



Big Issue Walk



Overnight on the 20th November a team from the House of St Barnabas joined over 200 people on an 18 mile walk around London to raise money for The Big Issue Outreach Programme.

The House was used for the 11 mile mark and provided the weary walkers with sustenance to help them on the final leg of their journey.

David Evans, chairman of the House said: "It was a great team effort and an extraordinary experience walking through London in the dead of night".



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Pippa Bagnall



In July we said a sad goodbye to Pippa Bagnall. Pippa was with the charity for many years as Trustee, Chairman and latterly as CEO. Pippa brought great drive, enthusiasm and passion to the House and we thank her for all she has done for the charity and wish her the very best for the future.

Full story on our web site.

Quintessentially

Between October and December 2009 the House has been working in partnership with Quintessentially.

In association with Russell Sage Studios the House has been redecorated and returned to its original Georgian splendour.

The renovated house has been filled with stunning artwork and furniture and used as a members' lounge and event space.



Evaluation of Life Skills

The life skills programme pilot was completed at the end of August and has produced some terrific outcomes for the people who matter most: our volunteers.

We are focused on helping people who have experienced homelessness return to work, education and training. To support these aims, and running alongside the personal development training, work experience and hospitality training we provide, we are developing a positive, self-supportive community where peer support will become one of the main driving forces of an individual's personal progression.

It is important that this community and peer support does not disappear when people become employed or find the motivation to rebuild their lives through education or training.

A high percentage of these people will return to a previous negative lifestyle without a supportive community that can embrace their aspirations in life.

Over 40% of our participants have now started full or part time work and 30% have returned to further education or training.

Our relationships with business partners including Quintessentially, Absolute Taste, Soho Theatre and Off To Work, along with strong links with educational establishments have enabled us to produce these outstanding results.

We are extremely proud of those Life Skills Programme participants who have risen to the challenges we have set them and are moving on to bigger and better things in life.

Following a thorough evaluation of our pilot programme we look forward to our first fully fledged programme beginning in the new year and bringing more people through the doors of the House of St. Barnabas in Soho.

Life Skills classroom



Peter Bignell



We are delighted to welcome Peter Bignell to the team at the House. Peter successfully graduated from the Life Skills programme this Autumn, and after a period of work experience in Quintessentially's travel department, has started work as the Business Support Coordinator in our Events department.

Peter's background is as an historian and he has had a strong interest in the House for a long time; he has recently undertaken a study of the House's architecture and history.

On taking up his new position Peter said: "This is a really exciting opportunity for me and demonstrated just how valuable the Life Skills programme can be. With all the recent renovations this is a great time to be joining the events team".



Wedding Day



The Venue and Events team held an open day on Sunday 25th October.

The day was an opportunity to thank couples for their patience during the recent refurbishment works and to showcase our beautifully redecorated spaces.

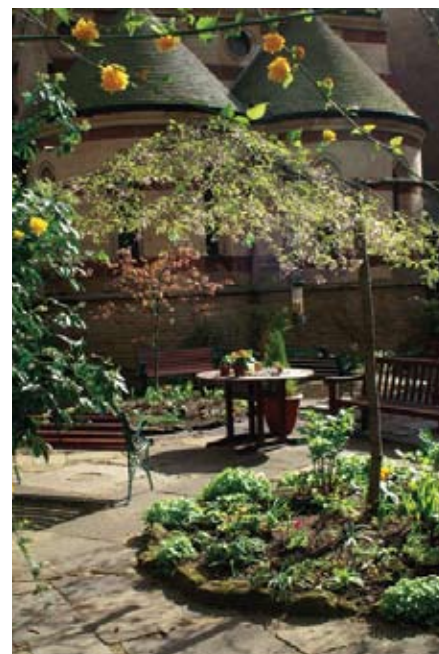
Guests were given the opportunity to explore the House and Chapel at leisure, and to talk through their ideas in more detail with Louisa and Laura from the Venue and Events Team. Throughout the day couples, friends and family were treated to cocktails and canapes in the Soho

Room, followed by coffee and cakes in the Drawing Room. The venue would like to extend its thanks to both Penni Black and Bubble Food for providing such exquisite catering.

Over 60 people attended and the House received universally positive feedback. With the additional flexibility that the renovations have brought, the House is better placed than ever to become the prime wedding venue in Soho. Couples are

“ We had an absolutely perfect wedding day! Our reception was held at the House of St. Barnabas in Soho. The beautiful old Georgian town house right in the heart of Soho is full of charm and character and provided exactly what we were looking for, a friendly, relaxed atmosphere with a fantastic amount of space spread across various rooms and a garden. The staff were excellent and really helped us to make the most of the venue. Thank you HOSB!”

Wedding reception 9th May 2009
Zave & Claudia



able to design a unique and memorable event to mark their special day.

For more details on our wedding packages, see the Weddings page on our web site.

Sony Event

The House was recently the venue for a Sony Playstation event, attended by international Press. Organisers say it was a great success and we are pleased to have received such warm feedback:

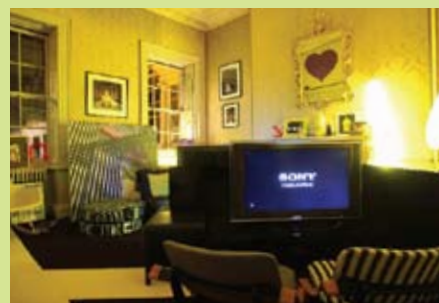
“Having recently held a European press preview event at the HOSB for our client, Sony Playstation, I can not speak highly enough of the house as the perfect central London venue. As a venue it has not only been beautifully restored but, with multiple rooms on both floors, it has a great flexibility and, of course, the really rare thing for

a central London venue is its fantastic outside space.

All our European and London based press really benefited from the central London location. The House’s stunning facade and unique style sets it apart from competing venues, but where the House truly stands out is the management team and their professionalism and dedication to making the whole process as smooth as possible.

I would not hesitate in recommending the House to any corporate event organisers who want something fresh, stylish and interesting.”

Dan Stanton MD Push Uk





The Fair of St Barnabas

On 25th November, working in partnership with Quintessentially, the House hosted The Fair of St Barnabas.

For the event the House and Staff were transformed for a Dickensian-style burlesque feast, complete with hog roasts, chestnuts, lobster, toffee apples, champagne and hot toddies.

Over 300 revellers in fancy dress arrived for a magical evening of weird and wonderful entertainment. For one unique evening the House was

filled with magicians, singers, dancers, fairground games and Chinese dragons.

Live music, with a guest appearance from The Clash, and DJ sets carried the party on until past midnight.

All proceeds from ticket sales and auction bids have been pledged to the House of St Barnabas charity, to support and develop next year's Life Skills Programme.

Carol Service

This year's Carol Service is on 15th December. The service is a Christmas celebration for a small group of friends and supporters of the House.

The evening will be an opportunity for the team to come together, sing some carols and then enjoy a well-deserved glass of wine and a mince pie.

After a busy year the team is delighted to be bidding goodbye to 2009 on such a high note.

If you would like to join the team for this event please email info@hosb.org.uk

How You Can Help

To find out about how you can support the work of the House of St Barnabas, please visit the **How You Can Help** page on our website.



Social Enterprise

Venue Hire at the House of St Barnabas is a Social Enterprise that enables the charity to support homeless and vulnerable people.

Social enterprises are businesses which trade in goods or services for a social purpose. For the House of St Barnabas, the business both generates income through the hiring out of the venue, and provides work experience opportunities for the individuals

on our charitable programmes.

Whether through health, education or employment opportunities, the House of St Barnabas contributes to an inclusive society, and by simply holding events at the House, our customers do too.

To find out more about Social Enterprise, visit the **Our Work & Partners** page on our website.

Recent Grants

We are very grateful to the following companies for their generous grants and donations:

The Sobell Foundation
Covent Garden Dental Spa
The Fitton Trust
The Sir James Reckitt Charity

The House of St Barnabas
1 Greek Street, London W1D 4NQ Tel: 020 7437 1894
Registered Charity No. 207242