



R2R UPDATES, April 2021



Genesis Centre

The Bible begins with Genesis “In the beginning...” Taking inspiration from this, we have named our new building on Hill Street ‘Genesis Centre’.

We believe that the help and support that will be available in the centre will make possible a new beginning for our clients, the creation of a different future for them. Our project at Hill Street had its own genesis nearly 10 years ago on 25 June 2011 when we first set aside money for our plan to acquire permanent premises in Poole. Our ambitions at the time were modest – catering and washing facilities, office and storage space. We have come a long way since then in terms of the support we are now able to provide and that which will be made possible at Genesis Centre.

Outreach Centre

Following conversations with the various BCP rough sleeper, health, housing and benefit agencies, we are delighted at their eagerness to renew their outreach programmes with us after our move to Genesis Centre, and when Covid rules allow. Our long-serving chiropodist and hairdresser have also confirmed they will be back with us.

Times Gone By

G. Pope left his mark in the main congregation hall of our building on 9 February 1951.

We wonder if anyone knows of him. Presumably he was a builder or plasterer brought in to work on the church that year.



Hill Street Legacy

We have received a donation of £5000 from Dorchester Baptist Church from a legacy they received following the closure and sale of the former Baptist Church on Hill Street which is to become our new home.

Drop-ins Move Indoors

In April we were able to restart our inside Drop-ins with hot meals and we are now seeing 11-12 a day, a mix of rough sleepers and vulnerably housed. Most have had their first vaccination or are in the process. Homeless clients are still being offered accommodation in the Poole Holiday Inn.



R2R Lanyards

As a security measure we will be issuing R2R lanyards to all R2R trustees, staff and volunteers and visitors to our new home in Hill Street.

In Remembrance

Many thanks to the family and friends of Andrew Dyke who passed away recently and who remembered us at this sad time with a donation.

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 former rough sleepers. 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. We are currently renovating 104 Hill Street as a one-stop centre for all help available to our clients in Poole.