

Application to join our Friends Network

I hereby authorise Emmaus Rugby to hold my personal contact details, including my name, address and telephone number (home and mobile), to be kept on a database and operated by an authorised representative of Emmaus Rugby. The purpose is to collate a list of local supporters within Rugby and the surrounding areas for activities relating to the development of an Emmaus Community in Rugby.

Title:

First name:

Surname:

Address:

.....

.....

Telephone:

Email:

I am happy to receive information by email

Yes No

I can offer the following skills (*optional*)

.....

Please return this form to:
Chair of Trustees, Emmaus Rugby
PO Box 5335, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 9JY

Emmaus Rugby is a registered charity no 1120347



Steve lived at Emmaus Greenwich between 2004 and 2009

“I was at Emmaus Greenwich for 5 years. I became homeless and went to a night shelter in Watford. They slung us out at 8.00am and we couldn't go back until 7.00 at night. I just wandered around town, went to the library and the park – it was winter, so I had to find somewhere warm. Day centres open from 10 until 2.30, which means there were hours when I had nowhere to go. Emmaus is different – you can be here all of the time and work.



In 2009 I got a job at the Post Office. I lived in the Community for 2 months before getting my own place. It takes a while to get used to changes such as dealing with finances, and it was a bit lonely at first not to be surrounded by people all the time.

I've had a lot of help from the Community to help me move on. Not just supplies for my new home, but support and advice. I have always been able to go back and speak to staff. It's so important to have a kind of emotional bridge to see you over the transition and Emmaus has given that to me. It's been a slow journey but my time at Emmaus gave me the confidence to move on with my life and I will always be grateful.”



Become a Friend of Emmaus Rugby



**Emmaus –
the homeless charity
that works**

Email: info@emmausrugby.org.uk
Web: www.emmausrugby.org.uk

Why Emmaus in Rugby?

- In 2008, a Homelessness Strategy, produced by Rugby Borough Council, reported a 'substantial increase' in people applying as 'homeless'.
- There is a shortage of affordable housing in Rugby.¹
- Many local people can't afford to buy a home, nor do they earn enough to afford the rent from a private landlord. Single people, and those without children, are the worst affected.
- In the winter of 2007/8, 60 local people slept rough or were staying with friends.²
- The number of young people leaving care and requiring ongoing support has doubled in recent years.

Emmaus CAN make a difference in Rugby.

¹SHMA for the West Midlands, including Rugby

²Rugby Borough Council Homeless Survey October 2007



What is Emmaus?

Emmaus is about people, many of whom arrive at Emmaus at a very low point in their lives. People become homeless for many different reasons, but at Emmaus they find the space and support they need to start rebuilding their lives.

Emmaus Communities live as a family, with members supporting each other and contributing to the well-being of all. Each Companion (or resident) has their own room, but meals are eaten together and housework is shared. All Companions work full-time in the Community business which, in turn, enables each Community not only to be self-financing, but also to support other good causes in the wider community.

The benefits of an Emmaus Community to Rugby

- Emmaus offers an opportunity to escape the loneliness and rejection of homelessness.
- People recover their self-respect and take responsibility for their own lives.
- Companions sign off unemployment benefits and find full-time employment within the Community.
- Companions learn new skills and, in some cases, gain qualifications.
- Any surplus created by the business is used to help those in the local area who have less.



Why become a Friend of Emmaus?

As a Friend, you will be joining a committed family of volunteers who want to bring Emmaus to Rugby. How much you would like to become involved is entirely up to you. At the very least, you will be kept informed of the progress of our Community's development, as well as being invited to Open Days and special celebrations.

So how can you help?

- Donate time and skills by joining a task group and become part of the team developing a Community for the homeless
- Become a trustee
- Support Emmaus Rugby through the giving of donations
- Tell friends, family and neighbours about Emmaus

If you would like to become a 'Friend of Emmaus', then please fill in the form overleaf and return it to the following address:

Chair of Trustees, Emmaus Rugby
PO Box 5335, Rugby,
Warwickshire, CV21 9JY