

For immediate release

TALES OF CHRISTMAS PAST – SEASONAL TALK AT ST MATTHEW HOUSING'S THE MALTHOUSE PROJECT

Dr Pat Murrell, a local historian, will give a seasonal talk on 'The Victorian Christmas: late 1830s - 1900' at 7.30pm on Wednesday 3 December 2008. The event will take place at St Matthew Housing's The Malthouse Project, 8 Elsey's Yard, Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3AA.

This slide-illustrated talk will look at the 'traditional' Victorian Christmas and how elements of 19th Century festivities are still evident and enjoyed today.

There will be refreshments, including the chance to sample a mince pie made from an authentic Victorian recipe!

The funds raised from this event will be donated to St Matthew Housing, a charity providing accommodation and support to people who are homeless or unsuitably housed. St Matthew Housing is part of Genesis Housing Group.

- Ends -

Tickets cost £5.00 and to book, please ring 01284 732550 or email bookings@themalthouseproject.co.uk. Alternatively, pop into the Kiln Café at The Malthouse Project to purchase your tickets.

For further information on St Matthew Housing or The Malthouse Project, please contact:
Sarah Yarrow, Communications Officer, on: 01284 732574 /
sarah.yarrow@stmatthewhousing.org. Visit: www.themalthouseproject.co.uk

For further information on Genesis Housing Group, please contact Diana Evans, press officer, on: 020 8150 4178 / diana.evans@ghq.org.uk. Visit www.ghq.org.uk

Notes to editors

Dr Pat Murrell is a late Stuart and Georgian historian native to Bury St Edmunds. Regularly lecturing locally on a wide range of topics some of her earlier years were spent in the brewing industry working as a laboratory assistant and for a short while as an archivist at Greene King.

The Malthouse Project is owned by St Matthew Housing (SMH), part of Genesis Housing Group. SMH provides accommodation for people who are homeless or unsuitably housed. The Malthouse Project officially opened in September 2007 providing a café, heritage centre, community rooms to hire and accommodation for local people with a general housing need. The Project also provides

opportunities for residents and services users from SMH and other support agencies to gain work experience and training qualifications in the café. All income generated from The Malthouse Project funds the social objectives of the project.

Genesis Housing Group is a social investment business. It provides homes and services, supporting customers and communities to build futures. Genesis provides homes and services to tens of thousands of people across London and the south east of England. The Group consists of PCHA, Pathmeads, Springboard and St Matthew housing associations. Genesis also has in its group a charitable foundation, Genesis Community. It is one of the largest and most diverse housing groups in the UK, owning and/or managing more than 38,000 homes. Its overriding aim is to put customers first and provide excellent service to all.