



R2R UPDATES, October 2020

A Welcome Visit by the High Sheriff



We were delighted to welcome Dorset's High Sheriff George Streatfeild and his wife Amanda to Hill Street on 7 October. They were taken around the site by pro bono architect Ken Morgan (left), Chair Pat Southgate and Kate Mellor (right), who is the Trustee project managing the refurbishment. As High Sheriff, Mr Streatfeild's role is to support the judiciary and the Crown, and actively lend support and encouragement to crime prevention agencies, the emergency services and to the voluntary sector. Mr Streatfeild was made aware of the support that Routes to Roots provides to Poole's homeless by our

Patron, The Right Reverend Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne and was eager to witness first-hand what was happening at the new facility and learn about the charity's future ambitions.

Drop-in Manager Appointed

Andy Mason has joined us as our new part-time Drop-in Manager and Volunteer Co-ordinator. Taking a break from parish life as a vicar, Andy is also working with several local primary schools alongside the PACE Trust. "I am very excited about joining the team at Routes to Roots and as a passionate Christian, I look forward to putting my values and principles into practice," said Andy. "It presents a great opportunity for me to play an important role in this wonderful charity which provides vital support to those who, for many complex reasons, find themselves sleeping rough or without permanent accommodation."



Numbers Increase and Drop-ins Move Indoors



We are seeing increasing numbers accessing the take-away packed lunches we provide on weekdays – 24 on one day and the majority are rough sleepers. From 12 October, following risk assessments, we will be able to welcome clients into the warmth of the hall for a few hours at least and supply a hot meal - numbers will be staggered and paper records kept on those without phones for track and trace.

Hill Street Work Underway

Work started in September and all the internal demolition is now complete: scaffolding is up; the suspended ceiling is down; the pews are out; and wiring for the lighting is in. We have received two further grants to help with our refurbishment from The Beatrice Laing Trust and JP Morgan.



Health & Safety for Hill Street



Amanda Brint-Smee of Certa Services in Poole has joined our team of pro bono professionals. Amanda's involvement in this project is to help guide the management team through the health and safety requirements under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. She will be there to ensure that the highest possible level of health and safety is provided to ensure that all workers, staff and visitors are kept safe during this development project. She will be on hand to provide documentation and advice wherever necessary. Amanda says: "The project is a very exciting one and the building that is to be used is ideally

located, with the space helping to provide more help to people that are homeless or find themselves in vulnerable positions."

Please Share Our Newsletter

We want to get the word out about all the good things we do here at Routes to Roots, so we would be grateful if you could share this sign-up link to our newsletter with anyone that might be interested: <http://bitly.ws/9xCb>

Routes to Roots is founded on Christian principles and seeks to help all homeless, newly homed and vulnerably housed adults in Poole regardless of their faith. At drop-ins, we provide basic necessities, such as hot food, clothing and sleeping bags; we assist clients to engage with agencies such as the addictions team, health workers and Job Centre; we organise motivational activities; and we assist those who are placed in accommodation to remain in their tenancy. Since acquiring our three-bed 'Amos House' in 2015, we provide supported housing for people who were previously rough sleeping in Poole. We aim to achieve long-term outcomes for our clients through participation in motivational and well-being projects which boost self-confidence and self-worth, expand and develop skills, promote a sense of belonging and encourage integration into the local community.