

Charity No. 1155945

www.routestoroots.org

WINTER APPEAL

Once again Winter is fast approaching and once again I appeal to you on behalf of Routes to Roots to please help us to keep safe and warm all those for whom there will be 'No Room at the Inn' this Christmas.

Many of our homeless in Poole are difficult to accommodate. They are the ones who carry the added baggage of alcoholism, drug addiction and /or mental health issues. They will be the ones who will end up this winter with nowhere to lay their heads, except for the cold stone floor of a multi storey car park. Come the morning there will be nowhere to wash, no hot drink or breakfast to wake up to and quite often, no one to care whether they wake up or not!

In Routes to Roots we do care and with your help we want to make sure that all those who sleep out in the cold this winter can wake up and access a hot drink and a cooked breakfast at a local cafe. With your help we want to continue to run our drop-ins, where we can offer food and friendship, a change of clothes and a sleeping bag, if we've got one! It's here at our drop-ins that

we want Poole Addiction Community Team to be able to continue to do needle exchange, blood tests and vaccinations against HIV and Hep C. Last but not least, it will be with your help that our community mental health nurse will be able to come to our drop-ins and talk with those who need her most.

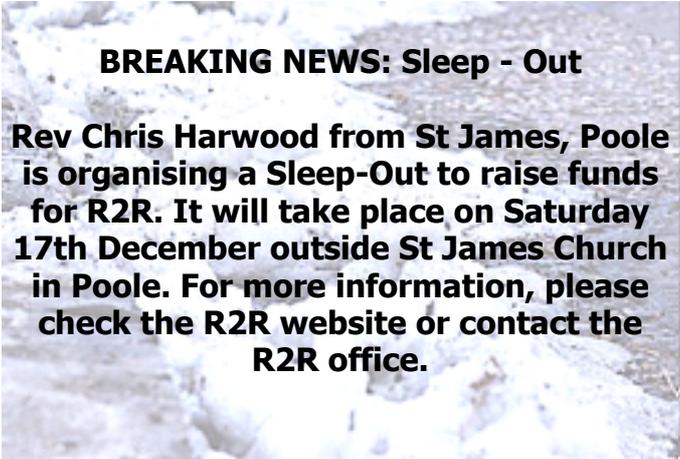
Please help us to be able to provide for some of the most vulnerable people in our town, by giving us your generous support this Christmas.

We may be a small charity but we have a big heart for the homeless and in all that we do, we never forget that Jesus said: *"What you do for the least of these, you do for me."*

With Grateful Thanks

Pat

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



BREAKING NEWS: Sleep - Out

Rev Chris Harwood from St James, Poole is organising a Sleep-Out to raise funds for R2R. It will take place on Saturday 17th December outside St James Church in Poole. For more information, please check the R2R website or contact the R2R office.

Poole Homeless Sunday Service

Sunday 29 January, 3.00pm

Skinner Street URC, Poole BH15 1RQ

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

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

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



AGM: Funding of £70,000 Needed for 2016-17

Our funding position improved over the course of 2015-16, from £20,501 at the start of the year to £28,891 at 31 March 2016, with R2R posting a net surplus of £8,390.

The main reasons for this improvement were an increase in membership subscriptions and donations of £11,031, the Lloyds Bank Foundation Grant of £15,000, and the income generated by Amos House. Overall payments were slightly lower than in the previous year, at £68,345 in 2015-16, versus £72,583 in 2014-15. Savings made on management and staffing were offset by the set up and running costs for Amos House.

Looking forward to 2016-17, it should be noted that R2R will have to maintain at least our current level of expenditure (circa £70,000) to maintain our core activities and meet our commitments, and are, therefore, aiming to generate income in line with this figure.

Full report from the Trustees and Accounts can be found at:

<http://www.routestoroots.org/updates/category/governance>



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Routes to Roots (Poole) CIO
R2R Office, Skinner Street URC, Poole BH15 1RQ
Tel: 07901 387643 / 01202 667880
office@routestoroots.org
www.routestoroots.org

OUR SUPPORTERS



Founded on Christian principles, Routes to Roots seeks to help all homeless and vulnerably housed people in Poole regardless of their faith. At four drop-ins R2R provides basic necessities, such as hot food, clothing and sleeping bags, and offers indoor and outdoor motivational activities, which aim to boost self-confidence and develop skills. In addition, internet and telephone facilities, 'care of address' and one-to-one support, guidance and information are provided. From November 2015 Routes to Roots has provided supported accommodation to three of Poole's homeless.

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

KEY SERVICES: STATISTICS



ALL R2R DROP-INS, JUNE - OCTOBER 2016

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total 2016	Total 2015
Total individuals attending	76	90	82	71	46		
Cumulative total of of individuals	157	192	211	224	226	226	222
Total afternoon meals	138	156	154	178	128	1361	1203
Total evening meals	146	206	176	182	180	1672	1847

UPCOMING - For the Guys: Christmas Treats

Sarah and Joe, those wonderful folks at Kingsbere Kitchen, are again looking forward to bringing their burger van to R2R at the Friday evening drop-in before Christmas. They will offer hot dogs, burgers, cake, mince pies, tea, coffee and hot chocolate to the guys and girls. Thank you.

R2R volunteers will also serve a full Christmas lunch on Christmas Day with gifts and a welcome for everyone.

Two mums, Laura and Nicki, living in Canford Heath, have been collecting Christmas Reverse Advent Calendar gift bags for R2R and another local charity since October. They ask people to place one item in a bag for each of 24 days - the period of a normal advent calendar. For those who may not have time to collect 24 items, they are also collecting cash donations so that they can supply 35 bags of Christmas cheer for the guys and girls that come to R2R. They aim to deliver the bags of goodies to R2R over the weekend of 3rd December.

These two amazing mums also held a charity tombola on Friday 3rd November at the fireworks event at a local school which raised £242, some of which will be used to make up the gift bags for R2R.



For All - Poole Homeless Sunday Service

Sunday 29 January, 3.00pm
Skinner Street URC, Poole BH15 1RQ



R2R will hold a service to celebrate the work done in Poole to tackle homelessness, to challenge the causes of homelessness and to show our concern for homeless people.

We will be joined by the Right Reverend Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne and Patron of Routes to Roots. Please come along to share in our service, learn more of our work and enjoy some refreshments afterwards.



THREE EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT R2R

ONE - Easy Fundraising



TWO - Hot Chocolate: People's Choice Award

R2R has successfully created our profile and entered the GALAXY Hot Chocolate Fund!

From November 7th 2016 you will be able to vote for R2R at:

www.galaxyhotchocolate.com/fund/profiles/routes-to-roots-poole-cio

The Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund will run from 7th November until 26th February 2017. Awards of £300 are provided for community projects. Locally there has been some success in previous years with the Galaxy Fund including BCHA, who used the money to hold a Christmas party for 60 children supported by their Domestic Abuse Service, and ReachOut Dorset, who purchased sleeping bags and tents for young people.

Five awards of £300 will be provided each week – four chosen by a panel of judges and

one chosen through a voting system.

This year also sees the addition of the Outstanding Volunteer Award giving you chance to nominate someone to win a hot chocolate hamper.

More information is available at www.galaxyhotchocolate.com and the first awards of £300 will be on 14th November.

Please visit the site and vote for R2R. Our drop-in guys and girls are already enjoying free jars and sachets of hot chocolate sent to us just for joining in.

THREE - Calling All Co-Op Members

The Co-op, Blandford Road, Hamworthy BH15 4BH has adopted Routes to Roots as their chosen charity and will be raising money for us through their membership and 5p bag sales until March next year.

Please remember this when you next shop there.

Every time members choose Co-op branded products and services and use their Co-op Membership card (subject to Membership T&Cs), 1% of what you spend will go to your chosen cause. Members can change your choice at any time until the end of the giving period on 18th March 2017. If members don't pick a cause then their 1% is shared out equally between all the local causes in their community.

Any funds raised for Routes To Roots will be distributed shortly after the end of the giving period.

<http://www.co-operativefood.co.uk/>



EVERYTHING WE DO IS THANKS TO YOU



Routes to Roots was selected for the month of October as one of the Isolation campaign charities to benefit from Waitrose in Parkstone's Green Token community matters scheme. £354 was raised and will be donated to help support our charity over the festive period. Wonderful news!

www.waitrose.com

Thanks to 123 Professionals, a local networking group, for a donation following a recent evening event.

<http://www.123professionals.co.uk>

Many thanks to The Alice Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation whose trustees agreed to make a donation of £3000 towards the homeless and vulnerably housed in Poole.

The Foundry Arms in Lagland Street, Poole has offered to make a regular monthly donation of £60 for the drop-ins.

foundryarmspub.co.uk/

Many thanks to Highworth Insurance for £175 raised from several dress-down days.

www.highworthinsurance.co.uk

Poole Bay Rotary has just launched a new breakfast group for younger (25-45 years old) business people – and has already agreed to support Routes to Roots' Christmas/winter appeal with a target of £500.

www.poolebayrotary.org/

Donations Needed Now

- Socks, socks and more socks
- Men's Boxers (small, medium)
- Men's Jeans & Jogging Bottoms (32"-36")
- Men's Sweatshirts
- Good Quality Trainers & Boots - guys & gals
- Ladies' underwear (10-14)
- Ladies' Jeans & Jogging Bottoms (10-16)
- Sleeping bags
- Handwipes

Family Pet Service



Steve Patton, an R2R client, who now volunteers at the drop-ins contributed to the Family Pet Service on Sunday 6th November at St Peter's Church, Parkstone.

Steve talked movingly about how Jet, his labrador dog who he has owned for 16 years, since she was 5 weeks old, has given him a reason and purpose in life. He spoke of how Jet saved not only his life but those of his neighbours during the troubles in Northern Ireland.

Donation Point

Big Yellow Self Storage, Poole
2 Nuffield Road, Poole BH17 0RB

Big Yellow will notify R2R that a donation has come in so we can arrange to sort it. Please label your donation with your name/organisation so we know whom to thank.

Or contact the R2R Office to drop off at Skinner Street URC.



LUNCH IS FOR WIMPS SO MAKE A BREAKFAST DATE

Calling all lovers of the Great British Breakfast, or croissants and pastries if you prefer.

Make a date with your friends this winter! Invite them round for breakfast in December, January or February. Ask them for a small contribution and donate the money you raise, no matter how large or small, to Routes to Roots' annual Big Breakfast appeal.

For the seventh year, we will again join forces with the Fisherman's Café on Poole Quay to provide rough sleepers with a hot breakfast. Last year we offered this meal for 18 weeks, sustaining 52 individual homeless people, an increase of 11% over 2014-15. Each breakfast costs £4.50 to provide so this provision alone cost the charity £4054.50 (901 breakfasts eaten).

It costs £4.50 to provide a hot breakfast for a rough sleeper. Could you buy just one guy a breakfast for one day, or a whole week?



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 £24 for an individual or £48 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 forms: <http://www.routestoroots.org/updates/volunteering>