

Emmaus Annual Review 2007



emmaus The homeless charity that works

Message from our President



Terry Waite CBE
Emmaus UK President

As I look back over the year I take great pleasure in seeing how the Emmaus Movement is growing here in the UK and extending the support that we can offer to those in greatest need. I also recall how many people we have to thank for their contribution to the success of the Movement, including the Companions themselves, the staff, volunteers and trustees who all work together to make Emmaus what it is.

The Emmaus Movement in the UK is also indebted to the support of many individuals and groups, too numerous to list, who have given time, support and funds to enable the Emmaus Federation to grow and so meet the needs of homeless people across the UK.

I would like to pay particular thanks to those funders whose generous support has made a significant impact on our work

29th May 1961 Charitable Trust • Ajahma Charitable Trust • Anonymous Foundation • Bluston Charitable Settlement • Bowland Charitable Trust • Drapers' Charitable Fund • Dulverton Trust • John Ellerman Foundation • Esmée Fairbairn Foundation • Freemasons' Grand Charity • Gwyneth Forrester Trust • Jason and Kate Gatenby • Hutton Foundation • Help the Homeless • Laing's Charitable Trust • Beatrice Laing Trust • LankellyChase Foundation • Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund • Mercers' Charitable Foundation • Persula Foundation • Rank Foundation • Rayne Foundation • Roughley Charitable Trust • John Studzinski CBE • Tudor Trust • Trusthouse Charitable Foundation • Garfield Weston Foundation • Zochonis Charitable Trust
And the Department for Communities and Local Government, the North West Regional Development Agency (NWDA) and the East of England Development Agency (EEDA)

Welcome

Welcome to the Emmaus 2007 Annual Review.

Fifteen Emmaus Communities are now providing a place in which people not only find shelter and work, but also recover their sense of hope and potential.

Emmaus is a charity that works. Day after day there are illustrations of our collective success. Our achievement is, of course, measured by the number of people whose lives are transformed by living in an Emmaus Community, but it is also measured in many other ways: in the contribution that the residents of our Communities make to their own future and the future of others within the Community, and in the way that Emmaus Communities strive to help the wider community and other charitable projects both here and abroad. Our collective achievement is also evident in the efforts that each Community plays in protecting the environment and encouraging other people to do so.

Thank you for your support of Emmaus: both of our established Communities and those still under development across the UK. Although we have just 12 Groups affiliated to the Federation at present, each bearing the name Emmaus, there are now many other groups of volunteers across the UK working to establish projects. All of these emerging Communities need support and encouragement from local people, but also benefit greatly by association with others in the Movement.

I am delighted to be able to share with you a few examples of what you have helped us to achieve.

Tim Page
Emmaus UK Director



Helping each other

Peer support is an important aspect of the Emmaus approach. The fact that Companions, as Emmaus residents are called, are able to help each other and the wider community enables them to recover their self-respect.

Broader horizons

Former Emmaus Greenwich Companion Andy Bache organised a 270 mile sponsored hike along the Pennine Way in Spring 2007. Andy explained that he wanted the Companions to achieve something on a big scale.

“There’s a guy living in this Community, he’s about 17 stone, he was on my team for the Pennine way and he completed it. He’d never been out of London in his life, and he’s nearly 50, so for him to see some of the biggest peaks in England was really something, and he wasn’t just looking at them, he was going over them.”

Andy has now left Emmaus Greenwich to become a member of staff at the new Emmaus Sheffield Community which opened in January 2008. He says, ‘my aim is to inspire Companions.’

2007 Highlights

A Companion from St Martin’s Emmaus (Dover) created a stained glass panel for the Emmaus 2007 Christmas card which was sold to raise funds to help set up new Emmaus Communities.

Emmaus Mossley paid £33,500 into the central Solidarity Fund which awards grants to Emmaus Communities and Groups. The money was subsequently allocated in a grant to the Colchester Group, which will open to new Companions later in 2008.

Emmaus Bristol donated £5,000 to the Emmaus Exeter Group to help them in their efforts to set up a new Emmaus Community.

11 Emmaus Companions completed a week’s personal development and team building course on Dartmoor.

Companions help each other out

Elvis, as he is usually known, spent four and a half years living rough on the streets.

“I was devastated when my marriage broke up after thirteen years. I was on the drink and I didn't want the kids to see me in that state, so I moved as far away as I could. I lost direction for a while. I just travelled around, slept in a sleeping bag wherever I could.

“I used to see beggars on the streets and I used to chuck money in the hat, but I never really thought that I'd be there, begging, myself. Then it just suddenly happened. There are teachers, solicitors, all sorts on the street. Their life's falling apart, and they can't handle it, so they just disappear.

“When I was at Emmaus Bristol, I learnt to read and write. I'd never signed my name before. They had a lady called Julie, an ex-teacher, who came in as a volunteer.

*“I felt silly, to start off with, but the Companions used to correct my spelling when I wrote things on documents or price lists. They used to make me feel comfortable with it, and I think that's the best thing – **that's how Emmaus works, Companions do come together and help each other out.** You don't get that anywhere else.”*



Helping others

Companions at Emmaus Communities work together to help others in need, whether that's providing furniture at little or no cost to low-income households, raising money for other charitable projects or helping needy people in the local area by providing them with food and other forms of support.

Changing perceptions

Andy is a Companion at Emmaus Brighton & Hove.

"The public don't talk to homeless people very much. They think that all homeless people drink out of brown paper bags. That's not the case. Some people do drink. Some people do take drugs. That doesn't mean that everyone who is homeless is an alcoholic or a drug user. People don't get the chance to see the individual. They come here to the Community and they see us working to better ourselves and that changes their perception of homeless people.

"Last Friday I did the soup run. We distribute tea, soup, bread and fruit to the homeless people who come along. It's very rewarding because you know they are waiting for you. They talk to you quite freely.

"Once I have left here I would like to come back as a volunteer. I have had a lot of help from Emmaus and it would be nice to be able to give something back."

2007 Highlights

A survey conducted by Emmaus Colchester showed that 50% of their shop customers receive benefits and 72% said shopping at Emmaus had prevented them getting into debt.

Following a visit to Benin in West Africa to see a project supported by Emmaus International which is designed to provide people living around Lake Nokoué with clean water, one of the Companions at Emmaus Bristol has been raising awareness about the issues surrounding access to clean water.

St Martin's Emmaus in Dover donated over £5,000 worth of tools to a new Community in The Netherlands.

Companions at Emmaus Bristol raised money for a Community Centre in Bulgaria which is being built to provide training for Roma (Gypsy) people, together with further education for children coming out of orphanages, many of whom end up in crime and human trafficking.



Christmas cheer

At Christmas several Emmaus Communities organised events to help those in their local area.

Mike Poole, a Companion at Emmaus Bristol, organised Christmas lunch for 18 local pensioners, following the closure of their local club earlier in the year. He says

“Part of the unique approach of Emmaus is that we don't just work to support ourselves, but we also reach out to help others. When I heard about the pensioners who wouldn't be getting their Christmas lunch this year, I thought that it would be a great idea for us to help. Many of our residents know first hand what it's like to spend Christmas alone so we were keen to share some of the warmth and companionship of our Community.”

Companions at Emmaus Mossley decided to donate hats, gloves and socks to rough sleepers using the local drop-in centres. Bruce Mercer, a Companion at Emmaus Mossley, says

“We have had so much help here at the Community that we want to give something to the people who were struggling as we once were.”

Helping the environment



Emmaus Communities give many items that would otherwise be thrown away a new lease of life by reselling them in their shops. Communities therefore reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and provide an alternative to the constant need for people to buy newly-manufactured items.

Rediscovering old skills

Curly is a Companion at Emmaus Leeds. He spent 16 years on the streets, travelling all over England and Scotland.

*"I love every one of the people who live at Emmaus. They are like a second family. It's great being able to work. I invented my own job here. **I started stripping down the things we can't fix and selling the scrap metal. We are making quite good money from it.**"*

"I am using all the skills that I learnt with my Dad. Old habits die hard. I feel really close to my Dad when I'm working with the scrap and I think he would be proud."

"I would really like to be able to put some time into helping homeless people. I talk to a lot of the lads here. My door is always open. I'll never go back to drinking now, I've got too many friends."

2007 Highlights

Emmaus Village Carlton opened their exciting new project 'Under One Roof', designed to improve the efficiency of their recycling processes. They refurbished an existing dilapidated building on the site in order to expand their operations and enable them to collect, store and refurbish greater amounts of donated household goods for resale and to increase the tonnage diverted from landfill.

Figures for 2007 from the Community showed 432.5 tonnes of goods received, of which 63% were successfully reused or recycled, equivalent to the weight of nearly 34 double-decker buses!

Green Community

Emmaus Hampshire is building a new Community adjacent to Hampshire County Council's Waste Recycling Centre in Winchester.

Plans for Emmaus Hampshire's 'Green Roof' project are well underway, with a commitment to reflecting best practice in ecological design using sustainable materials and techniques, complete with a green roof, planted with Sedum.

When the Community opens in 2009 it will provide a home and work for 22 formerly homeless men and women. Its recycling activities will reduce the volume of waste going to landfill and its building will become an example of sustainable living.



Above: Emmaus Hampshire's 'Green Roof' project

Reaching out

Emmaus Communities offer people the opportunity to develop and grow, whether by undertaking training, taking on more responsibility within the Community or ultimately moving on to establish lives outside Emmaus.

Making a difference

Warren is a carpenter with over 24 years experience. Now that he has left Emmaus, he still comes back to volunteer at the Community and puts his carpentry skills to good use.

“My Mum died in 1991. It hit me hard. I was drinking seven nights a week right up until I joined Emmaus. As soon as I came to the Community my drinking went down to one night a week. It was the people around me that made the difference.”

“I lived at the Community for six months. I was ready to leave because I wanted to get back into having a job of my own. I have just done a lot of shop fitting for the Community. They were going to get a shop fitting company to do it, but I did it instead. I’ve put in twenty metres of shelving. I’ve built them a brand new counter and taken the old one out.”

*“I want to help out. I feel a bond with the Community. It’s hard to explain. I feel a bond like you have with your own family. **You try and help out your family whenever you can and that’s how I feel about Emmaus Leeds.** Living there felt like being at home. It wasn’t just a place to stay.”*



Marathon efforts

Clayton, a Companion from Emmaus Leeds, is running the London Marathon for Emmaus in memory of another Companion, Alan, who died.

“For about two months I was homeless. I spent some nights at a hostel in Leeds, but three times the number of people turned up every day than there were beds available so I ended up sleeping on the streets sometimes. I wanted to come to Emmaus because I am an active person and I need focus and things to do.

“I am running the London Marathon to raise much needed funds for Emmaus because I will always be grateful for them being here when I needed them most, but I am also running in memory of my friend Alan. I am going to have his name on the arm of my jumper and whenever the going gets tough and I hit a wall, I’m going to look at his name and I know it will give me inspiration.”



2007 Highlights

Two former Companions from Emmaus Bristol are now employed as full time members of staff helping to run the Community business.

Emmaus South Lambeth achieved the Investing in Volunteers standard.

Following a successful bid in partnership with a local GP practice, Emmaus Bristol has completed the first year of their contract to manage the Bristol Homeless Health Service. This new venture has enabled them to reach out to many vulnerable people whom they would not otherwise have been able to reach.

Companions, staff and volunteers from seven UK Emmaus Communities travelled to Paris with two vans full of bric-a-brac for the Annual Emmaus Salon Sale to raise funds for Emmaus’ work around the world.

A former Companion from Emmaus Village Carlton has taken up a place at Portsmouth University.

Sharing success

In 2007 Emmaus South Lambeth welcomed its first Companions and hosted a visit from our Royal Patron, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall.

Anything can happen

Elizabeth is one of the first Companions at Emmaus South Lambeth. She used to run her own business but things became difficult when work took a downward turn and the rent on her home increased.

“The idea of being out on the streets with nowhere to live terrified me. My homelessness was simply due to circumstances – I could no longer afford to live where I was living. Not everyone has a huge network of people that can help out in this situation.”

“I rang Emmaus and discovered they were due to open their new Community in 10 days and I stayed with a friend until the building was ready. I felt at home from the moment I arrived. Although I haven’t been here very long, I can already feel that my confidence is coming back.”



“I never imagined that I would be homeless, but neither did I imagine I would ever meet the Duchess of Cornwall who visited the Community in December to talk to staff and residents. I have learnt in life that absolutely anything can happen.”



2007 Highlights

Emmaus Gloucestershire expanded its accommodation to 23 Companion rooms and opened a new shop in Nailsworth.

Selwyn Image, the founder of Emmaus in the UK, was awarded a CBE in the New Year's Honours List 2008.

Newly-elected Emmaus International President, Jean Rousseau, attended the UK's annual national assembly in December.

Emmaus was invited by the House of Commons Public Affairs Select Committee to give evidence in the enquiry into Third Sector Commissioning.

The Emmaus North West Partnership, formed of existing Emmaus Communities and Groups located in the North West Region, agreed to work together to develop further opportunities for people to live as Companions in Communities.

Celebrating in Brighton

Emmaus Brighton & Hove celebrated its Tenth Anniversary this year. To mark the event the Community held a special Open Day in the summer – and rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits!

As part of the celebrations, Emmaus Brighton invited people to say what Emmaus meant to them. One Companion wrote:

"Emmaus means everything to me. I was depressed, lonely and even suicidal; Emmaus has given me so much and I've come on a long way, all thanks to Emmaus and the people I've met there."

Below: Rain didn't get in the way of celebrations at Emmaus Brighton & Hove



A lasting legacy



On 22nd January 2007 Abbé Pierre, the founder of the Emmaus Movement, died.

Sammy, a Companion at St Martin's Emmaus, Dover, met Abbé Pierre in October 1996 when he visited the UK and spent an afternoon at Emmaus Coventry & Warwickshire. Sammy writes:

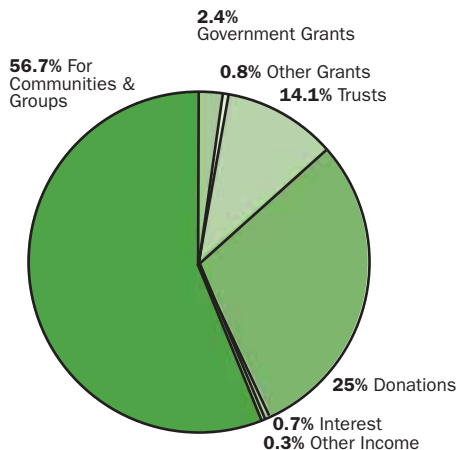
"To sum up Abbé Pierre, he was a gentle, generous, hardworking, caring man. His richness was in the people he met. To the people he met, he gave them his heart. That in many ways is his legacy to us. Let's hope we can carry on his work with the same strength of character."

Thanks to the inspiration and charisma of Abbé Pierre, there are now Emmaus projects in over 35 countries around the world. Here in the UK we are committed to continuing the work begun by Abbé Pierre. In 2008 the Emmaus UK Federation identified the following six strategic aims:

- The Development of Understanding of the Ethos and Principles of the Emmaus Movement
- The Establishment and Maintenance of Successful Communities
- The Provision of Support for Companion Development
- The Development of New Emmaus Groups
- The Development of an Effective and Resilient Federation
- Close Integration with the Emmaus International Movement

2007 in figures

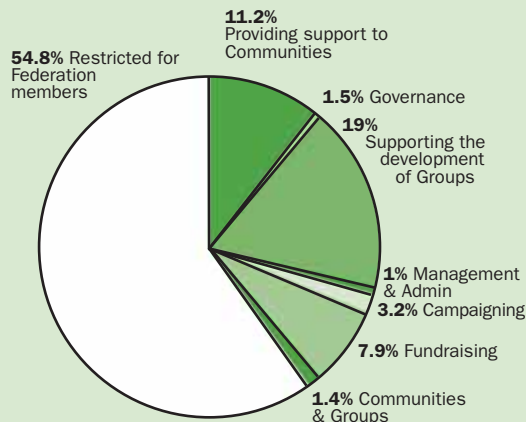
Income



Government Grants	80,625
Other Grants	28,463
Trusts	478,575
Donations	841,071
Interest	23,690
Other Income	11,330
For Communities & Groups	1,919,152
Total	£3,382,906

The Emmaus UK Office supports existing Emmaus Communities and those working to establish new Communities in the UK by providing a range of support services, grants to individual projects and assisting projects with their own fundraising.

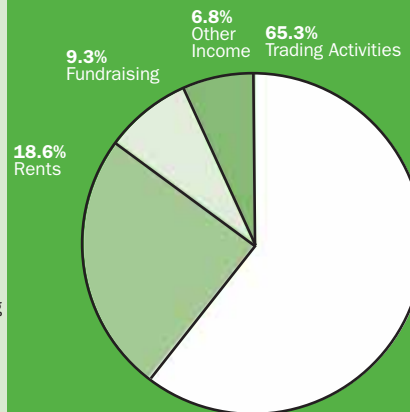
Expenditure



Providing support to Communities	392,511
Governance	52,161
Supporting development of Groups	660,221
Management & Admin	34,923
Campaigning	113,282
Fundraising	277,096
Grants to Emmaus Communities & Groups	50,077
Restricted for Federation members	1,919,152
Total	£3,499,423

A full copy of the Emmaus UK audited accounts is available on request.

Community Income*



Example of a Community's Income

Trading Activities	335,929
Rents	95,844
Fundraising	47,900
Other income	35,036
Total	£514,709

Each Emmaus Community is an independent registered charity within the Federation of Emmaus in the UK. The example above from Emmaus Village Carlton* illustrates from where a Community derives its income. Full audited accounts for each Community are available at www.charity-commission.gov.uk

Emmaus in 2007

- Emmaus Community
- Emmaus Group



15 Communities

Emmaus Bolton
Emmaus Brighton & Hove
Emmaus Bristol
Emmaus Cambridge
Emmaus Coventry & Warwickshire
Emmaus Glasgow
Emmaus Gloucestershire
Emmaus Greenwich
Emmaus Leeds
Emmaus Mossley
Emmaus Sheffield (opened Jan 2008)
Emmaus South Lambeth (opened Nov 2007)
Emmaus St Albans
Emmaus St Martin's (Dover)
Emmaus Village Carlton (Bedfordshire)

12 Affiliated Groups

Emmaus Burnley (affiliated 2007)
Emmaus Colchester*
Emmaus Exeter
Emmaus Hampshire*
Emmaus Hastings & Rother (affiliated 2007)
Emmaus Hull
Emmaus Liverpool
Emmaus Medway
Emmaus Oxford*
Emmaus Preston*
Emmaus Rugby
Emmaus Salford

(*Currently developing sites)

11 Emerging Groups



48 Kingston Street, Cambridge CB1 2NU
Tel 01223 576103 Email contact@emmaus.org.uk

emmaus

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