

25 June 2009

SLOPPY SLIPPERS

Hawthorn Mill held a "Sloppy Slipper Exchange" on 24 June 2009. Connect Housing (in conjunction with Leeds City Council's Health Improvement Team and its West North West Environmental Action Team) encouraged older people from the Bramley Elderly Action Stroke Group, tenants of Hawthorn Mill and members of the local community to bring their old slippers to the scheme, receive free consultation with trained fitters and exchange their old slippers for a brand new, free pair. This initiative is a 'falls prevention' idea.

Stalls were also there on the day to provide helpful information to attendees, hosted by people from the West Yorkshire Fire Service, Leeds Lions, Connect Housing Energy Advice, Care-Ring and Telecare, Help the Aged and Leeds City Council's Health & Environmental Action Service.

Sue Hendry, Senior Scheme Manager of Connect's Hawthorn Mill, said 'It is always a pleasure for us to share our Communal Facilities with others. The falls prevention initiative is very important and worthwhile, and bringing different services together under one roof for the day helps to give people information and choices. Serious business mixed with a little bit of fun encourages people to take part and benefit from what is out there for them that perhaps they are not aware of.'

One of the most memorable quotes on the day was from a 93 year old, blind lady who said, 'I think it is has been wonderful and I have enjoyed it very much. I have met all the organisations and the people who came to give us information. Today I have been treated like a normal person and not different from anyone else, and I got some new slippers!'

The group was also treated to a demonstration from the Healthy Eating Team and everyone enjoyed the tasters they provided.

52 people received new slippers on the day. A total of 75 people (including partner agencies) attended.

Ends

For further information please contact Sue Hendry, Senior Scheme Manager at Connect Housing Association on 0113 231 1564, email: sue.hendry@connecthousing.org.uk

Information about the Association

- ❑ Connect Housing's objectives are: Raising Housing Standards; Building Successful Communities; Promoting Inclusion.
- ❑ Connect Housing's Values are: Connect gives **respect** to people; Connect **creates** solutions; Connect **includes** the whole community; Connect **loves** making a difference.
- ❑ Connect is:
 - a committed partner in the iN Business for Neighbourhoods alliance, and within local and regional networks;
 - a member of the Synergy Partnership, developing neighbourhood solutions across Yorkshire and the Humber region.
 - recognised for its innovative work in energy efficiency, work with young people, supported housing and community regeneration.
- ❑ Winner of the National Home Improvement Council award for energy efficient improvement schemes in Chapeltown.
- ❑ Connect Housing is a not-for-profit housing and neighborhood organisation, established in Leeds in 1977.
- ❑ Appointments/Interviews may be organised by contacting the person above.