

Charity No. 1093689

WINTER DRAWS ON!



The clocks have been turned back and the hours of darkness are increasing as the temperature decreases and we become mindful of our friends who are sleeping rough on our streets. Our intention is always to get as many people as we can out of the cold and into accommodation. However, experience tells us that this winter there will still be those who will find themselves sleeping outside for whatever reason and we will be doing all we can to make sure we keep them safe.

For the last two years we have appealed to you to 'buy a guy a breakfast' and, thanks to you, many of our genuine rough sleepers were able to access a hot breakfast and a mug of tea at the beginning of the day. This year we are appealing for money not just to buy a breakfast but also to make sure we can keep our cupboard stocked with all that is needed to keep a homeless person warm this winter. Details of this appeal and how you can help can be found on *page 4*.

Whether you are from a Church, a School a Corporate business or are just someone who really cares, we urge you to once again support our Winter Warmth Appeal and help us to keep all God's children safe on our streets this winter. Let's remember again that Jesus said:

"What you do for the least of these who are my children, you do for me."

The Revd Pat Southgate

Chair of Routes to Roots and Chaplain to the Homeless in Poole



Minister Meets Our Guys at the Drop-In

Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society, met R2R volunteers and the guys at the Skinner Street Drop-In on 18th October during a visit to Poole to see projects, which have been supported by the Community First funding for which he is responsible. Dorset Community First Foundation has funded our Holton Lee outdoor activity project. The visit was filmed by BBC South and shown on the local news that evening.

During his visit the Minister launched Corporate Community Giving - a new kite-marked scheme designed to help companies strengthen their Corporate Social Responsibility interests within a Venture Philanthropy Investment model. Pioneered by Dorset Community Foundation, the scheme aims to connect Dorset companies to the causes that matter to them.



Dorset Community Foundation is a leading provider of donor advisory and grant making services for companies, private individuals, charitable trusts and statutory bodies. The main focus of the Foundation's work is to provide independent expert advice that enables local companies to achieve their charitable aims.



FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mark Dallison

Mark Dallison, Routes to Roots volunteer, passed away in October this year and together we remember him with love. We were all blessed by his willingness to serve, his wisdom shared in humility, and his loving kindness to us all.

Mark volunteered every week for the afternoon Drop-Ins and, more recently, began helping in the Poole Outreach Support Team office where he calmly assisted the outreach workers in enabling homeless people back into accommodation.

We pray for Mark's family and friends as they grieve and are thankful to God that Mark found peace in his life, a quiet confidence and strength, which blessed him and continues to encourage us all.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR & TRUSTEE	Revd Pat Southgate
TREASURER & TRUSTEE	Sarah Percy
HON SECRETARY	Ann Tyson
TRUSTEE	Kate Mellor
MEMBER	Susan Gittins
MEMBER	Jenny Elson

OUTREACH WORKER	Liz Bailey *
ADMINISTRATOR	Caroline Foy *

MANAGEMENT SERVICES Gabi Sanger-Stevens *

Routes to Roots Office
Skinner Street URC, Skinner Street, Poole,
BH15 1QR
Tel: 01202 667880 / 07901 387643
office@routestoroots.org
www.routestoroots.org

Committee & Trustees elected at R2R AGM on 21 June 2012
* ex officio members of committee

Founded on Christian principles, and registered as a charity in 2002, Routes to Roots seeks to help all homeless people in Poole regardless of their faith. We hold drop-in sessions to provide immediate social and spiritual support as well as the basic necessities for life: food, clothing, a place to wash and a place to rest. We help to house rough sleepers and follow up to identify what each person needs to move forward and to maintain their housing and independent living.

OUR SUPPORTERS



...and many Church and Christian groups in Poole and the surrounding area.

SUPPORT & MOTIVATIONAL ACTIVITIES



R2R and BCHA Poole Outreach Support Team		
Service Users	1st Qtr end 30/06/12	2nd Qtr end 30/09/12
Rough Sleepers	26	24
Sofa Surfers	6	10
Outcomes		
Rough Sleepers	17	9
Planned Moves	12	16
Unplanned Moves	3	3
<p align="center">Afternoon Drop-Ins 361 Lunches Served in Sep and Oct 2012 (closed Aug) 40% rough sleepers - 40% sofa surfers - 20% others recently housed</p> <p align="center"><i>Skinner Street URC Church Hall</i></p>		
Average Attendance Mondays		22
Average Attendance Thursdays		21

Evening Drop-Ins 676 Hot Meals Served in Aug, Sep and Oct 2012	
40% rough sleepers - 40% sofa surfers - 20% others recently housed	
<i>Hill Street Baptist Church Hall and Skinner Street URC Church Hall</i>	
Average Attendance Tuesdays	25
Average Attendance Fridays	27

Gabi Sanger-Stevens

24-Hour Housing Support Service

Since 2009 the Poole Outreach Support Team (POST), formed in partnership with Bournemouth Churches Housing Association, has helped people to get off the streets and into safe accommodation.

Our Outreach Workers put rough sleepers in touch with services and agencies who can help them address a range of issues, such as debt problems, substance misuse or whatever has led them to living on the streets.

The Outreach Team are out and about in Poole between the hours of 6am and 8am, Monday to Friday. They operate drop-in style sessions between the hours of 10am and 12 noon, Monday to Friday, and can also accompany people to appointments as needed.

Contact POST: 07966 808802 / 07985 998904
Out of Hours, call the 24-hour support service, i-Support: 01202 410611

In the case of a housing emergency or should people require further information about their current tenancy, they should call Housing and Community Services:
Housing Advice Free Phone: 0800 0929710
Out of Hours: 0800 50 60 50

Holton Lee



The hard work of the guys participating in our 2012 outdoor activity project has already made a difference at Holton Lee.

Holton Lee is keen to continue and has suggested further activities such as building a log shed, making an allotment and planting an orchard. As this project continues, we hope to be able to offer AQAs which will add to the guys' paid employment prospects. Assessment and Qualifications Alliance is an Awarding Body, which offers vocational qualifications in a wide range of subjects.

WINTER WARMTH APPEAL

This year we are launching a Winter Warmth Appeal, which aims to provide both food and clothing to keep our guys warm. We would appreciate any help you can give.

- **£3 FOR A BIG BREAKFAST**
- **£25 FOR A SLEEPING BAG**
- **£4 FOR SCARF OR GLOVES**
- **£1 FOR SOCKS**
- **£3 FOR A FLEECE HAT**
- **£2 FOR A PAIR OF BOXERS**
- **£7 FOR CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Christmas Lunch at the Drop-In

We are preparing to hold our Christmas lunch for 20 or more rough sleepers on Christmas Day. We need funds to help make this a warm and welcoming start to their day.



Winter Watch

In winter 2011-12, with temperatures plummeting to zero and below, the Borough of Poole with the Poole Outreach Support Team (the partnership between Routes to Roots and BCHA) set up a Severe Weather Emergency Provision so that rough sleepers were able to access immediate shelter.

In previous years, provision had only been via B&Bs, sometimes well out of the area, making it very difficult for the guys to access the other services they need. This new provision was successful with fewer of those rough sleeping left out in the cold.

We are now preparing for the coming winter with temperatures already falling as we go to press. We are looking for volunteers to help with the evening/overnight/morning supervision - training will be given. Anyone who might want to participate should contact Gabi via the R2R office (*details on page 2*).

A Hot Start to the Day

We are very pleased to be working for a fourth year with The Fisherman Café, who will provide a cooked breakfast and hot drink to rough sleepers in Poole over the winter months.



The generous folks at The Fisherman Café near Poole Quay will yet again provide breakfasts throughout this period for just £3 each, paid for by vouchers handed out by our outreach workers. In 2011-12 we started handing out vouchers at the end of November and continued to the end of March. During this period 308 breakfasts were served. This compares with 259 breakfasts served in 2010-11.

The Breakfast Vouchers provide a very real lifeline to those who are rough sleeping and we would appreciate your support for this service.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR HOW TO MAKE DONATIONS TO OUR WINTER WARMTH APPEAL.



MEET OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



Princecroft Willis Adopts Routes to Roots as Annual Charity

ACCOUNTANCY firm Princecroft Willis (PcW) has adopted Routes to Roots as its nominated charity for 2012.

Money raised from a variety of activities between April 2012 and March 2013 will be donated to R2R after staff chose to support the charity in a democratic ballot.

PcW is the largest firm of independent chartered accountants and business advisers in Dorset and the New Forest with nine partners and more than 100 team members.



PcW Partner Nick Love (*above*) said the firm was keen to support a locally-based, well-managed charity which helped local people.

"Routes to Roots is a perfect match for us and we hope to raise much needed money to support the charity over the coming months," he added.

Based at Towngate House in Poole, PcW has more than 130 clients in the charity and not for profit sector.

The increase in demand for voluntary service against the background of legislative and regulatory changes is among the many challenges faced by the sector.

Add in the general economic climate and competition for funding, particularly due to the success of the National Lottery, and the charity and not for profit sector has never been under greater pressure.



Nick said: "Strict reporting requirements from the Charity Commission together with greater transparency and a complex tax regime have all placed further burdens and responsibilities on trustees.

"We find there is an increasing demand for pragmatic professional advice based on experience and a detailed knowledge and understanding of the regulatory environment.

"The fact that we're independent with partners who have worked, and lived, in this area for many years and are well known and respected within the business and wider community, means we are perfectly placed to provide much needed help and support," Nick added.

"...comparatively small amounts of money can go a long way..."

Previous charities supported by PcW include Diverse Abilities Plus, Julia's House children's hospice and the Royal Bournemouth Hospital's Jigsaw Appeal. Fundraising activities planned by the firm for R2R include cake sales and dress down days.

Nick said: "One of the things we like about Routes for Roots is that comparatively small amounts of money can go a long way to help the homeless. The charity does fantastic work and Princecroft Willis is very proud to support R2R."

www.princecroftwillis.co.uk



MORE SUPPORT FOR OUR WORK

Friends of Forest Holme

Following the Dolphin Shopping Centre's choice of Forest Holme as their charity for the next two years, the Friends of Forest Holme Hospice charity opened a second-time-around shop, Secret Wardrobe, on the first floor of the shopping centre in October. The shop sells high quality donated men's and women's clothing and accessories as well as china and glassware.

The charity has kindly agreed to donate any clothes they receive that are not suitable to their outlet to R2R. We can then give items out to our clients or turn them into cash. In a further link between our two charities, our corporate supporter Big Yellow has also been helping Forest Holme by providing storage for their donations.

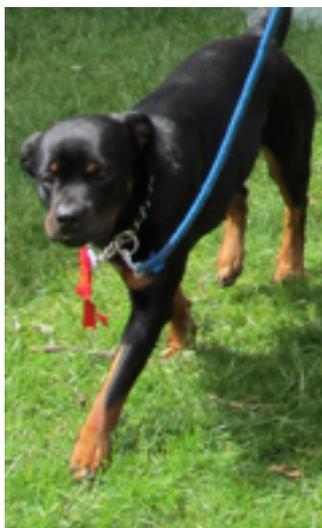
Forest Holme Hospice Charity supports the hospice and specialist palliative care unit in Poole by raising funds to provide services, which enhance the quality of life to patients with cancer and other life-limiting illnesses.

www.forestholmehospice.org.uk/



Dogs Also Drop In for Dinner

Among the regulars at the Drop-Ins are a number of our client's four-legged friends. These animals mean the world to their owners and one (*left*) even won Best of Show in June at St Peter's Fayre Dog Show.



We are very grateful to animal charity Margaret Green Animal Rescue. They receive donations of food from a variety of sources, including pet food manufacturers, and, when they can, they donate dog food to enable us to provide a decent meal for the dogs.

Margaret Green Animal Rescue is the oldest and largest animal rescue charity founded in Dorset. Every year they rescue over 1,000 abandoned, unwanted and ill-treated animals and re-home them to loving owners. They have centres in Devon and Dorset and have a large variety of rescue pets to re-home, including dogs, cats, chickens, ducks, horses, donkeys, rabbits and lots more. Every penny of every pound donated to them goes directly to animal welfare.

They have a visitor centre that is open seven days a week to the public: Animal Sanctuary and Visitor Centre, Church Knowle, Wareham BH20 5NQ. Tel: 01929 480474.

Or, to enquire about rescue dogs: Lincoln Farm Animal Rescue & Rehoming Centre, Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston, Blandford DT11

9BP. Tel: 01929 471340.

www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/

EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES & OFFERS



Mission Trade Fair

Date: 24th November

Time: 9.30am – 4.00pm

Venue: St Nicholas' Church Centre, 30 Wareham Road, Corfe Mullen

Price: £7/person including light lunch

Routes to Roots has been invited to hold a workshop at the Mission Trade Fair.

Organised by the Diocese of Salisbury, this is billed as a Day of Networking and Discussion with mission-related projects and organisations sharing their ideas and knowledge on successful mission work happening in the Dorset area. Dr Graham Kings, Bishop of Sherborne, will open the event and welcome delegates. He will be followed by the keynote speaker, Reverend Paul Cowley, Alpha Missioner, Holy Trinity Brompton. There are 12 workshops for delegates to choose from and many organisations will be taking stands.

For more information and to register: Sherborne Area Office, St Nicholas' Church Centre, 30 Wareham Road, Corfe Mullen, Dorset BH21 3LE
sherborne.office@salisbury.anglican.org
Tel: 01202 659427

sherborne.office@salisbury.anglican.org
Tel: 01202 659427

sherborne.office@salisbury.anglican.org

Tel: 01202 659427

Volunteering...

Mobile Library

We have started the library runs and have already been to the Salvation Army, Poole on Friday mornings on a number of occasions as well as to the R2R Drop-Ins.

Volunteers are needed to catalogue and prepare the books for lending, to drive the van and to help clients to access books at the various locations that they will be visiting.

Morning and evening shifts, usually 2 hours' long, are available and training is provided. Volunteers work one shift per month.

For information on volunteering with the library, visit:

www.QHA.org.uk

or phone: 07880 807718.

TwoToo Scarves: One for You and One for a Homeless Person

TwoToo offers lightweight scarves for slightly chilly days through to really warm heavier weight styles for those cold, cold days. They make excellent ethical Christmas presents for friends and family. For every TwoToo scarf sold, they give a Classic Fleece TwoToo to a homeless person through a number of charities, including R2R: <http://twotoo.co.uk/page/13/TwoToo-Preference-Codes>



We'd Like to Tell You a Story...

...the story of Routes to Roots.

It's a true story about how we first began and how and why we've evolved over the years. It's a story we tell not only with words but also with pictures and we have past clients whose lives have been changed and who are willing to come and tell their stories too.

We can come and speak on Sundays during times of worship or during the week to all ages in all places. We'd like to tell you our story, it's a good story, a true story and we tell it from the heart.

Please contact Caroline Foy, our Administrator, who will be pleased to arrange a visit from Pat and/or Liz.

Tel: 01202 667880 / 07901 387643

Email: office@routestoroots.org

R2R Addresses CAB Meeting

Outreach Worker Liz and Gabi from our Management Services addressed the Advisers at the Poole Citizens' Advice Bureau's quarterly meeting in October. There was considerable interest particularly in the problems shared by the two organisations in helping clients with housing and benefit issues. R2R will examine how to work more closely with CAB for the mutual benefit of both sets of clients.

YOU Can Help Us



● Please consider becoming a Volunteer

R2R relies heavily on our small army of volunteers. Opportunities exist in the following areas:

- * Morning Outreach, Afternoon Projects, Evening Drop-ins
- * Befriending Scheme - please contact the office
- * Mobile Library - driving, staffing, including preparing books
- * Outdoor activities - accompanying clients on organised events
- * Providing skills training for clients, health & personal care support to clients
- * Administrative support - helping with mail shots, preparing for events

For details of volunteering, please contact our Administrator on 01202 667880 or office@routestoroots.org

Volunteer application forms are also available at: www.routestoroots.org

● Please consider making a Donation

- * £3 buys a rough sleeper a cooked breakfast
- * £25 buys a sleeping bag
- * £200 helps to make an empty flat a home
- * £10 buys a pair of jeans
- * £45 provides food for a Drop-In

● Please consider becoming a Member

- * Annual membership costs only £10 for an individual or £25 for a Church, School or Business.

To make a Donation or become a Member, please complete the form below or visit the website to pay securely via the Internet or download a standing order: www.routestoroots.org/updates/volunteering-membership

Membership Application and Donations

I would like to become a Member for £10 / £25 (*circle as appropriate*)

I would like to make a Donation to Routes to Roots to the value of £_____

Name (*please print*): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

*“When you did it to the
least of these - you did
it to me.”*
Matt 25:35

I would like to Gift Aid my donation. I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

I enclose a cheque payable to 'Routes to Roots' to the value of £_____

OR Please debit my card to the value of £_____ : Mastercard / Visa / Solo / Visa Debit (*circle*)

Card No: _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / 3-Digit Security Code: _ _ _

Valid from: _ _ / _ _ Expiry on: _ _ / _ _

Name (*as it appears on the card*): _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please return to: The Administrator, The R2R Office. Skinner Street URC, Poole BH15 1QR