mail us to let us know. Our e-mail is wardens@linkhoustrust.com
Thank you

Link Houses: 17/19 Chesterton Road, Cambridge CB4 3AL Tel: 561202

Wardens: Martin and Nicola Smith

Assistant Warden: Tony Evans

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Assistant Wardens: Gugu and Lizzy Motshwene

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

Patrons: Lord Anderson, Sir Fred Catherwood, Prof Sir Brian Heap CBE FRS, The Revd Dr John Polkinghorne KBE FRS, The Rt Revd John Taylor KCVO, Prof Hugh Williamson DD FBA

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