

Media Release

“A new life, that’s what Kenward’s given me...
Before Kenward it felt like I was in hell”

A new film about the work of the Kenward Trust has just been produced. At the heart of the film are the honest testimonies of several Kenward ‘graduates’ who explain how the charity helped them to battle terrible addictions to drink and drugs.

Del, Endel, Barry, Matt, Kate, Donna and Mickey talk earnestly and honestly about their lives ‘before and after’ Kenward. You can see the film now at www.kenwardtrust.org.uk/videos.

The dedicated Kenward staff have transformed the lives of thousands of people battling addiction, since opening the doors of **Kenward House** (Yalding) in 1968. Established by the late Ray a Violet Sinden, the charity has always maintained its Christian ethos, summed up thus: everyone deserves a second chance. Its nationally-recognised combination of professionalism and compassion enables individuals from all over the UK to recover from severe substance misuse problems.



The charity now has three first stage residential recovery projects in Yalding (**Kenward House** and **Kenward Barn**) and Hawkhurst (**Naomi** – women only), one second stage project in Uckfield (Malthouse) and three final stage or “**Move on**” houses in Maidstone, Southborough and Gravesend. Former residents, or “graduates”, of these projects speak with honesty on film about rebuilding devastated lives with the help of the key working, group therapy and one-to-one counselling Kenward provides.

The current economic climate has highlighted the great need for donations to charities such as Kenward, as rehabilitation units throughout the UK continue to close down. All donations made to the Kenward Trust go directly towards providing bedrooms, meals and the vital rehabilitation programmes which mean that the stories of Del, Endel, Barry, Matt, Kate, Donna and Mickey end in recovery from addiction to alcohol and narcotics.

From hell to a new life.

To support the Kenward Trust call 01622 814187 or email fundraising@kenwardtrust.org.uk .

Quotes

“The excellent work of the Kenward Trust is clearly providing many people with the opportunity of transforming their lives. Having recently lost a brother to alcoholism, it is heartening to witness such a committed and professional organisation making a difference.”

Peter Midwinter, Principal at St Augustine Academy

*“I commend the work of the Kenward Trust shown in this film. It helped me understand the complexity of daily problems facing both staff and residents. Compassion and understanding are in evidence with each resident being treated with respect and helped with a programme geared to individual needs. The message is clear and simple: **Recovery Re-integration Resettlement.**”*

Cllr. Jane March – Cabinet member Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

ENDS
407 words

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In 1968, Ray and Violet Sinden opened the doors of Kenward House – in Yalding, near Maidstone – to homeless men in need of food, clothing, shelter and compassion.

The vast majority of those men were also suffering from an addiction to alcohol or narcotics, and the Kenward Trust soon became an expert in the field of residential recovery from addiction.

Today, the Kenward Trust offers the following services to people in great need of hope, support and a disciplined structure to their lives. Our staff ensure that the highest degree of professional experience and personal compassion combine to give men and women a genuine second chance in their lives:

- **Kenward House – first stage recovery for men**
YALDING, Kent
The House is an abstinence-based, residential project for up to 31 men in recovery from drug and/or alcohol addiction. It uses a cognitive (behavioural) approach combining a variety of work activities, including group therapy, 12 Step based work, weekly personal goal setting and life skills development.
- **Kenward Barn – first stage recovery for men**
YALDING, Kent
The Barn is an abstinence-based, group-working residential project for up to 8 men in recovery from drug and/or alcohol addiction. It offers the 12 Step, cognitive and other treatment models, and is designed specifically for men who will benefit from a more intensive approach to rehabilitation.
- **Naomi – first stage recovery for women**
HAWKHURST, Kent
The Naomi project is an abstinence-based, residential recovery project for up to 9 women in recovery. It is an intensive, structured group working project dealing with the underlying issues of addiction. It operates by encouraging shared responsibility and helping the women to become their own support network.
- **Malthouse – second stage recovery for men**
UCKFIELD, East Sussex
The Malthouse is a unique project up to 8 men who have completed a suitable recovery programme, and who recognise that they would benefit from further work within a structured residential programme. It provides on-site training in numeracy, literacy and computer skills and encourages training, volunteering and community activities.
- **Move on – supported housing for men and women**
MAIDSTONE/SOUTHBOROUGH/GRAVESEND, Kent
There are three “Move on” houses in Kent, available to people who have completed a suitable recovery programme and need a place to live with support in order to sustain their recovery, relaunch their lives and reintegrate into the community. Regular support is offered through key working and weekly house meetings with the project manager.
- **Youth Services – education, prevention and intervention**
Kent-wide
This team works in partnership with local councils, schools, local safety partnerships, the police and youth organisations to help children and young people understand the facts about drink and drugs. The team also offers a ‘hot-spot’ service whereby they engage directly with young people who habitually drink alcohol or use drugs in public spaces.