



Homelessness Sunday

This year's Homelessness Sunday service will be on 31st January. It is part of Poverty and Homelessness action week (Poverty Action Sunday is the following Sunday) - a national campaign run by Housing Justice. The 2010 theme is Enough for All - if we shared resources more, fewer people would live in poverty, schemes such as Freecycle and other community projects.

For further information on the actionweek see www.actionweek.org.uk. Perhaps next year or during the year you could organise an event and maybe raise some funds for WDGB?

FRIENDS of WDGB

The business of WDGB is run by a small management committee but it relies on the support of the Friends - originally named the "Board" from which the full name of the charity derives.

We usually have a conference and an AGM each year to which they are invited and we can call special meetings during the year to consult on policies and ideas. Friends may also be active in fund raising - perhaps staging events such as coffee mornings. If you feel you would like to join us as a Friend please get in touch.

How you can help

- In your church keep the WDGB, its staff, tenants and landlords in your prayers.
- Consider joining the Friends of the WDGB and oversee its work.
- If you are in a position to offer accommodation for letting, ring our staff who will explain the safeguards and support the WDGB is able to offer.
- Make a financial contribution to support our charitable work.

Check us out online
at www.wdgb.net/
You can make a
secure online donation
to WDGB on our
website through BMy-
Charity

WOODSPRING DEPOSIT GUARANTEE BOARD

Charity No: 1045354

Rooms 1/2, St. John's Hall, Boulevard
Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 1NA
Email: office@wdgb.net Fax: 01934-641463

Telephone : 01934 617617

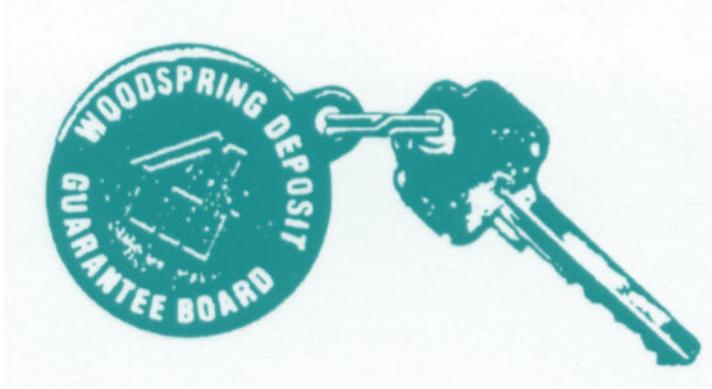
Patron: Tony Targett

Management Committee: Lee Miller (Chairman), Janet Turner (Vice Chairman), Isabel Cummings (Secretary), Pauline McAllister (Treasurer), Chris Hibbs, Lesley Leach, John Staddon



WDGB is a Charity for housing homeless people in North Somerset by guaranteeing a deposit to enable them to rent accommodation. Since its beginning in 1996 it has supported over 3200 people to find a home.

It operates throughout North Somerset and so is able to help local people. The Charity employs three staff members and is supported by individuals and Churches in the area, and by North Somerset Council and by North Somerset Housing .



WDGB

Newsletter

Winter 2010

It's all worth it!

Karen lived with her partner for 10 years and has 2 children. Everything was fine until her partner lost his job and, unfortunately, the family slipped into debt and were soon several months behind with their rent. The relationship suffered and Karen's partner turned to drink which eventually led to the couple separating.

Karen was evicted from the property and went to live with her children in a friend's one bedroom flat. The friend's flat was some way away from the children's school so more often than not they did not attend and, apart from the education issues, they lost contact with their friends. Behaviour problems developed and Karen was not coping.

Eventually, she came to WDGB who helped her with her benefits and found her a house closer to her children's school. That was six months ago and things are really improving. The children are doing well at school and Karen has a part time job in the High Street.

She is also in contact with her ex partner so with any luck things will return to how they were before their debt problems began.

WDGB Manager Gary Twinn said, " Every successful ending makes the job we do here worthwhile. We help people pick up the pieces and rebuild their lives."

DROP IN SESSIONS

For anyone needing our help

St John's Hall Monday & Wednesday 10am - 2pm

Somerset House Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 12noon
(appointment only)

*Best Wishes
To all our
Supporters
For 2010*

What WDGB does

The central task of the WDGB is to issue deposit bonds and offer advice and assistance to local homeless people, who do not have the resources to pay a deposit.

We visit tenants and landlords to support and advise them and to check on properties.

Currently there are 470 live deposit bonds. These are for single people and families so well over 1,000 individuals are housed through WDGB. The average bond value is £434.

314 bonds are for statutory homeless people where we work with the council, but 153 are for those whom the council is unable to help. It is for these folk we rely on donations from churches, individuals and local organisations.