



25 YEARS OF
REBUILDING LIVES FOR A
BRIGHTER FUTURE

2001

In February of **2001**, two organisations, Society of St Dismas (founded in 1962) and St Petroc Housing association (founded in 1972), merged to form Two Saints.

With St Dismas' expertise in substance misuse and St Petroc's expertise in programmes and IT, the two combined their expertise.

Under Simon Mantle, our then chief executive, we began as a transitional housing benefit organisation.



"It's remarkable what some understanding, help and support can do to a life."

- K, former client



2002

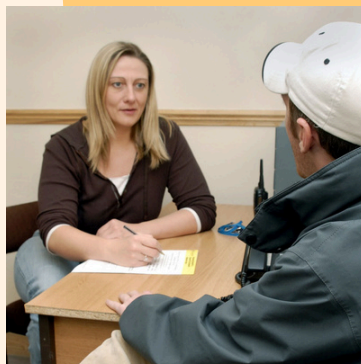


In **2002**, we opened a new wing at Hope House - our service in Portsmouth.

The wing would be used as an assessment centre.

We also purchased and opened Dene Court in Andover as a direct access service.

We introduced a floating support scheme to ease clients into independent living, and a sub-let scheme, offering permanent accommodation for former residents.



"I am so happy with the way my life has improved and I feel motivated and positive about the future. I'm so grateful for the support from Two Saints"

- J, former client



2003

In **2003**, funding through ‘Supporting People Funding’ was introduced.

We also bought a building in Portsmouth, and created our Cumberland Road service.

Our central services office moved base from Fareham Heights, to Waterside Gardens.

We set up a diversity group, ensuring that all staff were treated with respect and dignity, regardless of background.



“ Thank you to all the Two Saints team for all the help you give people like me. You are appreciated more than you know.”

- L, former client

2004

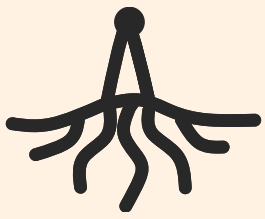
In **2004**, we successfully negotiated Supporting People funding to develop and improve our services.

We advocated for our staff to receive free access to NVQs in Housing, Care, Community Justice & Promoting Independence, with greater numbers advancing to the level 3 award.

We opened our service on Gosport Road, Fareham for direct access.



“Two Saints gave me a room, but more importantly they are helping me to get my life back on track.”
- K, former client



2005



In **2005**, we purchased and started redevelopment of Prospect Court, a service in Andover.

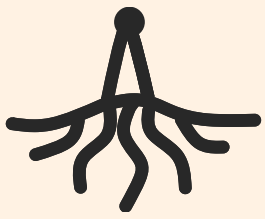
Gosport Road officially opened, and became more widely accessible.

We implemented our Learning Strategy, in which the in-house provision of education and training was enhanced so any client, at any site, can access learning support and break the cycle of homelessness, unemployment and substance misuse.



“Two Saints staff gave me the confidence and the stability to start to turn around and get my life back on track.”

- J, former client



2007



In **2007**, Hampshire County Council awarded us the first Supporting People Charter Mark for our work involving residents with the running of the Acton Lodge.

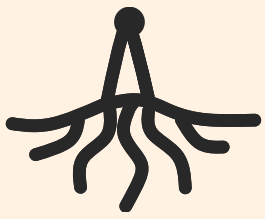
Due to the rise in quality of our services, we won a contract for Patrick House, a direct access service in Southampton.

We developed new floating support contracts in Andover, Test Valley, the New Forest and Basingstoke.



“If I could go back to my teenage years when I was homeless, I would have told myself to not give up.”

- L, former support worker



2008

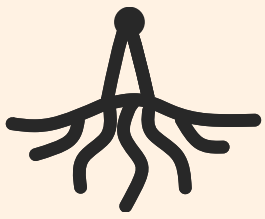
In **2008**, the Big Lottery Fund awards Two Saints' hard work with a £250,000 grant.

For the following three years, the award was partly used to fund The Base, a facility at Newtown Road, Newbury which provided clients with meaningful activities, learning opportunities, positive community engagement and skills for employment. Our Dene Court service was extended to provide extra bedrooms and emergency accommodation.



“Not only did I have a roof over my head, my own room and three hot meals a day, but I found support and friendship with the terrific staff there.”

- J, former client



2009



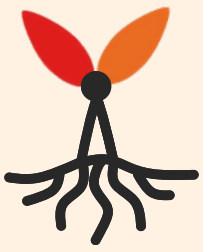
In **2009**, the Board renewed its strategic objectives, committing the organisation “to significantly improve the lives of those who’re homeless or vulnerable through the provision of high-quality, effective, reliable housing, support and learning services.”

We secured £776,000 of funding via the Places for Change programme for the redevelopment of the Day Centre and Patrick House, both in Southampton.



“I just encourage people not to give up and to believe in themselves, which is very hard when you are homeless.”

- L, former support worker



2010

In 2010, our team at Gosport Road organised a sleep out to raise awareness of our cause.

The site was attended by the Lord Mayor Roger Allen, and Lady Mayoress Jill Allen.

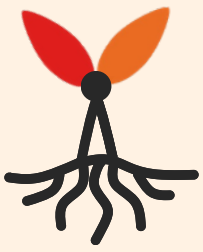
In the midst of the excitement of the 2010 World Cup, some of us went to sleep dreaming of a victory for England!

We also launched our magazine, Involve, which kept our stakeholders up to date.



“Firstly, to get your head together you need to have a roof over it.”

- P, former client



2011



In **2011**, we were moving on up in the digital world.

We launched our new official website, and our Facebook page, both of which still operate today.



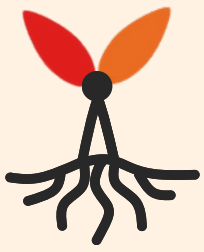
Some of our services received awards for excellent service from our Project Assessment Team.



We received the CIPR Gold award for our magazine, Involve.

“When I was an addict, I was constantly looking for a sense of security. But Two Saints have helped me to be comfortable with change and with myself.”

- J, former client

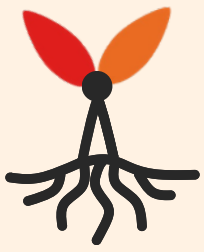


2012

In **2012**, we joined the Real Lettings Programme, a partnership between Two Saints and private landlords that provided move-on options for clients.



“We had such an emphasis on quality, and were not prepared to drop our standards for any reason.”
- Andrew Cobb, former Chair of the Board



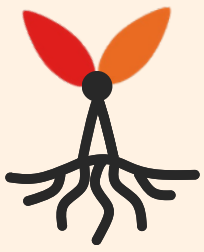
2013



In **2013**, we held our first ever Christmas party at the Southampton Day Centre, a tradition that lives on to this day.



“Both management and colleagues served alongside me with such commitment and heart.”
- Josephine Spire, former recovery worker



2014

In **2014**, we welcomed Steve Benson as our new chief executive.

Steve led the organisation through a period of remarkable growth and transformation.

Under his visionary leadership, we nearly doubled in size and expanded the breadth of our supported housing services.

We opened a pilot service for hospital patients in Southampton.



“The role I’ve enjoyed most in my career is leading Two Saints. My work here has affected more lives than any other.”

- Steve Benson, on his time at Two Saints



2015



In **2015**, we opened self-contained flats in Newbury, moving clients into independent living.

The flats were named Gibbs Terrace after a long-standing staff member who worked at our service on Newtown Road, Newbury.



We also implemented a new logo - the iconic rainbow flower.



We hosted our first ever Big Get Together, allowing clients and staff to meet up and have some fun.

"I like our logo - those lovely bright petals encapsulate the positivity we demonstrate."
- Hilary Clifford, board member



2016

In April **2016**, we started delivering social inclusion services across Hampshire.

We opened a young people's service in Worthing.

Some of our Gosport Road clients received qualifications in emergency first aid, and food and hygiene training. The clients and their achievements were celebrated in a graduation ceremony hosted by staff.



"I thank Two Saints for the work they do supporting people at some of the hardest moments in their lives, they do it with a level of commitment that deserves admiration."

- Josephine Spire, former recovery worker



2017



In **2017**, we worked alongside Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council on a service supporting clients into private rented accommodation. This service successfully supported clients saving the local authorities more than £5,000 per week.



We also purchased properties in Southampton, introducing support for young parents and their children at Miriam House, Devonia Villas, Oxford Road, and Spring Crescent.



“What made us stand out above the rest was that we were never afraid to take a risk for our clients – to help people.”

- Andrew Cobb, former Chair of the Board



2018

In **2018**, we began delivering services on the Isle of Wight after we merged with the Real World Trust in July.

Our clients got up to all sorts of fun, including a football tournament!



“I was genuinely struck by the high energy friendliness that I was met with as soon as I walked through the door. It was really tangible.”

- Hillary Clifford, board member



2019



In **2019**, we opened Safe Haven in Newport, providing support for adults experiencing mental health crises.

We partnered with VIVID, a large regional housing association to create more affordable housing.



We extended the range of services we offer to homeless people in Portsmouth. After winning new contracts earlier in the year we now provided mental health services, as well as accommodation and support in the city.



“I was proud to be part of this team and to have helped launch amazing properties to provide a place to live for local homeless people.”

- A, former asset manager



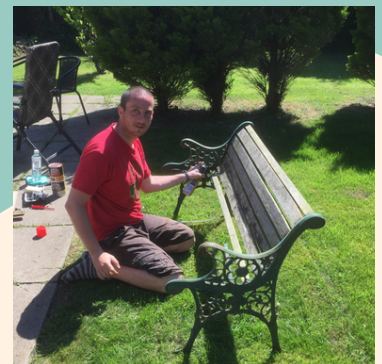
2020

In **2020**, we expanded our services to Wokingham and Basingstoke.

We bought and refurbished Brent House, our service in Havant.

We supported our clients through a global pandemic by organising temporary hotel accommodation as part of the *Everyone In* campaign.

We gratefully received donations from local businesses from snacks to face masks.



“I joined Two Saints in the height of the pandemic and the first thing that struck me was the commitment shown by the staff bravely providing front line care.”

- A, former asset manager



2021



In **2021**, our Newbury service hosted a bake-off, where staff and clients competed to create the best bakery treat.

Our Portsmouth service organised a summer barbeque, treating clients to a lovely meal.

We set up our Client Engagement Team, a group of former and current clients who volunteer to build client engagement across our services.

We moved our Central Services to Fareham House in the centre of Fareham.



“Meeting the Client Engagement Team was an important moment for me at Two Saints... It's amazing to hear their experiences - it reminds me why we're doing what we're doing.”

- Sarah Frost, board member.



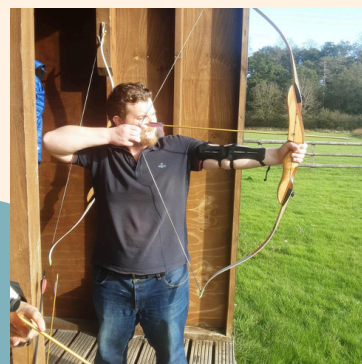
2022

In **2022**, we developed our Isle of Wight mental health service to allow it to continue operating out of hours.

We also purchased five more properties on the island and began the development of our services.

We managed several eco-friendly pods in East Hampshire.

Our service in Wokingham organised a big client day out, with a whole host of activities from wall climbing to archery.



“Developing our island services wasn't an easy project; it was an excellent example of collaborative working bringing together all parts of the organisation.”

- A, former Asset Manager



2023



In **2023**, Steve Benson stepped down as our chief executive, and we welcomed Richard Gammage as his successor.

We received our first cyber security accreditation, a testament to the hard work of our IT department.

We opened Pinewood Lodge, the UK's first housing project that repurposed a community building by constructing a set of self-contained pods inside of it.



“The team’s encouragement, along with the guidance and collaborative environment fostered, is much appreciated.”

- Josephine Spire, former recovery worker



2024

In **2024**, we introduced our services to Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole.

Richard Gammage stepped down as our chief executive, and Janice Hughes stepped up as his successor.

Our executive director of people and property, Paula-May, took to Parliament to ensure measures to combat homelessness were on the agenda for the election.



“Organisations like ours go through lots of challenges... but the team handle that really well, adapting to the challenges that we're facing.”

- Ronak Kantaria, board member



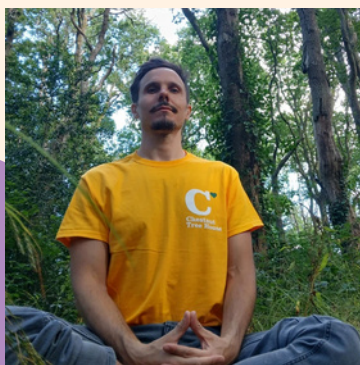
2025



In **2025**, we opened the Night Life Cafe in Partnership with City Life Church. Based in our Day Centre, the cafe offers hot food, a safe space, and community support every evening during the week.



We partnered with Myra's Story, a play about an Irish woman and her battle with the cycles of alcoholism and homelessness. Our volunteers managed to raise over £1,000 in our collection buckets at the end of each performance.



"I was struck by the people... with the total commitment in particular. It really brings it home, and I am hugely impressed and in awe of what they do."

- Tony Quigley, board member



2026

In **2026**, we turned 25 years old. Our chief executive, Janice Hughes, had this to say:

“To look forward I have first looked back. Our success and the growth we’ve had over the years is because we care about the futures of the people we support. Our staff are testament to that.

Change is coming and we’re ready to embrace it. We’ve remained strong and financially resilient and are now able to look forward to new opportunities.”



“ Supporting people through complex systems and real-life challenges is not for the faint of heart, but Two Saints tackles this every day with grit.”
- Josephine Spire, former recovery worker



Looking forward

What does the future hold for Two Saints?

Right now, we're redeveloping our service at 210 Newtown Road in Newbury. The site is being redesigned from a traditional hostel model to clustered arrangements of accommodation.

Our Strategy objectives:

We've got ambitious plans to improve client services, provide better and more properties, and be an employer where people grow and learn.





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