

11th August 2008

## NEWS RELEASE

A member of  
Westward  
Housing Group

Providing 4,500  
good quality  
affordable  
homes in the  
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Dealing in a  
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with local  
housing issues

- ❖ Affordable
- ❖ High quality
- ❖ Rented
- ❖ Low cost  
ownership

Housing advice  
and services  
provider

*"Your home  
should be  
somewhere  
you want to  
be"*

### **Greenbank Chapel Becomes A Youth Facility**

#### **Greenbank Chapel Project has just been opened by Deputy Lady Mayoresses Mary and Kate Aspinall.**

The young people at Greenbank estate in Plymouth have long needed a place of their own. More than 50 young people from the area had requested a safe place on the estate to to meet and 'chill'.

So, following months of building work, the formerly derelict Hospital Chapel on the site is now a youth facility for the young people of Greenbank.

Children from the Greenbank estate spent launch day clearing the area and making decorations ready for an evening of fun. A BBQ and Caribbean food was served and children took part in egg and spoon races, got soaked in the stocks and danced to live music.

Chief Executive Julian Tuck of Westward Housing Group joined the two Deputy Lady Mayoresses to cut the ribbon, allowing residents their first glance inside a building that was once the Greenbank Hospital Chapel of Rest.

Once the chapel was opened we were pleased to watch as two of our young residents were presented with certificates from Devon and Cornwall Constabulary for their work in the community.

It is envisaged that the chapel will be used as a community base during the daytime by the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) for small meetings with residents.

Connexions (a service for all young people, giving 13-19 year olds information, advice, guidance and practical help in preparing for adult and working life) has volunteered to hold surgeries there too.

The evening sessions will be set aside for a youth café; we provide seating and the opportunity to make tea and coffee. It is not a youth centre though.

The event went really well, with lots of residents and their children joining in. Two of our young people (Jody Byrne & Stephen Hocking) received certificates from the Police to recognise their work within the community.

**See Page 2 for photographs**

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**Notes to Editors:**

Westcountry Housing is a member of Westward Housing Group which provides more than 6,000 affordable, high quality homes and housing related services across Cornwall and Devon.

Visit: [www.westcountryha.org.uk](http://www.westcountryha.org.uk)

