



## Impact News - 16/04/26

Stereotypes / Doreen's Story / Music Event Takes Shape

### The Story of Doreen \*

Doreen had worked until retirement age and was living happily. Then a family member let her know they were struggling and she offered to move to live with them and help.

She was living in a caravan in the family members garden and was happy enough, she was willing and able to help and felt valued.

Then things became difficult, the family member became more troubled and the relationship between them grew strained to the point that Doreen didn't feel safe anymore.

She packed up what she could from the caravan and returned to Kingston in the hope of rekindling her old life, but she had fallen through an administrative crack. Her application for council housing (available to people who have lived in the borough for 5 continuous years) was rejected due to the time spent with her family member out of the borough and the clock had been reset.

Additionally, the experience doesn't have to end stereotypically, the work we do is to arrest the traumatic process before anyone gets there. Through our expert advice, network of supporters, agencies and other charities, our night shelter and our supported accommodation, as well as the safe, contemplative, supportive space to consider a person's substance use, the rounded, holistic

Through her time in the project, Doreen lived with multiple housemates each with their own stories and traumas, and always maintained balanced and pleasant relationships with everyone, regardless of background and circumstance.

As we waited for the years to pass, we were able to assist her in gaining pension credit to protect her savings and after a while, through our network of partners, we were able to find an affordable self-contained flat. Now aged 87, she over the moon with her current accommodation and continues to live a healthy, vivacious, independent life.

name changed \*

### Music Event - KCAH Fest!

I've been holding my nerve this week waiting for bands to drop in and confirm their slots at our music event and then the magic happened! By reaching out to friends, supporters and the amazing Kingston community we have booked our first 3 acts for the night! We have the amazing young indie band Burn, legends of punk Steranko and the raw, honest sound of singer/songwriter Tommy Rodger, check them all out below, tickets go on sale soon as we add more to the line up. Keep an eye on our social media for updates as well as that all important launch!

Steranko

Burn

Tommy Rodger

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