

News

IN BRIEF

Global day of prayer event

THE Women's World Day of prayer will take place on Friday, March 2 at Scartho Methodist Church.

Beginning at 7.30pm all are welcome to attend, including men and this year's theme is All God's Creation Is Very Good and will be centred around conservation.

The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname.

Women all over the world will be joining in with the global day of prayer and refreshments will be provided afterwards.

It's coffee time

ST PETER'S Church, Holton-le-Clay, will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday, March 3, from 10am to noon.

Entrance is 50p including tea, coffee and biscuits.

There will be a tombola, books and bric-a-brac stalls in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

So why not pop along and join in the fun?

More information from Margaret on 01472 590896.

Freestyle fun

ENJOY freestyle dance with Rosita Bird to the music of the 60s, 70s and 80s at Scartho community library.

Every Thursday from 4-5pm, £2, all welcome.



Firm investing millions in town snaps up the Fisherman's Cottages

GALAXY OF HOMES BUY HISTORIC PROPERTIES AT THE SQUARE

By Connor Lynch

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A COMPANY that is investing millions in refurbishing homes in North East Lincolnshire has purchased the historic fishermen's cottages at The Square.

Galaxy Of Homes, a property development and investment company that has spent millions refurbishing derelict and unwanted properties in the Grimsby area, has bought ten of the historic flats for £225,000, planning to give them a complete make-over.

The Peterborough based company, run by husband and wife team Vikash and Madhurita Jayaswal, has so far spent £9 million refurbishing 130 homes in Grimsby, and has plans to invest a further £13 million in another 200 by the end of the year.

The Square, which was owned by the Grimsby Sailors and Fishing Charity (GSFC), is made up of 20 linked single storey homes, with a further ten properties on Castle Street. It was occupied in the town's fishing heyday by mariners, including many who worked on the trawlers.

However, over the years, as the industry has declined, the one-bedroom homes have

become less popular, with high vacancy rates.

Now Galaxy Of Homes are very excited to bring the properties back into full use after a spell of low-occupation, except this time it will be open to all clients, not just retired fishermen.

Vikash and Madhurita have said that they are "thrilled" to have bought this "wonderful piece of Grimsby's history" and have pledged to completely redevelop the properties, providing bigger bedrooms, new kitchens and a complete refurbishment of the heating and water systems to bring the flats into the modern era.

They say that they will begin work on The Square as soon as they receive the keys in just under a month's time, and expect the redevelopment work to take two to three months.

Vikash said: "We are very excited for this opportunity to refurbish a wonderful piece of Grimsby's history."



"We are going to be doing a full refurbishment of the properties providing new kitchens, bathrooms and bringing everything there into the modern era."

"We currently have a budget of £100,000 to spend on the properties, and after the refurbishment we will be opening them up for rental again, in line with the vision of our company which is to provide safe and affordable housing that benefits and uplifts the local community."

"We understand that there are still some residents in the nearby apartments, and we have stressed to our staff that our work will have to be sympathetic to this, so as we don't cause any undue disorder."

The apartments were sold at a special property auction held on Wednesday, at the Doncaster Rovers Stadium.

They were auctioned by leading property agents Jackson, Green And Preston who set out a guide price of £200,000.

The bidding was said to have been very competitive amongst the groups who were eyeing up the properties, with bids starting at £100,000 and reaching £220,000 before Galaxy Of Homes snapped it up.

Graham Johnston, general manager of the GSFC, said that he was very pleased that the properties have been sold, as the charity will now use the monies raised to reinvest back into improved accommodation.

He said: "I came into my role two years ago and had been disappointed with the standard of accommodation at The Square, as they were originally intended as bedsits for those in the fishing community."

"If we were able to rent them out to anyone outside of that community they would have been filled a few times over, and now hopefully some work will be done and they will be available to the wider public."

Madhurita and Vikash Jayaswal, of Galaxy Of Homes, during the presentation at the Humber Royal Hotel, Grimsby, about the renovation of homes on the east and west marsh areas of Grimsby.

GALAXY OF HOMES
(Bringing BTL to the Masses)



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