

Bring Elizabeth Fry home



The era of Elizabeth Fry's time on the back of the £5 note draws to a close in 2016.

To commemorate this, the Elizabeth Fry Charity is holding an Open Day on 17 June when guests will be invited to bring along their old £5 notes as Elizabeth's era comes to an end. The Elizabeth Fry Charity continues her charitable works.



Please help us by collecting and donating your old £5 notes. Start collecting!

What we do

The Elizabeth Fry Charity aims to provide support to women, mostly on licence from prison, who present with a range of complex needs. Through the work we undertake, we endeavour to help women to begin to address the issues they face, improve their lives and reduce the likelihood of further victims being created.

We were delighted to have two ex-residents visit the Approved Premises recently and took the opportunity to ask them about how they viewed their time at Elizabeth Fry now that they had moved on from the Approved Premises. These are their words:

"Whilst I had to do all the hard work myself, Elizabeth Fry taught me how to build my self-confidence and to stop being a 'people pleaser'. My change in attitude and the hostel's guidance in how to change was what made the difference the second time. It was mainly the one to one key work that made the difference for me.

Although life at the moment has tremendous challenges, I am able to say now that I have completely turned my back on crime."

"I would describe Elizabeth Fry as a major turning point in my life. If I had gone straight from prison out into the world, I would never have made it. I wanted a clean break from my previous life and Elizabeth Fry provided me with that fresh start."

How you can help

You can support the work of Elizabeth Fry Charity by making a donation. This can be done either by sending cash or cheque or via our Localgiving page at <https://localgiving.com/charity/elizabethfrycharity>

Christmas is often a very difficult time for residents, many of whom are not in contact with their loved ones and remain at the hostel over the Christmas and New Year period. We are therefore seeking donations of toiletries, chocolates and other luxury items that we can give to residents to help make this time of year a little more special.



Donations can be delivered to Elizabeth Fry Charity, 6 Coley Avenue, Reading RG1 6LQ.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire visits Elizabeth Fry



We welcomed James Puxley the Lord-Lieutenant to Elizabeth Fry Approved Premises on 5 November 2015. He spent time with Trustees, our Patron HH Judge Zoe Smith and our Chief Executive.

The Lord Lieutenant then had a comprehensive tour around the premises given by two of the residents who did a really excellent and entertaining job.

Chaplaincy Service

On Sunday 1st November, All Souls Day the Elizabeth Fry Chaplaincy Team held a service for Residents and Staff to "Remember our Loved Ones".

The service was a simple opportunity to remember those who we love and who are not able to be with us. There were prayers, a short reading from the Bible, a Poem was read, and everyone spoke about their loved ones and why they wanted to remember them.



All who attended had the opportunity to light as many candles as they wished for those who they wanted to remember.

Everyone left with a stone to hold and keep in order to remind us of those we love.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ellie Gunn, Residential Support Officer at Elizabeth Fry AP who has been awarded her Masters Degree in Forensic Psychology – well done.

Memories of Marjorie Griffin

We were saddened to hear of the death of Marjorie Griffin, a previous Warden at Elizabeth Fry who had managed the hostel from 1955 to 1975 and was responsible for the hostel's move from London to its current location in Reading. Marjorie visited Elizabeth Fry in July 2011 to celebrate the re-opening of the building following the fire in 2009. She also spoke at the Service at Greyfriars Church in 2012, celebrating 50 years since the hostel's move to Reading. It was a privilege to hear Marjorie talk about her experiences at the hostel and she proved to be a real inspiration to both staff and residents.

Marjorie was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1986 for her work amongst girls. The medal was presented by The Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire and the ceremony took place in the garden of Elizabeth Fry.

Trustees and staff at Elizabeth Fry are enormously grateful to Marjorie's family who have donated her British Empire Medal to Elizabeth Fry Charity. The medal will be displayed at the Approved Premises and will serve as a wonderful reminder of Marjorie's commitment to the hostel and its residents.



Picture taken July 2012 Marjorie Griffin with EFC CEO Fiona Humphreys.

Pilgrim Trust Gives Generous Award to Elizabeth Fry for Substance Misuse Work

The Pilgrim Trust has awarded nearly £70,000 to Elizabeth Fry for carrying out substance misuse work at the Approved Premises. The award will pay for the salary of a substance misuse worker for three years. Substance misuse has affected many of our residents' lives and they will benefit from the project.

We are most grateful to the Pilgrim Trust for their most generous award.



The Pilgrim Trust

September Open Day

Thank you to all who attended the Elizabeth Fry Open Day on 25 September 2015.



Visitors were able to enjoy a range of activities which included listening to residents talk about their own journeys, joining a group work and/or activity session and sampling the entrants to the "Lizzie Fry Bake Off" competition.