

Emmaus Preston



The newsletter of Emmaus Preston – Spring 2008

Refurbishment on course

The refurbishment of our community building the Birches is continuing a pace since the builders began work in December. Wardens, our contractors, are working very hard to stick to the schedule and have been very accommodating of our moving remit! They are confident that the building will be ready to receive the first of 25 companions around June of this year.



Above: Refurbishment of The Birches is going well and we hope to take our first Companions in June

Staff News

We have appointed a new Community Leader! Eddie Archer will be starting his training on 14th April at various Emmaus Communities around the country.

Eddie has a wealth of experience in helping the homeless even providing accommodation in his own caravan when things got desperate in his home town. He is a very experienced and empathetic guy and we feel sure that he will be a massive asset to Emmaus Preston.



Above: Eddie Archer, newly appointed Community Leader for Emmaus Preston

Plans for the Gardens

We are in the early stages of developing the gardens around the Birches and have plans to turn them into a community allotment project providing fresh vegetables for use in the Birches and for the wider community. Incorporated into the scheme will be a community composter which given sufficient funding maybe big enough to provide some extra income.

Groundwork are extremely interested in the project and are confident that we can create something of real benefit to both Emmaus and the people who live around the Birches and have great ideas for where we can obtain funding.

We would love to talk to anyone who is interested in gardening and may have some time to give on a regular basis to this wonderful scheme.

Social Enterprise

We have a lovely unit on a satellite industrial estate in the city, it is full of furniture which is ready to be sold as soon as we have suitable premises nearer to the Birches. We have a shortlist of properties and are poised to pounce.



Fundraising

We are 75% of our way to funding the whole project with Phase One and part of Phase Two are funded.

We have brought the two houses we have into the scope of Phase Two of the project plan; currently facilities in these houses are shared and so not ideal for use as mixed gender move on accommodation. Converting them to fully ensuite and the building of a community café at the Birches comprises the majority of Phase Two of the project plan.

We have a bid in with DCLG to fund this together with match funding from NWDA, an anonymous donor and a trust. Fingers crossed!

The Emmaus 1000

There are estimated to be 1000 homeless people in Preston and we are endeavouring to persuade 1000 Prestonians to commit to giving £10 per month for three years to bring this project through to sustainability, whence the community is forecast to be largely self-funding.

If you would like to sign up please cut off the coupon below and post back to us.

Update Event at St John's Minster goes with a bang

We had a hugely successful event at the Minster. The aim was to update interested parties in the area on how our project has been developing and to raise some funds at the same time. We raised over £4000 through an auction of promises, which included a day firing large artillery pieces on a tank range, we were given a pool table for the community and got news of further help from the NWDA totalling £75,000 so all in all a very successful event and very big thank you to all of those who attended. We were supported by Fr Timothy Lipscombe and his team of volunteers who put on a gourmet buffet and who hosted the evening in a most assured and professional manner and to whom we are very grateful.

There are several items that we need to get the community up and running and ideas and help towards obtaining them will be very gratefully received:

Luton Van with tail lift	£20,000
Pat testing Machine with training	£3000
Joinery tools	£700
Tills	£200
Furniture trolley	£50
Computers and broadband for Companions	£2500
Computer tables	£300
Large TV for Companion lounge	£1000
Furniture	£20000
	(or £1000 per companion)
TVs for companions rooms	£2500
Music centre	£500
Pool table	£300
Books for library	£500
Minibus	£15,000
Gardening equipment	£700

Emmaus 1000 Coupon

Yes I want to help homeless people:

Bank _____

Full Branch address _____

Postcode _____

Account no. _____ Sort code _____

Account Title (eg Mr and Mrs Smith) _____

Please pay Emmaus Preston the sum of £10 (Ten pounds) per month (ref Emmaus 1000), starting on _____ and continuing on the same day of each month for a further 35 months (36 payments in total)

At Royal Bank of Scotland, 2 Lytham Road, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs. PR2 8JB
(Sort code 16-20-16; Account no. 10055333; Account title: Emmaus Preston)

Signature _____ Date _____

Gift Aid declaration

Gifts from UK tax payers qualify for Gift Aid and are worth an extra 28% to Emmaus Preston. Please complete the Gift Aid declaration below if you are a UK tax payer.

I want Emmaus Preston to treat all donations I make, or have made in the last six years, as Gift Aid donations. I know that I must pay an amount of income/capital gains tax at least equal to the tax the charity reclaims on my donations in the tax year.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please note that this form should be signed in accordance with your bank signing instructions and returned to Emmaus Preston, c/o St John's Minster, Church Street, Preston PR1 3BT

Emmaus Preston, c/o St John's Minster, Church Street, Preston PR1 3BT

Tel: 07973 224579 • E-mail: simoncmould@googlemail.com • Website: www.emmaus.org.uk/preston

Emmaus Preston is a registered charity, number 1073677, and a company limited by guarantee, number 3643570, registered in England and Wales