



# The **WORLD** in our street

Interview with

## Robin and Prue Wendt

Prue and Robin lived in Upton for 27 years but several years ago Prue unfortunately had a stroke so their daughter found Bowling Green Court which seemed to be an ideal place for them to move to. They moved in on August 19<sup>th</sup> 2013. They believe that this is one of the best things they have ever done – there is a high degree of independence and separateness.

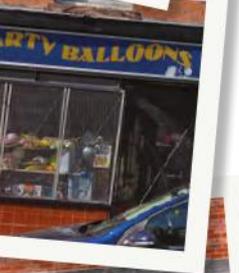
Robin is a retired public official, he spent 10 years as Chief Executive as Cheshire County Council and is currently involved with the CWAC Citizens Advice which is an amalgamation of the offices in Chester, Northwich, Ellesmere Port and Winsford. He has also been a Deputy Lieutenant of Cheshire since 1990. Prue has been very involved in voluntary work in Chester and particularly in the Chester Music Society, the archaeological society, Civic Trust, United Nations Association, Chester Voluntary Action and the Chester World Development Forum.

At Bowling Green Court there is a full time manager, 5 Duty Managers who take it in turns to work 24 hour shifts, and then the housekeeping assistants who are all part-time. There are approximately 10 women who are housekeeping assistants who basically can offer personal care etc. It is excellent that Prue can get help in getting up in the morning and then some cleaning will be done. There are also two part-time chefs and one part-time gardener.

Today there are 51 people are living in the Court and 7 apartments are empty due mainly to recent deaths (sad, but bound to happen in an elderly community).

There are lots of activities offered at Bowling Green Court which residents can avail themselves of such as Film night on a Friday, music afternoon on a Wednesday and various coffee mornings.

The Wendts own the leasehold of 25 Bowling Green Court and the freehold is owned by the company.





**BROOK STREET**

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There are 30 courts owned by the company and they are all well managed and it is a requirement that a hot meal is provided every day should residents wish to purchase this. There are 49 flats and the majority are occupied by single females, currently there are only about 8 couples. It is very quiet and feels very safe. For those who are able bodied, it is so close to town with lots going on. Robin still drives and uses the car a couple of times a week and they now have a blue badge which has proved very helpful for Pru.

They do a lot of their shopping in the street, particularly at McColl's and use the post office from which they have a newspaper delivered and once a week they go the café opposite the mural.

They are very hopeful that the Brook Street carnival will return in 2017. They are very aware of the multicultural nature of the street and see this as a very positive attraction and they have really enjoyed moving here. They do miss their garden in Upton and they had some really good neighbours but they love it here and there are so many different languages. Robin feels that in a perfect world there would be no traffic down the street.

