

WELCOME TO OLIVE BRANCH GROVE

HPBC celebrates completion of 16 affordable new homes at St Bernard's Church

We are so proud to have completed the St Bernard's Project, the third phase of our trail-blazing development of the Alt Street / Kingsley Road community in Granby, Liverpool, L8. Home partners are celebrating key handovers at their new homes on Olive Branch Grove and Kingsley Road, after working together on site throughout the development process.

Since March 2018 we have been converting St Bernard's Church into eleven three-storey, 3/4 bedroom houses. We have also built four 2-bedroom apartments and a 3-bedroom house on the surrounding land, comprising 16 new properties in total.

HPBC has worked in partnership with Onward Homes for this scheme, winning the Best



Partnership Award at the 2019 National Housing Awards.

This project has attracted a diverse group of people with a strong desire to be part of a cohesive community. Home Partners have given 500 hours of sweat equity, enabling them to reduce their deposit by £10,000, making their homes more affordable.

In total, we have created 48 affordable properties on Alt Street and Kingsley Road, building this community on land generously gifted by the Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocese in 2002. We have continued to work with Ainsley Common Architects, who designed all 48 properties.

Completion of the St Bernard's scheme represents nearly 20 years of HPBC building communities in Granby, L8.



Home Partners celebrate HPBC and Onward winning Best Partnership Award at NHAs 2019

HPBC CHIEF EXECUTIVE - REFLECTIONS ON COMPLETION

LIZA PARRY

"Huge thanks to home partners Sonia and Laurie for their work in producing this newsletter. I hope that all of you who've been involved in this journey enjoy reading it.

"I was delighted when the Liverpool RC Archdiocese invited HPBC to submit a proposal for the development of St Bernard's and adjacent land. Having completed the building of the Alt St homes, and seeing the community spirit that had been developed, HPBC felt we'd be letting our home partners down if we left them with a church falling into disrepair and a condemned parish hall at the entrance to their street.

"The refurbishment of St Bernard's was a shared vision between HPBC, the Archdiocese, Onward Homes, and Ainsley Common Architects. We were extremely fortunate to get other partners involved who shared our vision, including Hampton Developments NW and Wilkinson Cowen, with continued support from Liverpool City Council and Wienerberger brick manufacturers.

"And then came the work of finding the home partners, people who would embrace the ethos of our charity ie creating a diverse and cohesive community, and be committed to doing 500 hours sweat equity to not only earn a £10k deposit but also quite literally help to build the community! We were helped by our Family Selection Committee, a mix of Alt St home partners and other professionals....all giving their time voluntarily.

"It's been an amazing journey and I've thoroughly enjoyed working with our wonderful home partners over the last 18 months. The numerous weekend Team Builds were highlights for me. Working alongside the home partners/their parents/ other family members/friends/volunteers, having the



Liza Parry, Rev'd Shannon Ledbetter, HPBC Chair, & home partners' children

children involved in the lunch time feasts, and seeing the community spirit and friendships developing was truly inspiring.

"I feel extremely proud to have been a part of the completion of St Bernard's, for the achievements of our home partners, and a charity that will continue to work hard to provide more affordable housing opportunities for others."



OUR ST BERNARD'S PARTNERS

LIVERPOOL RC ARCHDIOCESE - FR PETER

"We were able to prepare for quite a long time for the closure of St Bernard's. It's a very blessed building, and the whole area has great traditions. When St Bernard's closed we had a wonderful procession all the way up to St Anne's Church on Overbury Street. We carried up our sacred objects, and two of our guys played the bagpipes so they piped us up all the way. And then the church was derelict for quite a while, and I was looking forward to something happening because everything was just falling into decay. When HPBC was successful with the bid I was full of anticipation about the church because I wanted it sorted out as quickly as possible.

"As the whole project progressed I went in as often as I could. It was amazing to see all sorts of little things that had been kept. Liza Parry had said HPBC wanted to keep as much of the original structure and site as possible. I kept a close eye on the way that it was built, and I was absolutely amazed really. I was particularly amazed to see them take off every roof tile and replace them. The tiles were amazingly good, given the fact that they had been there since 1901. But the roof had to be insulated so it meant taking off every tile, and there were thousands of them! It was amazing how quickly Hampton Developments NW did it actually.

"A lot of people were sorry to see the Church close, even people who never came. But I haven't heard a negative word, ever since it became clear just how lovely the houses were going to be. And so many people have said, "Oh I'd love to go inside" so this is why we had open days. I think local residents are quite proud really, to have this very beautiful structure there.

"So now that it's completed, I'm over the moon and I'm delighted to think that it's a wonderful project and everybody seems to be lovely. For me it's been really, really, good. It's been extremely interesting to see it all.

"One of my hopes for the project is that out of the camaraderie and the friendship and everything else, there will become a sense of belonging. A feeling that we can work together to make our community very beautiful, as something for us to share."



Fr Peter, Shannon Ledbetter and former Trustee Bill Chandler

ONWARD HOMES - LIN POWELL



"I have been heavily involved throughout the whole process of the St Bernard's conversion, from feasibility to

completion. This has been a massive project for Onward Homes, representing two and a half years of work, and a

huge achievement financially. Onward Homes is a big investor in Granby, and this neighbourhood is a priority for us.

"As Head of Development I have been working behind the scenes securing funding and planning, and the project gradually became a large part of my life and means a lot to me.

"The joint work between Onward and HPBC is an example of how real partnership works, and the collaboration with all the partners has been fantastic.

"I want to specially mention the contractor Hampton Developments NW, who went above and beyond their role in this innovative project."

HAMPTON DEVELOPMENTS NW - GARY HYLAND, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER & IAN WELSH, DIRECTOR



"Hamptons have thoroughly enjoyed the whole project, especially the friendships which have been created through the HPBC model. We are also very proud to have

created such a unique development and see the disused church brought back to life.

"We wish all involved the best for the future and we guarantee it will hold a special place in our hearts that no previous or future development could possibly achieve."



Ian Welsh & HPBC volunteer, Michael Byrne

OUR ST BERNARD'S PARTNERS

AINSLEY GOMMON ARCHITECTS - ALF PLANT, DIRECTOR

"The team at Ainsley Gommon Architects is delighted to have been able to work with HPBC, Onward Homes, Hampton Developments NW and many other organisations



Original Plan of St Bernards, aerial 3D View



The Ainsley Gommon Team

to help to save this landmark church and to turn it into new dwellings for the Home Partners.

"The whole project is a great achievement and we are very proud to have played our part to help make it happen. We hope that the Home Partners are very happy living here and that similarly unusual and innovative projects with HPBC may follow in future."

LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL

Liverpool City Council has been an important partner in the development and completion of the Kingsley Rd/Alt Street and St Bernard's projects. The support and practical assistance from Cllrs Malcolm Kennedy and Ann O'Byrne has been unstinting, along with their Housing Team Tony Mousedale and Karen Locke, and planning department.

Cllr Ann O'Byrne: "I feel mixed emotions knowing that this part of the project is complete, because it has been like reading a really good book. I've been following every moment and enjoyed every little detail then suddenly it's finished. Those tiny bits where I've had an involvement have just been a genuine privilege, no matter how small, to be a part of this project with HPBC.



Liza Parry and Cllr Ann O'Byrne

"It's been wonderful to watch people come together from so many different backgrounds and different parts of the community. Businesses have worked alongside governmental organisations, and everybody sees the value of a project like this, where you are creating an intersectional connected community, and people are putting in their blood sweat and tears to make it happen. **Everyone involved knows that each small contribution is such an important piece of the jigsaw** which allows everything else to happen, to allow people to

have homes. There is no way that an individual could ever achieve this. It's about the collective effort, and the cooperative spirit coming together.

"I'm looking forward to HPBC's next project, to the next adventure. I am so excited to see what happens next, because we're now going on to Volume 3! First the beautiful houses were built, and then the conversion of the church, what's next in the series of books? I'm sure those two incredible feisty women will already be working on the next project, they'll be making sure that they get hold of people to say "We're all ready to go now". I can't wait for it. They just make everyone feel very, very special, which for the new home owners will have been a major part of why they're going to have such happy lives in their homes."



Chair Shannon Ledbetter, Cllr Ann O'Byrne & Onward Homes CE Bronwen Rapley (



Cllr Malcolm Kennedy visits a HPBC street party for Home Partners

Lord Mayor of Liverpool

Cllr Anna Rothery joins final team build



Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr Anna Rothery, with Liza Parry, HPBC Chief Executive and HP Saba Ahmed

contractor Hampton Developments NW.

The morning was spent making the final touches to the work on site, before the group had a shared lunch to celebrate. Members of the group provided a multitude of dishes, representing food from a wide variety of cultures, and the feast was hosted in one of the new houses in Olive Branch Grove.

"Blood, tears and sweat equity has paid off as L8 Residents move into their properties on our St Bernard's church site. Fantastic families well done and welcome to your new home" Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr Anna Rothery

We were thrilled to welcome Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr Anna Rothery to our final team build before completion of the St Bernard's project

On 9th November 2019 HPBC Home Partners, families and friends worked together on the final team build of the St Bernard's Church conversion. Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Anna Rothery joined us for this pivotal day, where she was able to explore the site and meet the Home Partners, friends, families and



Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr Anna Rothery, with Home Partners and volunteers, HPBC Chair, Trustees and Chief Executive

Lord Mayor of Liverpool joins final Team Build

HOME PARTNER SPOTLIGHT - ST BERNARD'S

Jenna & James



"We're a couple with 2 children, Jasper (6) and Jonah (2). James is a registered Mental Health Nurse and is Deputy Manager on a psychiatric ward. Our youngest son Jonah has a rare genetic disorder called Wiedemann-Steiner syndrome, and I am his full time carer.

"We got involved with HPBC purely by chance. It was actually a Google search for something along the lines of "affordable housing Liverpool" that led me to HPBC's website. I saw that the St Bernard's project was already underway so emailed to enquire about any upcoming projects. Luckily for us, a plot had become available so we snapped it up!

"James has really enjoyed the experience of working on site with the builders and has got stuck into loads of different tasks. We've also had friends and family members come along to work on site. It's been difficult for me to get to site with having Jonah to care for, so I've been involved in organising the team builds to contribute towards our sweat equity hours."

"We think ourselves incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to be part of the Alt Street / Kingsley Road project. Obviously the contribution from HPBC in return for the sweat equity hours is fantastic but the sense of community and working alongside your neighbours is equally important to us. Knowing that we can live and bring our children up in an area with such great community spirit is priceless."



Jasper and Jonah, Jenna & James' children

Gina & David

Gina and David fell in love from different sides of the world when they met through online dating. Gina was living in Lima, Peru, and David in Cadiz, Spain. After three years they married in Lima, and then lived in Cadiz for eight years. When David's company in Cadiz closed, the family were recommended Liverpool by a friend. They visited for a week and immediately decided to make Liverpool their home.

David is a joiner so his skills were invaluable on site, and he worked on a range of tasks to accrue his sweat equity hours. Gina was pregnant with Carmen during the build, so for her sweat equity hours she provided delicious Peruvian and Spanish cuisine for the community lunches at team builds.



Gina and David with their youngest son Fabio, enjoying a hard-earned lunch at a Team Build

"We all worked together, we created a community. We feel safe because we know everyone and it feels good. We have spent one year working together on site.

"We think that sweat equity is a good idea, because we have tried buying a house before and the deposit required was too large. With sweat equity we have been able to offer our skills, effort and work in exchange for the deposit.

"This is a close community where we help each other, and have respect for one another. We hope that the friendships we have made here will last a long time so that our community remains vibrant and open. We want to make some parties together and share time and experiences with the other Home Partners. **We can benefit from the community and the community can benefit from us."**

DAD'S ARMY

Home Partners at HPBC rely heavily on the generosity of friends and family to volunteer their time and effort to help with sweat equity.

We want to acknowledge the hard work and contributions of the Dads of HPBC's home partners, and have featured 3 Dads without whom Home Partners would have been lost.



Michael Byrne with his daughter Colette Byrne, Home Partner

MICHAEL BYRNE:

"I found out about the project from my daughter, Colette. It was a great opportunity for her to get on to the property ladder and so I was only too willing to help.

"I've done many jobs such as raking



Michael and Colette working on site

out brickwork, painting, removing old door frames and casings, fitting kitchen cabinets, re-pointing sandstone windows and general labouring and cleaning through all kinds of weather!

"I enjoyed working on site with the Hamptons workforce who were very helpful and it was great to meet other volunteers and Colette's future neighbours.

"It's incredible to see the end product as we have been involved since the very beginning when the church was still in its abandoned state."

Arthur Briscoe

"I began volunteering with HPBC when my nieces, Polly and Peggy asked me to help on site to support them in completing their 'sweat equity' hours. This led to my son Laurie becoming a home partner, and so I continued volunteering to support him.



Arthur with baby Carmen, daughter of HPs Gina & David

"The work I did on site was mostly general duties, such as sanding shelves, moving paving blocks and breeze blocks. I also did some landscaping and a fair amount of brushing up.

"I really enjoyed the sense of

teamwork together with the satisfaction of completing tasks such as moving materials into position for the builders, and a well earned pint afterwards with the family.

"The HPBC sweat equity scheme is a great way for the home partners to bond with their future neighbours.

Spending time working together in small groups brought everyone closer as friends.

"Now that the homes are finished it is a joy to see the home partners settling in with their community spirit already in place."



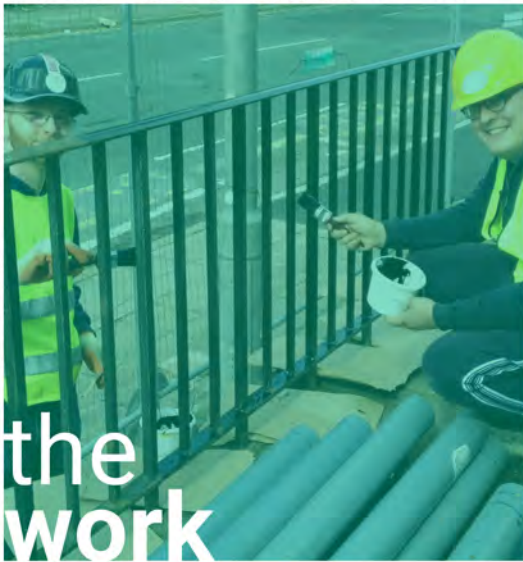
Home Partner Laurie, Arthur's son,



joyous memories



the lunches



the work



the parties

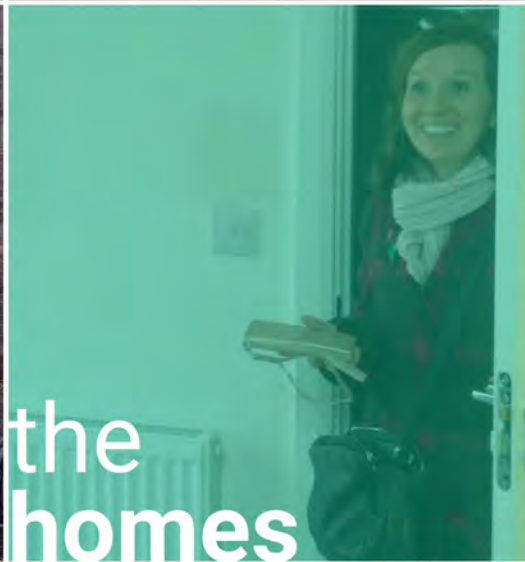




the
guests



the
awards



the
homes



the
community

DAD'S ARMY

David Chapman

"My daughter Sonia told me she was keen on taking an apartment in this scheme about a year ago. She explained shared ownership and the 'sweat equity' model together with the building communities idea. I remember the huge difficulties this part of Liverpool faced in the 70's and 80's culminating in the riots of 1981, so I didn't need persuading that this was a good idea.

"For over 30 years I have been an Inspecting Architect for churches of the Dioceses of Liverpool



Trev Chapman with David

and Blackburn as well as a few Methodist and Non-Conformist Churches. Church buildings have been becoming derelict in recent years and it doesn't take long for them to become difficult to repair, so we have been trying to find ongoing uses for those which are no longer in use, including conversion. I looked forward to see how HPBC tackled this important issue at St Bernard's.

"I have always enjoyed DIY, so it was good to get 'hands on'. On site I did general labouring, mainly in the church itself; removal of timber/stained glass screens, moving materials, cleaning window frames/ roof-lights, preparing floors/ application of sealant, preparing old timbers for painting, internal

painting and even sorting out some of the 110 volt cabling. Sonia's Mum, Irene helped cook food for the Team Build lunches, and her Uncle Trev pitched in a couple of times as well. I enjoyed helping with the landscaping as the scheme neared completion.



HP Sonia Chapman and Volunteer Rachael Hickmott working on site

"I got to meet and talk to the other Home Partners and their family or friends and learned more about HPBC's community building idea. It looks to me as if it will work – we have lived in the same street for over 30 years and still don't know some of our neighbours! It's so great to see Sonia settled down in her own place surrounded by her new friends and neighbours. For me it's seeing an old church building being brought back into use and surrounded by a lively community in good modern housing.

"It's taken a long time since 1981 but we can now see the fruits of the efforts of organisations like HPBC in Toxteth, so we can talk about urban regeneration and how to continue to develop the community."



Irene Chapman (far left) provided delicious dishes for team build community lunches

HPBC and Onward win Best Partnership at National Housing Awards 2019

HPBC were delighted to win 'Best Partnership' at the National Housing Awards 2019, for our partnership work with Onward Homes on the St Bernard's Project. Home Partners celebrated the victory on site whilst working together on a Team Build.

Here's what the National Housing Federation judges had to say:

"This is fabulous! Preservation of a landmark, creation of homes, and the community at the heart of it. We love this project.

"It's small scale for sure, but the sweat equity is a fantastic opportunity. Ideal for people who are



Receiving 'Best Partnership' Award at the NHA 2019

Development' award." We're pleased that the inspirational work Ainsley Common Architects has undertaken over many years has been recognised with St Bernard's also being shortlisted for the RICS 2020 Social Impact awards.

The awards/shortlistings are testament to the pioneering work of the charity and our partners, but also acknowledgement of the shared vision and dedication to building diverse and cohesive communities by our home partners and volunteers".



prepared to put in the effort but can't always put in the money. And so many partners, all working to one common goal. For us, this is really the benchmark in partnership working with everyone having one inspired vision.

"This is the very essence of what affordable homes should be about: creating community-based areas that provide safe and lovely homes for people to live in not invest in."

And that's not all! HPBC and Onward received Highly Commended for 'Best Partnership' at the Inside Housing Awards 2019.

HPBC were delighted to receive the Home Builder 2020 NW award for 'Best Sustainable Community Development' for the Kingsley Rd/Alt St & St Bernard's projects and to be shortlisted for the UKHA 2020 'Neighbourhood Transformation' award. The St Bernard's project has also been shortlisted for the 2020 First Time Buyer 'Best Small



Highly commended for 'Best Partnership' at the Inside Housing Awards 2019

ALT STREET HOME PARTNERS REFLECTIONS

Silvia & Nour

"We moved to Liverpool in 2015 when Sofia was 15 months old. I am a Neonatal Nurse and Nour has been working as a SEN Teaching Assistant for the last few years. After a year of renting houses around the city, we wanted to buy something that we could really call 'our home' and when we found HBPC, it was love at first sight! It was affordable, brand new, and close to the city centre. When Liza told us about the project, we just thought it was perfect for us. By working from the inside, we would be able to build a real community and create a lovely environment in which to raise our children.



L: Silvia and Sofia, R: Nour with Hugo

"I was pregnant during the build phase so Nour did the sweat equity hours. We were also very lucky to meet lovely volunteers and students who were happy to donate us some hours. Our little Hugo was born in our house, in our living room! This is something we will always remember and makes our house really special.

"It's wonderful to see the project finished and meet our new neighbours. We've had two great street parties and our children can play safely in the street. They knock on each others doors, just like me when I was a kid! Like many of us in this community, we came from overseas, and are far from our loved ones most of the time. Belonging to a community where you can count on people is so important to us, and HPBC has showed us that we still need each other, and that meeting people from other cultures with different backgrounds enriches everyone and makes the world a better place to live in."

Warren & Kieran

Born in London, Kieran made Liverpool his home in 2003, and works as Chaplain for YMCA Liverpool & Sefton and YMCA St Helens.



Warren arrived in Liverpool from Sydney, Australia, in 2006, planning to backpack for a year. By April 2008, Warren had met Kieran, and the happy couple celebrated their civil partnership in May 2012, marrying in 2015. Warren works in HR for the Anglican Diocese of Liverpool and volunteers with St Bride's Church running an LGBT+ Christian group.

"For years we lived on Princes Road, and we worked for charities so home ownership felt impossible, but when the Alt Street phase became available we discovered that with shared ownership and sweat equity, it was entirely affordable! We jumped at the opportunity and were warmly welcomed into HPBC.

"Kieran redeveloped HPBC's website and produced HPBC newsletters. We helped paint, clean, tidy up, install cladding and fire socks, and loads of other tasks. A friend from the Royal Bank of Scotland arranged for a group of staff to volunteer for a day, and a group of friends from church gave two days of their time to help us – we clad an entire block of houses in one day! It was hard work but also great fun working alongside our future neighbours and dedicated people who were building our future homes. It was such a positive experience.

"Moving into our new home was a dream come true, to live in the inner city with a spacious garden, and our house looks smart and is lovely and warm in winter. It's a real joy to know everybody's names, and see children play out on the street. The project gave us more than just a house, we've got great neighbours and a place to live that is sustainable for the long term.

"We're really pleased to see the church and derelict land around it come back to life, it all looks so beautiful. We are delighted to welcome more people into the neighbourhood knowing they have had support from HPBC to create their own homes. We can't wait for our next street party with even more neighbours!"

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

DEAN WARD, DW FINANCIAL SERVICES

Dean's contribution in offering expert independent financial advice and supporting both the home partners and the charity over the last 8 years has been outstanding. At a strategic level he's worked tirelessly to get mortgage lenders on board...not an easy task when it's not just shared ownership mortgages but also the additional complex issue of getting them to accept the 'sweat equity' aspect!

Dean carried out the initial financial assessments for our charity on the many people applying, at no cost to either the charity or the applicants. He's not only supported the home partners who 'passed' the financial assessment in getting mortgage offers, but also given financial advice to others who weren't, for a number of reasons, applying for mortgages.

Its testament to Dean that many of the Kingsley Road and Alt Street home partners have sought his advice



Jon Lee, Ecology Building Society, and Dean Ward

and support when stair casing out.

Dean's support has been a huge factor in what's been achieved and we're delighted that he's now a member of the newly formed HPBC Advisory Committee.

JOHN CHRISTOPHER, WIENERBERGER

The completion of the 23 home Alt St project wouldn't have been possible without the donation from Wienerberger of engineering bricks (for the foundations), the roof tiles, and block paving for all the driveways. HPBC were extremely grateful that Wienerberger continued to support the work of the charity with the St Bernard's development donating yet more bricks, roof tiles, and block paving for driveways.

We'd like to take this opportunity to recognise the



Home partners working with donated block paving

outstanding contribution of Keith Barker, MD at Wienerberger, give extra special thanks to John for his unstinting support of the charity, and he and Lisa for liaising and organising the delivery of all the donated materials.



RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

BILL CHANDLER, FORMER HPBC TRUSTEE

Bill has made a significant contribution to the charity as a Trustee during the development of the St Bernard's project.

HPBC Founder & Chair, Shannon Ledbetter: "Bill's legal expertise and guidance was critical to the charity in the St Bernard's project. It's no exaggeration to say that without his 'free' legal advice and tireless work the charity wouldn't have



Bill and his son, Sean, helping on team builds



Bill making balloon 'animals' at the Alt St Eid Party

been able to consider taking on the project with our partners Onward Housing."

HPBC Chief Executive, Liza Parry: "Bill has been a source of great strength to me in many ways. His contribution as a Trustee has been immense, but he and his son Sean's attendance of the Team Build days, donating their sweat equity hours to home partners, was also exceptional. Bill's balloon skills at the street party celebrations also shouldn't go unmentioned!"

HPBC is delighted that despite Bill needing to step down as a Trustee he's continuing his involvement with the charity as a member of the Advisory Committee.

FELICITY WREN, HPBC TRUSTEE

We were all extremely saddened by Felicity's passing after her battle against Parkinson's disease. Felicity loved to inform people that she was 'the first person Shannon coerced into becoming a trustee for the charity' back in 2003.

She was a valuable person to have on board at the formation of the charity, with her enthusiasm and passion for improving the quality of life for the people of her beloved Liverpool. Her continued involvement over the years helped ensure that the charity progressed from a vision to the reality of building affordable homes, with her wide influence with countless organisations, fundraising and networking ability. She also delighted in utilising her skills in hospitality with team builds and organising social events for groups who travelled from overseas in order to showcase the city. She also volunteered

her time over a number of years as a member of the Family Selection Committee.

Felicity remained committed to the charity as a trustee and believed that part of her legacy, amongst her many gifts to artists, the civic society and the students of St Hilda's, was the 'beautiful community' she helped to create in Liverpool. Felicity will be greatly missed as a friend to the city of Liverpool, HPBC and to all of us who loved her.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW TRUSTEES:

We are proud to introduce you to three new HPBC Trustees...

Mary Anderson Active PR



Mary was one of the three founding directors of Active PR, Merseyside, and has been working with them for more than 25 years. Active PR specialises in media relations and property, and promotes a number of property developers. Throughout Mary's career she has promoted a number of leading home builders, guiding them strategically and helping them to build and improve their reputation in both traditional and social media.

Other services provided include event management, crisis management and award submissions.

Before moving into PR, Mary worked as a journalist for a press agency, and local radio and television. Mary is currently a director of an independent television production company which makes factual programmes for channels such as ITV, the BBC and Discovery Channel.

Mary brings a strong knowledge of the media, writing skills and the ability to oversee promotional activity on behalf of HPBC, helping us to secure media coverage in a variety of local, national and broadcast media.

Karen Rachel Kennedy

Karen is an active member of the Liverpool arts scene, being a poet, playwright, director and a semi-professional singer. Karen is also actively involved in Interfaith work, in Liverpool & throughout the Northwest of England.

Karen lived in the USA, where she worked for some of the largest American new home builders as a Senior Vice President of Sales & Marketing. Karen also served as a Board Director of the Southern California Building Industry Association and the ICA Organisation. More recently Karen spent 13 years working for Barclays Bank as a Senior Lending Specialist, in Liverpool and London, before being medically retired. Karen has a considerable knowledge of land

development & new home projects.

"I'm passionate about providing affordable housing for families. HPBC and the sweat equity model provide this and produce more cohesive and



L-R: Saba (Home Partner), Shannon (HPBC Chair) and Karen

productive communities. There's an exciting time ahead for HPBC with the prospect of further projects and I'm delighted to be involved in the planning of these."

Dr William Atherton

Bill is a Civil Engineer with nearly forty years' experience in science, construction and engineering. With a first class honours degree in the subject, he was an ideal candidate as teacher, then senior lecturer within the School of the Built Environment at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU).



His interest in physical modelling for the impact of waves on structures, in a number of applications including dam-break, tsunami and coastal defences, has led to many roles. He has

acted as a director of studies for a number of PhD students, undertaken research and consultancy. He has also presented research papers, international conferences and has been widely published in journals. Nominated for teaching awards, and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, a previous chair of the Institute of Civil Engineers local branch, Bill has taken early retirement from his most recent role as programme leader for HNC programmes and faculty research and admissions coordinator at LJMU. In addition to his role with HPBC, Bill is also a trustee for Mersey Counselling & Therapy Centre and a consultant for LJMU Research Ethics Committee.

Bill's civil engineering expertise, his knowledge, and enthusiasm will make him an invaluable member of the HPBC trustee team.

WHAT A JOURNEY...AND SO IT CONTINUES

The Reverend Dr Shannon Ledbetter, HPBC Founder and Chair



Shannon working on site with Chief Executive, Liza Parry

"The Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocese, in an extraordinary gesture, gifted St Bernard's Church and adjacent land to HPBC in 2018. The completion of the St Bernard's project was the culmination of many years of hard work and the securing of a wide variety of partners and supporters. The charity was thrilled that we were able to complete the two sites for the parish and wider community.

"Building the homes and a loving community fulfilled our original vision of improving the quality of life for those in Liverpool 8 and beyond. Without the



HPBC Chief Exec, Liza Parry, with members of the Liverpool RC Archdiocese

Archdiocese having had faith in our initial dream of building homes with volunteers/trainees and utilising the sweat equity of the future home partners, as well as creating a diverse and supportive community, the entire scheme would have never gotten off the ground.

"Personally, I am especially proud of this achievement and legacy. We were able to engage a number of partners and provided an uncompromising dedication to our home partners and the charity's ethos. Our Chief Executive, Liza, was tireless in her running of the charity, organising every team build for St Bernard's and working with the board to develop a strategy for moving forward.

"It has been a tremendous journey with the blessings far outweighing the challenges. I am so grateful to the board of trustees for their passion, and to Liza for her expertise and devotion on the ground to bringing the aims of the charity to life. I and the HPBC Trustees appreciate the invaluable



Fr Peter takes a tour of St Bernard's with local parishioners

work and support of the Family Selection Committee. Paula, Hannah, Martin, Alex and Joyce volunteered many, many hours interviewing all applicants and writing up reports. Their experience and knowledge was invaluable to the charity and their care has undoubtedly helped in the forming of the community. The future holds a number of exciting prospects and HPBC is very much looking forward to continuing this journey.

"Ultimately, though it is all for our amazing home partners who commit to building theirs and their neighbours' homes and seeing them become a loving community in all of its beautiful diversity that has made this project worthwhile."