



Thorngate Almshouse Trust

# *Thorngate Living*

Housing schemes

## Thorngate Living – housing schemes

Thorngate Almshouse Trust is a modern and progressive charitable registered social landlord, offering independent assisted living and residential care from three locations in Gosport, Hampshire.

Thorngate Living is all about enjoying the benefits, comfort and security of independent living within a friendly, supportive and respectful neighbourhood; the sort of neighbourhood where people know their neighbours' names, smile and say hello to each other. And all our communities are within easy walking distance of local shops and have excellent public transport links.

The Trust manages 111 sheltered flats for assisted living. Thorngate Living flats are available to singles and couples of limited means, who are over 55 and who have a connection with the Gosport area. Uniquely all our flats benefit from 24 hour resident wardens.

The Thorngate Living in-house professional maintenance team ensures that any maintenance or repair work is carried out to an excellent standard. The uniformed team is known to residents and inspires trust, confidence and the knowledge that all work is completed quickly and with the absolute minimum of inconvenience.

The Trust is committed to providing the highest standards of care coupled with the highest standards of accommodation and communal facilities.

### Thorngate Living wardens

A key feature of Thorngate Living is the reassurance of full-time, on-site, resident wardens at each of the Trust's properties. This means that friendly, approachable staff are there to help with everyday matters such as arranging maintenance, deliveries and ensuring that the buildings stay secure at all times. In addition they can give guidance on local services and can help with making sure that you have support from the appropriate agencies should this be necessary. It should be noted however that wardens are not care staff and cannot take the place of carers or family members.

### How we can help

#### Sheltered housing

If you or a relative are looking for sheltered housing or retirement living in Gosport you may be eligible for one of our sheltered flats. These have 24 hour wardens and are situated on three sites in Gosport; Elizabeth Court on Camden Street, Thorngate Court on Inverness Road and Melrose Gardens, off Station Road. There is a straightforward application process and we encourage a pre-application visit to one of our sheltered flats.

Why not arrange to see one of our flats? Call Stella Crampton on 023 9253 4999 or visit [thorngate.org.uk](http://thorngate.org.uk) to find out more about enjoying Thorngate Living.



## Our properties

### Elizabeth Court

Elizabeth Court, situated in Camden Street, is a modern block of 42 one bedroom flats purpose built for retirement living. The gardens are an attractive feature of the complex and there is parking for residents and visitors.



### Thorngate Court

Thorngate Court was completed in 1984 and is situated in Inverness Road. It comprises 47 one bedroom flats divided into six blocks set in attractive gardens. Car parking is available for residents and visitors. The central block houses the communal laundry facilities and lounge.



### Melrose Gardens

The Melrose Gardens sheltered housing scheme consists of two blocks of eight one-bedroom flats in Clare House and Bagot House, and one block of four flats in Goyda House. On the perimeter of the site there are an additional two flats adjacent to Station Road. Russell Churcher Court, with its restaurant and catering facilities, is also located at Melrose Gardens and there are pleasant lawns, gardens and ample car parking.

All Thorngate Living flats are double glazed and are complete with fully fitted modern kitchens including cooker and refrigerator. Telephone points and TV sockets are provided and residents can take advantage of the concessionary TV licence scheme. Connections to cable television are also available to residents who wish to pay for this service.

Included in the weekly charges are 24 hour warden cover and fully serviced retirement accommodation including gas central heating, hot water, water rates, free laundry facilities, lifts or stairlifts to first floor accommodation and guestrooms for the convenience of visitors.

All our sheltered living properties have pull cord warden call system and secure outer doors.

The well-tended communal gardens are a key feature of our assisted living properties and residents have the option of cultivating their own garden plot should they wish.

## Why move into sheltered accommodation?

There are many advantages to be gained from living in sheltered accommodation.

- Retaining your privacy and independence with your own front door to a flat into which you have brought your own furniture and possessions.
- Security and peace of mind knowing that a resident warden is on duty 24 hours a day.
- Skilled Thorngate Living repairs and maintenance staff are on-site to deal with any repairs needed in your home.
- You can meet your neighbours in the residents' lounge, enjoy the gardens and take part in any of the social activities that interest you.

Thorngate Almshouse Trust is a registered provider with the Homes and Communities Agency and complies with the Government's Decent Homes Standard.

## Contact details

To discuss whether you might enjoy the benefits of Thorngate Living, get in touch today:

Stella Crampton  
Housing Manager  
Administration Office  
Clare House  
Melrose Gardens  
Gosport  
Hampshire PO12 3BZ

Tel: 023 9253 4999  
Email: [info@thorngate.org.uk](mailto:info@thorngate.org.uk)





## Almshouses

Almshouses are a special sort of housing charity, regulated by the Charity Commission. Larger almshouse charities like Thorngate, may also be Registered Social Landlords (also called Registered Providers) and are therefore also regulated by the Housing Regulator, the Homes and Communities Agency. If they provide residential care, as does Thorngate Almshouse Trust at Russell Churcher Court, they are also registered with, and regulated by, the Care Quality Commission.

The history of almshouses can be traced back to the 10th century where the terms *bedehouse*, *hospital*, *maison dieu*, *almshouse* and others described the provision of accommodation for those in need. The first recorded almshouse was founded by King Athelstan in York in the 10th Century, and the oldest still in existence is thought to be the Hospital of St Oswald in Worcester that dates from circa 990. By the middle of the 1500s, there were about 800 mediaeval hospitals spread

across the country but following the dissolution of the monasteries, only a handful remained, and these were re-founded on secular lines, and rebuilt in the new domestic collegiate style.

Currently there are around 1,700 groups of almshouse charities in the United Kingdom today, most offer sheltered housing to those in need, but a few like Thorngate, offering both housing and care.

## Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court

The Trust also owns and manages a comfortable modern residential care home providing 24 hour care for 44 residents in self contained en-suite rooms. Those living with dementia are welcomed into a safe and caring environment with the highest standards of professional specialist care.

Visit [thorngate.org.uk](http://thorngate.org.uk) or call Yvonne Musgrove on 023 9252 7600 to find out more about Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court.



## History

As early as 1794 a William Thorngate is listed as trading as a grocer in Middle Street (the old name of Gosport High Street). William Thorngate's sons, John Batty and his younger brother William, were substantial local landowners. William also owned land jointly with Emmanuel Churcher, a local solicitor who founded 'Churchers' in Gosport High Street. These three gentlemen conveyed land to Trustees of the Thorngate Charities in 1866 and 1867 to enable almshouses to be built to accommodate 'poor women of good character, being spinsters or widows, of not less than 50 years of age'.

Thorngate Almshouse Trust was founded in 1868 by the Thorngate family. It was registered as a charity in its current form in 1981.

A redevelopment of the Trust's properties was carried out between 1971 and 1984 with further improvements in 2013 and 2014. The accommodation offered today consists of modern well-equipped one bedroom flats for retired single people and married couples.

Thorngate Almshouse Trust is run by a Board of Trustees and an executive management team. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission, the Homes and Communities Agency (as a social landlord) and the Care Quality Commission (for Russell Churcher Court).





## Thorngate Almshouse Trust

Providing comfort and security to those in need since 1868, and committed to developing the highest standards of housing and professional care in a supportive, respectful and friendly community.

### Our Values

To continuously develop the highest standards of care and accommodation for the elderly and frail in our community.

Encourage independence and individuality within a supportive, safe and friendly environment.

To foster and ensure inclusivity, diversity, responsibility and respect amongst our employees and residents in a stable and progressive workplace.

To be integral to the social fabric of Gosport and to benefit society through the involvement of young people and other local organisations.

**Ah!** Hillier Consulting  
Corporate Communications

## Thorngate Almshouse Trust

Tel: 023 9253 4999

Email: [info@thorngate.org.uk](mailto:info@thorngate.org.uk) | [thorngate.org.uk](http://thorngate.org.uk)

Clare House, Melrose Gardens, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 3BZ

Registered Charity No: 226587 | Homes & Communities Agency Registration No: A2394

