

# CTR NEWS



NOVEMBER 2016

*Churches Together in Rotherham*

*Our Unity is found in in our Diversity*

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## LIVES TRANSFORMED BY THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL IN ROTHERHAM

*A Message from CTR Leader John Bradwell*

Jesus speaks to Peter about building the Church on the Rock. We all know this from our reading of the Bible.

**Churches Together** organisations throughout the UK are the 'mortar' helping to connect and support the individual 'rocks' (which means Churches), providing significant communication among the local Christian churches and groups.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding examples locally is the **Lighthouse** which had its 'roots' when a young **Salvation Army** couple in Rotherham (*Majors Helen and Mark Wolstenholme*) began a small **Drop-In for the Homeless** in 1999. It soon developed into the **Sunday Night Cafe**, recognising there was a real need within our town. Out of this successful venture grew the **Rotherham Homeless Project** in 2000. This has since become **The Lighthouse Project**, caring and providing for over fifty women and men locally, often with alcohol/drug related problems.

*Out of small beginnings the town of Rotherham, through its Christian community, has seen lives transformed by the power of the Gospel.*

\*\*\*\* **CTR is holding a social event at the Italian Pizza Oven, High Street, Rotherham, at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 30th November, with YOUR OWN invited guests. Please make every effort to come along and enjoy fellowship with us. Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends, especially younger ones!! You just need to pre-book by contacting John Bradwell 07860 496211. Oh, and the pizzas are TWO for ONE before 7.00 pm!**

**PLEASE JOIN US**

**----- AND BOOK BY 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER!**



The ***Festival of Remembrance and Thanksgiving*** at **St. Paul's Church** is an additional **Celebration of Remembrance** of all those that have died in previous and current conflicts. The evening will comprise of wartime music, poetry, presentations, celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Parish of St. Paul's. Furthermore, a procession, Act of Remembrance and the reading of the Roll of Honour for St Paul's Parish will be the highlight of the evening.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Donations welcomed.**

***All proceeds will be donated to the Royal British Legion and St. Paul's Church.***

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## WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA AT CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE?

We hope that you can join in at the next **CTSY Forum** on '**God's Hope for Post-Referendum South Yorkshire**'.

This will take place on **Saturday 12th November 2016** at **St George's Church, York Street, Barnsley, S70 1BD**  
We look forward to seeing you!

Please reply to Tom via [ctsymeeting@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ctsymeeting@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.ctsy.org.uk](http://www.ctsy.org.uk)

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### CHRISTIAN BOOKS!

Whether it's a church service, a conference or some other special event, a relevant and tailored selection of Christian products will add value to what has been organised. It will also help you achieve your aims and will better equip the saints for service. You can run the bookstall or we can do it all for you (if we have someone available).

Used Bibles, Christian books and the occasional DVD and CD are available from CLC Bookshops, 103 West Street, Sheffield S1 4EQ  
Tel: 0114 2724663  
Email: [sheffield@clcbookshops.com](mailto:sheffield@clcbookshops.com)

***Whether it's a jewel for yourself or affordable books to give away and help someone mature in Christ, come and browse.***

***Needing to declutter your shelves? Bring us your surplus Bibles, Christian books, music and DVDs. Study books in particular are needed. Unsuitable, excess or slow-moving stock is given to Book Aid. Neither we nor Book Aid accept dated reading notes or hymn books, thanks. Why not collect a few of these books and arrange for one person from your church to take them by car to West Street in Sheffield? There is a lay-by outside CLC where you can unload your donations.***

***Do you have any questions? Contact CLC Bookshops, 103 West Street, SHEFFIELD, S1 4EQ***

***Tel (0114) 272 4662***

Email [sheffield@clcbookshops.com](mailto:sheffield@clcbookshops.com)

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## SAFE HAVEN @ TALBOT LANE



The **Rotherham Safe Haven** at **Talbot Lane Methodist Church** opposite the Town Hall, as most of our readers will know by now, is open on Friday Nights from 10.00 pm until, if necessary, about 4.00 am on the Saturday morning.

If you were to chat to the vast majority of those who have spent a while in the comforts of the **Safe Haven**, you would quickly be assured that it is a valuable resource in the town centre.

**Safe Haven** works alongside the Street Pastors and the Emergency Services, providing a warm drink, friendship and appropriate help to those vulnerable folk who need it.

Both Male and Female Volunteers work on a flexible rota basis, and these helpful folk do not only come from Talbot Lane. People from other churches are always welcome to offer their services, so if this tempts YOU, then please contact **Barrie Thomas**, the Rotherham Town Centre Chaplain on 01709 532203 for more information.

After speaking to members of Churches Together in Rotherham at the October meeting, Barrie would like to say a sincere 'thank you' on behalf of Safe Haven for the generous donation made on the night by those members.

\*\*\*\*\* If you would like to hear from Barrie first hand about **Safe Haven** and **Town Centre Chaplaincy**, he is willing to come along to your group to enlighten you further about **ROTHERHAM SAFE HAVEN**

**\*\*\*\*\* Another chance via Churches Together in South Yorkshire to attend one of Dr Chris Hewer's Study Days on *Understanding Islam***

**Chris Hewer**, a Christian, will be leading his introductory day on **Islam** in two different venues. Donations are welcome.

Both days are to help us begin to explore what **Muslims** believe. We will cover the following areas:

- ***Islam before the time of Muhammad***
- ***Standing before God***
- ***Building a Just Society***
- ***'Open House' – when Chris will respond to your questions***

To book your place, please contact **Rev Liz Wills** on 0114 2610732, or e-mail: [johnwills@callnetuk.com](mailto:johnwills@callnetuk.com)

To learn more about Chris and his work visit [www.chrishewer.org](http://www.chrishewer.org)

*Erica Dunmow*

*Ecumenical Mission and Development Officer*

*Churches Together in South Yorkshire*

*Clifton Court, Clifton Street, Sheffield S9 2DQ*

*part-time - core work day Tuesdays (phone and email will not be checked when not working)*

*phone number: 07905 047 230 email: [emdo.ctsy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:emdo.ctsy@yahoo.co.uk)*

*website: [www.ctsy@yahoo.co.uk](http://www.ctsy@yahoo.co.uk)*

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## **COME ON, VOLUNTEER FOR SOMETHING!**

***Volunteers are extremely numerous in Rotherham, which is one of the English towns with a high percentage of people who are prepared to go out of their way to help others.***



**Have you ever wondered what it is about volunteering that makes it so attractive and enjoyable to so many people?**

If you talk to those who are already volunteers they will soon be telling you about friendship, being supported, feeling welcome, feeling better in both health and disposition, seeing the delight on the faces of those being helped and, indeed, much more. Volunteers, you see, put a lot into what they do for others, but they also gain many benefits from volunteering.

The age factor is not really important, though it might be fair to say that the majority of volunteers are what you would say 'older rather than younger'. This does not in any way suggest that volunteers are 'past it', nor does it suggest that young folk do not volunteer. We know of many volunteers who have put in years of selfless and happy service for many years after retirement from paid work. We also know plenty of young folk who do a

valuable voluntary job while they are students. Many students soon realise that by volunteering they are making a valuable contribution to the local community at the same time as they are adding something very useful to their CV. Many students have clinched a great first career position because of what they had on their CV documentation.



Have **you** thought of doing something to help someone who needs an extra hand? How about doing some shopping, or cooking a meal, or mowing a lawn, or just having a chat with that person? It is all part of being a **volunteer**, and who knows if helping one person might just encourage you to **join a team of volunteers**. **And you can do any of this by contacting**



**Voluntary Action Rotherham on 01709834466**

***There are all sorts of opportunities available!***

***If you have access to the internet, log on to***

***[www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk)***

**ENJOY MAKING ROTHERHAM A BETTER PLACE**



***IT'S WHERE NEARLY ALL OUR READERS LIVE!***

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## **A MESSAGE FROM SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

***Help us to help your parishioners, a fund in support of women living in hardship***

*Things can happen in your life and you may need help paying for personal or household items that you can't cover.*

**South Yorkshire's Community Foundation** administers the Deakin and Withers Fund, which supports single, divorced or widowed women over the age of forty, living in hardship or facing financial difficulty. To apply, you must be a member of a church which is a member of Churches Together. The grant funding can support a range of essential household items or utility bills. If you are successful, the award is made by cheque within six weeks of receiving your application.

Each grant application is assessed on its own merits and help may be offered depending on individual circumstances. Most of our awards are for around £500.

For more information and to access an application form from **South Yorkshire's Community Foundation**, go to our website [www.sycf.org.uk](http://www.sycf.org.uk) or ring Karen Alsop on 01142429003 if you would like to discuss making an application.

**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE    WISE INVESTMENT    STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

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**PLEASE LET US KNOW OF EVENTS IN YOUR CHURCH  
WHICH ARE OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS**

**so we can advertise them for you!**





This year Rotherham is holding a **Festival of Angels** run jointly by **St James in Clifton** and **REMA based at the Unity Centre**.

We would like to encourage as many churches as possible to get involved in whatever ways they can. This might range from holding a Bible Study based on one of the passages from scripture that includes the presence of angels, through to holding an angel making workshop with children, displaying an **angel** (or lots of angels) outside your church or even entering an angel into our competition for the **BEST ANGEL IN ROTHERHAM!**

On **Friday 16th December** there will be a special community event in **Rotherham Town Centre** to celebrate all the angels that have been made, which will run **from 4pm to 6pm in the Minster Gardens**.

If anybody would like more details, please contact Revd Abi Thompson on [rev.abi.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:rev.abi.thompson@gmail.com)

# FESTIVAL OF *Angels*

Dear Lovely person reading this

We will be running a community based initiative over the Winter months to bring communities together positively.

Our theme is angels, and we want to involve and recognise as many people as community angels as well as display art pieces of interpretations of angels.

We will be running workshops throughout the communities creating angel based crafts and lanterns. Bringing people together in December and also in January to celebrate the Rotherham communities (dates coming soon). We hope you can support us and get involved - keep up to date by following us on

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LoveisLouderRotherham/>

The project launches on 25th September at St James Church at Clifton and will run until 2nd February throughout the borough.

The project has already attracted many community organisations and individuals. We look forward to actively working with you on this.

Many Thanks



Team Love is Louder





# FESTIVAL OF *Angels*

Can you make the best angel?

Lets see

Categories include

best angel off the ground (more that 1ft)  
best decorated shop front  
best angel by a community group  
best angel made from recycled materials  
best angel by a school  
best angel by a young person  
best angel by an aged person

all entries need to be in before Monday 5th December

submitted to the Unity Centre, St Leonards Road, Rotherham, S65 1PD

fpr more information follow face book

<https://www.facebook.com/LoveisLouderRotherham/>

or email [team@rema-online.org.uk](mailto:team@rema-online.org.uk)



**WELCOME TO**



**IN YORKSHIRE**

***Paul Furbey, our Regional Organiser, writes ---***

The Christmas Appeal will be centring on the Refugee Crisis this year. Sadly, this year we have not been able to obtain match funding from the Government. There is more available, including resources, at: <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas-appeal>

We have a special evening in **Sheffield on 14<sup>th</sup> November** when **Amy Merone**, the head of the European refugee crisis for Christian Aid, will be speaking. This promises to be a very good event and we'd love to see new people attending who haven't heard of our work. People can book a free place at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safe-place-to-call-home-roadshow-sheffield-tickets-27485267174>

I am continuing to try and meet with clergy and supporters across the region, with mixed responses. **We'd love to get churches involved this Christmas by holding a candlelit walk of witness for the Refugees crisis.**

**Speak Up** has been a great success in Rotherham, with **Sylvia Jordan** taking a lead to see **Sarah Champion MP**, and there was also a great event in Wickersley with **Kevin Barron MP** going along. In the Stocksbridge area yet another event saw the local **MP Angela Smith** in attendance. So, we covered nearly all the connecting constituencies to Rotherham this year, which is great news

**Contact CHRISTIAN AID**, Oxford Chambers, Oxford Place, Leeds, LS1 3AX

Telephone: 0113 244 4764 Email: [leeds@christian-aid.org](mailto:leeds@christian-aid.org)

Opening hours: Monday - Friday 9.30am-4.30pm

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## What's coming at the next meeting of Churches Together in Rotherham?



The next planned quarterly meeting of **Churches Together in Rotherham** will take place on **WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017** at the **ROTHERHAM HOLIDAY INN** in West Bawtry Road, starting at **7.00 pm**

You are all welcome to come along for this meeting, when **Majors Ashley and Nasreen Dawson of the Salvation Army** have agreed to tell us their story at our **January** meeting.

**\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE THIS! \*\*\*\*\***

***If you come by car, you MUST leave your REGISTRATION NUMBER at Reception. Otherwise you may incur a FINE. You have been warned!***

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Preparing a **newsletter** like this takes many hours, so we need to say that there is a **deadline date** for any news to be included in the **DECEMBER 2016** issue. THAT DATE IS **THE 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**.

Try hard not to be late! Thank you for your co-operation

*CTR appreciates your co-operation. We ask you to kindly pass on this newsletter to your friends. It is easy to forward it via e-mail. A printed copy for your church notice-board would also be appreciated.  
Thank you!*