

Charity No. 1155945

www.routestoroots.org

HOPE RENEWED

At the end of June I attended our Salisbury Diocese Clergy Conference at Swanwick. The theme of the conference was Hope Renewed. There's always a space at these gatherings where clergy can advertise the mission projects they're involved in. This year I decided it was time for me to 'show off' the mission and outreach which is happening here in Poole through Routes to Roots.

I wanted to share with clergy from the whole diocese, what can happen when not just Anglicans but churches of all denominations work together for the common good. For what I believe happens is Hope Renewed: the kind of hope that God speaks about throughout the bible. God speaks about planning futures for us that will give us hope, and it is renewing hope for those on our streets who have often lost all hope that is at the heart of all that we do in Routes to Roots.

My own hope for our charity is constantly being renewed by all of you who keep supporting us in so many ways. On Sunday



3rd August Poole Bay Rotarians held a sponsored walk to raise money for their chosen charities of which we are grateful to be one. Former clients joined me on the Quay to publicise our work to passers-by. The

picture shows them engaged in conversation with our Mayor - guys who once were sleeping on our streets, not knowing where their next meal was coming from, now experiencing what it's like to once again have hope for the future and wanting to talk about it!

Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Ephesians 3:20)

Abundant Blessings!

The Revd Pat Southgate, Chair of Routes to Roots and Chaplain to the Homeless in Poole

Calling All Online Shoppers

Buy online and raise money for R2R *at absolutely no cost to you* by visiting your favourite retailers through 'Easy Fund Raising'. Log on to the site, register yourself and the charity, Routes to Roots, that you would like to support and start shopping. Every time you buy from one of the businesses on their list, R2R will receive a percentage of what you spend.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/routestoroots>

To donate to Routes to Roots, text **RTOR42 £2** (£5 / £10 / £££) to **70070**

or donate online at: <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/routestoroots-poole>

Like Routes to Roots on FaceBook at: <http://www.facebook.com/RoutestoRootsHomeless>



FROM THE COMMITTEE: AGM

At our AGM on 12 June, we reported an increasing need for food among the vulnerably housed as well as the homeless in Poole. Our Big Breakfast for rough sleepers ran for 3 weeks less than last year but the number of individuals assisted rose to 40, the average number of rough sleepers per week increased by 33% and the number of breakfasts claimed rose by 38%. Our four Drop-Ins saw a similar increase in demand for food. In 2013 we saw 280 individual clients, an increase of 18% over 2012, with 100 different people in October.

We reported a growth of 75% in corporate membership and 15% in church membership. Donations nearly doubled to £40,000 from £21,469 and fundraising by supporters brought in £10,045 as opposed to £1629 in the previous year. Volunteer numbers stand at 87 and between them they provided an estimated 5,500 volunteer hours in 2013-14.

Reports and Unaudited accounts can be found on the website: www.routestoroots.org



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIR & TRUSTEE	Revd Pat Southgate
TREASURER & TRUSTEE	Sarah Percy
HON SECRETARY	Lynn Foster
TRUSTEE	Gabi Sanger-Stevens
TRUSTEE	Susan Gittins
TRUSTEE	Kate Mellor

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

TRUSTEES <i>plus</i>	
VOLUNTEER REP	Jenny Elson
CLIENT REP	John Parsons
SOUP RUN REP	Ruth Meaden
PROJECTS CO-ORDINATOR	Neil Robertson *
ADMINISTRATOR	Caroline Foy *

Routes to Roots (Poole) CIO
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office@routestoroots.org
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* ex officio members of Stakeholder Committee

OUR SUPPORTERS



Founded on Christian principles, R2R seeks to help all homeless, newly homed and vulnerably housed adults in Poole regardless of their faith. We provide basic necessities at drop-ins; organise indoor and outdoor activities; and assist those who are housed to remain in their tenancy. We aim to achieve long-term outcomes for our clients through motivational and well-being projects which boost self-worth, expand and develop skills, promote a sense of belonging and encourage integration into the local community.

...and many Churches, Christian groups and Businesses in Poole and the surrounding area.

Patron: The Right Reverend Dr Graham Kings, Bishop of Sherborne

MANAGEMENT REPORT: APPEALS



Estimated cost of all our activities in 2014-15 is £84,000!

Minibus Appeal

One of our greatest needs is to be able to provide transport to motivational activities for a greater number of our clients. Since summer we have worked in partnership with Holton Lee on ground clearance and horticultural activities and last year we took on two allotments for clients to grow vegetables for our Drop-Ins. In developing these projects we are transporting clients by volunteer car, by taxi and by public transport. This is proving costly and has limitations on the number of clients who can participate. Our aim is to purchase a second-hand minibus to allow us to take up to 12 clients and up to 3 volunteers at any one time not only to Holton Lee but to other locations where we might find opportunities for work placements, voluntary work or outdoor activities.



The estimated cost for this is £15,375, which includes purchase of a second-hand vehicle, road tax, insurance and maintenance.

Upcoming Campaigns

It might still be summer but we're already looking ahead to the coming winter and the hardships that rough sleepers will encounter when the temperatures drop and the weather worsens. Our winter campaign will centre on providing the Hot Cooked Breakfast in partnership with The Fisherman Café and our traditional Christmas Lunch. Keep an eye on our website or like our FaceBook page to keep up-to-date with what is happening. Download our new App by scanning this code for easy access to news.



Donations Needed Now

- Tinned food (meat, fish, veg, potatoes, baked beans)
- Men's Jeans, waist 32" to 34"
- Men's T-Shirts
- Men's Boxers
- Ladies' underwear, 10-12

ALL R2R DROP-INS, JANUARY - JULY 2014

Evening Drop-Ins Hot Meals Served	Afternoon Drop-Ins Lunches Served	Total No. of Individuals Served	Max No. of Individuals in any One Month (May)
1471	1087	180	81
18% more than in the same period 2013	10% more than in the same period 2013	8% less than in the same period 2013	

Whilst overall numbers are slightly down over the same period last year, the number of meals taken continues to rise, i.e. fewer people may be attending but they are attending more often. About 15% of those attending are known rough sleepers, the remainder are vulnerably housed and at risk of repeated homelessness.

Gabi Sanger-Stevens



SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISERS

Turning Mud into Money

Routes to Roots' volunteer, Tony Ridgway is tackling one of Europe's most grueling challenges to raise money for our clients. Designed by British Special Forces to challenge the toughest of the tough, Tough Mudder is a series of hardcore 10-12 mile obstacle race - mud run events. And, Tony will be entering possibly the muddiest of the lot - the London South event in October.



Notorious for resembling a medieval battlefield, London South's Tough Mudder is sprawled over hundreds of acres of barren farmland and jagged, meandering trails, making it fast and slippery.

Tony comments: "With around 20 obstacles over 20km, fire, water, climbing and crawling, and at 51, this is going to be tough! Since competing in the London Marathon at 19, I have to admit my overall fitness has been pretty hit and miss, with the usual New Year resolutions fading away by March. My reason for doing Tough Mudder is purely down to my son Matt, who challenged me to do it, and in fact bought my entry as a birthday present."

"I'm looking forward to doing it. This is the most active I've been for a number of years and it's paying off: I'm getting a real benefit from it, and I want to share that around."

Tony will be sharing it around with the homeless and vulnerably housed clients of Routes to Roots by donating all sponsorship to our minibus appeal (see page 3).

"About three years ago when I decided I wanted to do some charity work, a chance

conversation with a colleague resulted in my giving Routes to Roots a try," explains Tony. "This evolved into actual cooking for the clients at the Skinner Street Drop-In. I enjoy it and never know from one month to the next what I'm going to cook: I turn up, see what ingredients we have in, and one hour later we produce a hot meal for between 20 and 30 people. It amazes me how every time we manage to have enough for whoever turns up - although there have been some very late arrivals where we have had to improvise. I can tell you that when you've not eaten for a while, a bit of fried spam and beans on toast taste pretty good!"



*Tough Mudder - London South
Matterley Bowl, Temple Valley, Winchester
25-26 October*

Please support Tony and Routes to Roots by donating through his myDonate fundraising page: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/tonyridgway51>

You can follow his progress on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tony.ridgway2>

MORE WAYS TO FUN FUNDRAISE



St James' Church

From 5 June to 4 September St James' Church (Church Street, Poole) will be holding lunchtime recitals by local musicians on Thursdays at 1.10pm. Light lunches and refreshments will be available from 1pm and after the performances. Admission is free but a retiring offering will be taken and any profits from the food sales will be donated to Routes to Roots.

First-Ever Poole Bay Walk & The Five Quays Walk

In August, we had two people walking for R2R in a sponsored 14km walk arranged by the Rotary Club of Poole Bay. Starting and finishing at The Fish Shambles on Poole Quay, the walk took in some of Poole's most attractive scenery: the harbour side, Evening Hill and its beautiful viewpoint and the beaches before returning via Branksome Chine and pine covered areas back to Whitecliff Park and to Poole Quay.

Canford Churches



Canford Churches held a Family Fun Day in June raising £200 for R2R. Participants, including ourselves, were provided with boxes to decorate and fill with information about themselves in imaginative ways for the mission wall. Family groups then had their own smaller boxes to fill in as they learnt about particular missions or organisations.

Highworth Insurance



They presented us with £100 following a staff bake-off day in June – staff baked cakes for their colleagues who in return gave donations to raise money for Routes to Roots. £42 was raised which was topped up to £100 by the generous company.

Hillbourne School and Nursery

We were presented with £579.42 following a charity day at the school in July. Last year Scott (our outreach worker) and Alan (one of our clients) went to the school to talk about homelessness as part of a project that the children were doing, which included a night sleeping 'rough' in the school grounds as part of the experience. As a result they decided they would like to support Routes to Roots. The day involved car washing, a cake stall, face painting and many other activities for children, as well as parents and teachers, to participate in.

Waitrose

The June Community Matters appeal at Waitrose in Parkstone raised £297 for R2R. Thanks to all who gave us their tokens and to Waitrose for your continued support.

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- Please do remember to mention R2R if •
- you use any of the great local and •
- national companies / organisations that •
- sponsor us. You can find a full list on our •
- website under 'Links'. •
- • • • •



COUNCIL AWARENESS

Campaign Kicks Off to Tackle Begging in Bournemouth

At the end of July, Gabi, one of our Trustees, was interviewed on BBC Radio Solent/Radio Dorset about Bournemouth's new campaign aimed at rough sleepers, 'Your Kindness Could Kill'. This campaign has aroused a fair deal of controversy in terms of the hard-hitting words and encouragement to divert money just to the town's Rough Sleeper Team, CRI.

Councillor Robert Lawton, Cabinet Member for Housing, said: "We are seeing a rise in these issues in Bournemouth. The public, although well intended, often give spare change direct to those begging on the street but this can perpetuate the problem and also helps to keep that person at risk as they will continue to return to the streets.

"We want to raise awareness among the public that their kindness may cause more harm than good and that by giving to organisations such as Crime Reduction Initiative (CRI) who run the town's Rough Sleeper Team, they are able to directly help get people inside quickly."

Gabi added the Routes to Roots' position into this debate that in principle we support the campaign **IF** it encourages people to divert their giving in an appropriate way. Diverting donations just to the Rough Sleeper Team and the day centre is too narrow and doesn't take into account all the work done by churches and other charitable organisations in the area in relieving poverty and deprivation amongst those who are on the margins in our community. We believe that it is better to raise awareness than to take the legal route and arrest those who are begging.

As an organisation, we have always encouraged our volunteers and supporters to NOT give money directly to people on the street but to buy them a coffee or a sandwich instead.

Poole Looks to R2R Clients for Help



In May, John Parsons and Paul Ford, recently housed R2R clients, were invited by Poole Council Housing Department to help with a training session for Housing Advisors.

They assisted by role playing as clients whilst the advisors worked through different scenarios to gain the information they would need for a full assessment.

The advisors were delighted to have 'real' clients on board and were able to hear a much fuller story of how they came to be seeking help than would normally be possible in the office setting. Everyone enjoyed the day and John and Paul were both awarded certificates for taking part.



- • • • •
- **We'd Like to Tell You a Story...** •
- ...the story of Routes to Roots. •
- We can come and speak on any day, to •
- all ages, in all places. Please contact •
- Caroline Foy, our Administrator, to •
- arrange a visit. •
- Tel: 01202 667880 / 07901 387643 •
- Email: office@routestoroots.org •
- • • • •



WELCOME

The Right Reverend Dr Graham Kings, Bishop of Sherborne, Patron



Bishop Graham has long been familiar with our work and was a guest at a service in March 2012 at St Peter's Church to celebrate and give thanks to God for 10 years of being Routes to Roots. One of the most moving parts of that service was when he presented a Bible to

one of our homeless friends.

Dr Graham Kings has been Bishop of Sherborne since 2009. He shares particular responsibility with the Bishop of Salisbury for the southern half of the Diocese, which covers most of the county of Dorset, with two parishes in Devon.

Bishop Graham studied theology at Hertford College, Oxford. After marrying Alison, a psychotherapist, he undertook further studies at Selwyn College, Cambridge and ordination training at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. Following ordination he served as a curate in London for four years and then moved to Kenya as a Church Mission Society mission partner to teach theology.

In 1992 he returned to become the first Henry Martyn Lecturer in Mission Studies in the Cambridge Theological Federation, founding Director of the Henry Martyn Centre for the study of mission and world Christianity and affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Divinity of the University. In 2000 he became vicar of St Mary's Islington. He has served on the Liturgical Commission and the Mission Theological Advisory Group of the Church of England and serves on the Anglican Communion Network for Inter-Faith Concerns. He is also a co-founder and theological secretary of Fulcrum.

Neil Robertson, Projects Co-Ordinator



"I have lived in Poole since 2006 having moved down from Bristol after meeting my wife Sarah who is Poole born and bred. I am a member of Reconnect, a Christian

missional community based in central Poole.

"Over the last 15 years I have mainly worked in the addictions field and have a BSc in Therapeutic Interventions for Addictions. I have worked as a residential care officer in a secure unit for young offenders, for a young person drug and alcohol service, in local A&E departments and Police cells and with young people who are at risk of permanent exclusion from school.

"I have recently completed a Certificate in Kingdom Theology with Westminster Theological Centre. I really want to see the church give the poor and the marginalised a taste of the Kingdom of God through hospitality, compassion and love."

Neil will lead our efforts to plan and implement projects and activities aimed at helping our clients move back into 'normal' society by providing support, guidance and skills training.

Activities will include the on-going outdoor projects at Holton Lee, collaboration with others who can offer work placements for clients, working in partnership with other voluntary organisations for other outdoor activities, exploring opportunities with other organisations for volunteering by our clients and providing opportunities for art and creative activities.



AT WORK WITH OUR CLIENTS

Routes to Roots is delighted to be working in partnership with Café No 34, a community café on Poole High Street, to deliver a new project, Route 34. Clients are invited to join us on a Monday morning to prepare and cook foods that will be sold in Café No 34. Our clients will gain new skills, get involved in a positive activity and gain confidence by seeing the result of their work on sale in a local café. Café No 34 provides the ingredients and sends an experienced member of their team to teach our clients the skills and techniques required. It is hoped that in the future we will be able to use our own home-grown vegetables to make seasonal soups on a regular basis.

Holton Lee continues to be a popular and effective project for our homeless and vulnerably housed clients. The allotment has been producing some very tasty vegetables, which have been used to make food for the Drop-Ins.

A number of possible projects are currently being explored. We will be hosting a table tennis competition against Dorset Police and hopefully some local companies. If you would like to enter a team to play against the R2R team, please contact Neil. We have also been talking to a number of local organisations to develop a programme of activities. Currently we are exploring working with Dorset Wildlife Trust, Bournemouth and Poole College, Holton Lee and a Bush craft/outdoor pursuits instructor, Jubilee Sailing Trust, The Project Climbing Centre and the Lighthouse Poole. One of our biggest challenges will be transport. We are currently seeking funding for a minibus to give us greater flexibility, thus making more projects realistic and reducing travel costs.

For more information on projects, to suggest a project, or to offer to help with a project, please contact Neil Robertson, Projects Co-Ordinator: neil@routestoroots.org

Snippets from R2R Team Diary

June 2014

Successfully supported a client in an application for a place at Quay Foyer, which provides accommodation, personal support and access to training and employment opportunities for young people * Successfully supported a client in obtaining backdated Housing Benefit from Poole Council * Arranged on-going, one-to-one counselling sessions for two clients * Assisted a client with the paperwork for claiming Employment Support Allowance * Liaised with Bournemouth and Poole Rough Sleepers Team about various clients.

Follow the R2R Team Diary on FaceBook: <http://www.facebook.com/RoutestoRootsHomeless>

You CAN Help Us

For information about becoming a member, volunteering or making a donation please visit the R2R website.

Annual membership, from April to March, costs only £10 for an individual or £25 for a Church, School or Business (pro rata if you join during the membership year).

Membership, donation, standing order and gift aid form: <http://www.routestoroots.org/updates/volunteering-membership>

Volunteer application form: <http://www.routestoroots.org/updates/volunteering>