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**KINGFISHER  
HOUSING  
ASSOCIATION**

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

Date: 2 July 2008

Contact: Penny Luke  
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## **SCHOOL CHILDREN WORK WITH KINGFISHER'S ELDERLY RESIDENTS**

Elderly residents from one of Kingfisher Housing Association's sheltered housing schemes are involved in a community arts project called 'Age to Age' with pupils from Fairfields Primary School in Council Road, Basingstoke.

A series of reminiscence sessions have been held in the communal lounge at Townsend Close sheltered housing scheme in Basingstoke and a selection of stories about the elderly residents lives have been picked.

During Age Concern activity sessions the stories were then turned into 3 songs to be performed by the year 4 and 5, 8-10 year old pupils from Fairfields School and performed at a concern for all concerned at Carnival Hall, Council Road, Basingstoke on Tuesday 15 July at 11.00am.

Paul Whitehouse, Kingfisher's Senior Management Officer for the sheltered schemes said,

Chairman: Chris Holland

Group Chief Executive : Brian Hutchison FCIH MRSH

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A charitable Industrial and Provident Society



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“This is the first year that we have sponsored this ‘Age to Age’ project, encouraging young children to work and listen to the life stories of older people and turn these stories into songs that they perform. We feel it builds more understanding and respect of older people and is a great way of encouraging interaction.”

The arts group being used to facilitate the ‘Age to Age’ project is ‘Creative Traditional Arts’ who will be producing recordings of the concert for the school children and are experts at turning life stories into song.

Contact – Penny Luke, Marketing Manager on 01256 302305 or Paul Whitehouse, Senior Management Officer (Sheltered) on 01256 302344.

**Note to the Editor:**

Reporters and photographers are invited to attend the Age to Age Concert on Tuesday 15 July, 11.00am at Carnival Hall, Council Road, Basingstoke, where pupils from Fairfields Primary School will be performing their songs about the life stories of some of the elderly residents of Basingstoke.

*Wessex Housing Partnership is a partnership between the well established Housing Associations of HVHS Housing Group, based in Winchester and Kingfisher Housing Association based in Basingstoke, with a combined history of 73 years in operation.*

*HVHS and Kingfisher own around 6,150 properties for social rent, shared ownership and private renting for young single people, couples, families and the elderly. Also over 500 new properties are being developed and bought every year, helping to house local people in housing need.*

*Wessex Housing Partnership operate and own properties in Hampshire, Wiltshire and Berkshire.*