

Renova Trust – Housing the Homeless

Autumn/Christmas 2021 Bulletin
Issue number 4



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Our Second Renova House...

Here we are collecting the keys to our second house. Amazing, considering it is just over 9 months since we got our first house. There's plenty of work to do in getting the second house up and running. We already have a waiting list for admission to the house!

Our second house was purchased for us and leased to us by Green Pastures CBS Ltd. This house will enable us to house a further 4 residents and continues the Renova vision of housing the homeless, helping them back into work/education and supporting them with their recovery so they can fully engage and give back to the community.

One of our residents, T, says "Although I feel I'm at the beginning of my journey, I'm definitely on the right path. Before coming to Renova, I'd been sleeping in a tent and placed in various hotels. It was an unsettling time, with no place to call home. Renova have provided me with a safe space to live and focus on myself, including building relationships with my family. I was previously associating with negative peers and consuming alcohol as an escape from day to day. I'm now in my recovery, approaching 16 months sober. I've been encouraged to explore my interests and the goals I want to achieve - baking being one of them! Due to my circumstances at the time, I lost interest/motivation in life. However I'm now baking regularly with my befriender and even getting requests from family/staff!

Through Renova, I've completed therapy, I've volunteered with the local food bank and will hopefully complete a baking course soon. I now have a job in Ascot."

Message from our Chair

Dear Renova Family, a lot has happened since our last bulletin. We took on our first residents into our first house. The house is now full and you will see that our headline for this bulletin is about our second house. Wasn't that quick?

We also had a fantastic late-summer breakfast morning with our residents, mentors and befrienders.

Our relationship with our partners (organisations like Bracknell Forest Borough Council, the National Probation Service and Green Pastures) continues to strengthen and is bearing fruit.

Finally, we recently welcomed a new trustee onto our board - Caradog Davies joined to further strengthen our financial management.

I am so grateful to all of you who have supported and continue to support what we do. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Lincoln

What's Next? We Need 100 Regular Donors

Our 1st year accounts are available on the Charity Commission website. We are working on improving our 2-5 year sustainability plan and are asking for your continued support. Your giving will go towards our running costs, kitting the 2nd/3rd house etc.

1. Click below to sign up and give a fixed amount every month say £5 or £50.
<https://localgiving.org/donation/renova-trust/monthly?emb=3e8ae45ef7>

2. Pledge to give this Christmas 50% of what you gave last year

£1,000	£500	£250	£100	£50	£20
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3. Forward the bulletin to 5-10 of your friends/family or share on social media.
Thank you.

Tea with the Duke



In September, we were invited by our sponsor, Berkshire Community Foundation, to an event held at the Ascot Racecourse to an event celebrating volunteers and organisations that have made a difference during the pandemic. His Royal Highness, the Duke of Wessex was the guest of honour and many of the attendees had the privilege of meeting him. The Berkshire Community Foundation has been very supportive of the work that Renova does and has provided several grants to us over the last year.

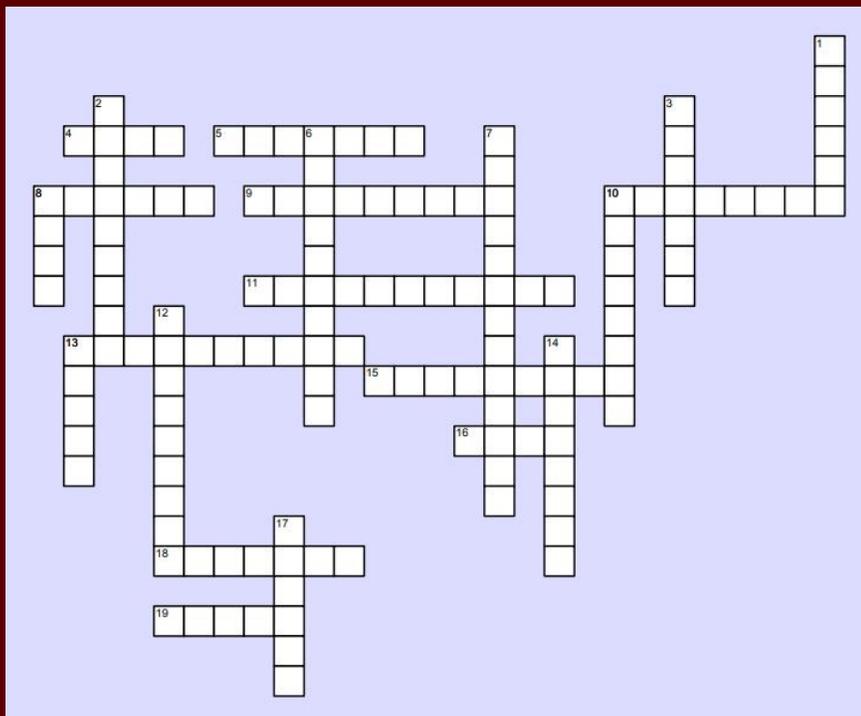
Welcome Packs

We make coming into the Renova House as welcoming as possible. It can be quite daunting coming into a shared house and living with people you have never met before. All our residents receive a welcome hamper from us and this makes quite an impression on them. They also love the personally autographed Peach and Coconut book with personal encouraging messages from Simon Benham - Senior Pastor Kerith Community Church.

If you wish to fund our residents welcome packs please use the local giving link. The last resident to receive a welcome pack felt Christmas had come early! He said "I am going to use the gift vouchers to buy a winter coat."



Renova Crossword (answers on next page)



Across: 4: Activity involving effort done in order to achieve a purpose or result. 5: A system of giving money, food, or help free to those who are in need 8: Used to be homeless but not any longer. 9: Extremely good. 10: Getting better. 11: Changed completely. 13: The state of being friends. 15: Treats illnesses especially without drugs or surgery. 16: To cause or allow someone to have something as a present. 18: Opposite of failure. 19: Money given for a special purpose.

Down: 1: Group of related people. 2: A person who does something and is not forced or paid to do it. 3: To teach especially in a school, college, or university. 6: Change or repair back to good condition. 7: A place (such as a room in a hotel) where travellers can sleep and find other services. 8: Want something to happen/be true and think that it could happen or be true. 10: Fix, make good as new. 12: People who live in a particular place. 13: Strong belief/trust in someone or something. 14: The ability to read and write. 17: A wise or trusted counsellor or teacher



Managing Money Better



We recently received a grant of £6,560 from The MSE Charity (the grant making arm of Martin Lewis' Money Saving Expert.com). They give grants of up to £7,500 to groups that provide education, information and support to help people learn how to manage their money better.

The funds will enable Renova to support residents by providing financial/ money management training so they can manage their money better, sustain their tenancies and achieve independent living so they are never back on the streets.

Upcoming

Safeguarding refresher training for our team.

Beauty For Ashes

This small group meets once a month to pray into and support the Renova vision. To sign up, go to <https://kerith.church/groups-and-courses/small-groups>.

Become a Miracle Friend - our befrienders and volunteers provide telephone support only or can meet up with our residents for activities (as easy as walking or a telephone call) or support them in attending appointments or online-courses. Go to <https://renova.org.uk/get-involved/>

Crossword Answers

Across: 4: Work, 5: Charity, 8: Housed, 9: Fantastic, 10: Recovery, 11: Transformed, 13: Friendship, 15: Therapist, 16: Give, 18: Success, 19: Grant.
Down: 1: Family, 2: Volunteer, 3: Educate, 6: Renovation, 7: Accommodation, 8: Hope, 10: Renovate, 12: Residents, 13: Faith, 14: Literacy, 17: Mentor

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