

## 125 years of caring for Anglicans

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of the College of St Barnabas, a purpose-built Anglican retirement and convalescent home, and is providing timely publicity for a much-needed fundraising drive.

The College provides a home for 63 former missionaries and older clergy. It was founded by a former Missionary, Canon William Cooper, who returned to the UK in poverty and poor health and came across others in the same boat.

Determined to do something to alleviate the suffering, William set up the college in 1895 to make sure that no-one eligible is ever turned away for lack of means.

However, pre-dating the setting up of the Church of England Pensions Board Homes, the College is financially independent of the Church of England, and needs to actively raise funds in order to achieve its charitable aims and objectives.

Mike Herbert, the College's Head of Fundraising, is leading by example and doing a 125km sponsored walk from Gravesend to Eastbourne at the end of March.

Speaking about St Barnabas he said:

"The College does a great job in helping vulnerable elderly people in need. It is clearly worth supporting, and because of the continuing demand it needs our help as much now as it ever did in Cooper's day."

Fr Barry Thorley, a current resident of the College, added his support:

"St Barnabas has been a life-saver.

"I'm no good at trowelling sentiment, but it's hard to exaggerate how much this place means to me."

If you would like to help the College by sponsoring Mike, you can do so [here](#).

For more information about the College, please contact Fr Kevin Scully via [warden@collegeofstbarnabas.com](mailto:warden@collegeofstbarnabas.com) or 01342 870260.