

Information about recent Outreach Partners

Sheffield Samaritans - offers a listening ear and helpful advice to anyone who is struggling to cope (not just people who are feeling suicidal). A branch of Samaritans UK, Sheffield Samaritans relies on local fundraising to keep its vital service going.

Parish contact: Pam McDonald (www.samaritans.org/branches/sheffield-samaritans)

Grace Food Bank - a community group covering Lowedges, Norton, Batemoor, Jordanthorpe and the surrounding areas. They provide parcels of food that have been donated or bought with donated money to families and individuals who find themselves in short term financial crisis.

Parish contact: Raymond Kinsella (www.gracefoodbanksheffield.org.uk)

Diocese of Hallam Caring Services – an affiliation of projects and organisations serving the social needs of the church and the wider community in South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire. This includes counselling services, marriage support, services to schools, support for bereaved adults and children and help for deaf people.

Parish contact: Fr Gus (www.hallam-diocese.com/hallam-caring-services)

Transport 17 - Transport 17 is a 99% volunteer group based at Totley. It provides community transport (3 Minibuses) for the elderly / infirm for outings, theatre visits, lunch clubs, etc.

Parish contact: Frank Donnelly

The Besom - The Sheffield Besom, which is based in Woodseats, exists to form a bridge between the church and its community. It takes that which someone wants to give, whether it is time, money or things, and finds someone who genuinely needs it. They don't ask people to "help out", but ask people to give out of love.

Parish contact: Maria Mahon (www.besom.com/local-besoms/Sheffield)

Reaching the Unreached - a project in Southern India set up by Bro. James Kimpton, which rescues orphaned and Aids-affected children, builds basic houses and drills wells for clean water. Brother James sadly died last year, but his invaluable work goes on.

Parish contact: Frank Donnelly (www.rtu.org.uk)

Kwakakulu (Kenya) - Through our link with Fr John Mahon CSSp, we have supported a variety of projects in Kwakakulu (a rural area of Kenya) and in Nairobi. These have included projects linked to education, sustainable agriculture, water storage, energy efficiency and provision for those who are sick (including those with AIDS). Although Fr. Mahon is no longer based in Kenya he still has strong links to community projects there which we hope to support in the future.

Parish contact: Angela Wood

Fr Peter Shekelton - supported in his work in Brazil in the Amazon basin. His parish was huge and his mode of transport was a small motor boat. He often spent our donations on fuel for the boat. We supported him until last summer when his mission in Brazil ended.

The Bethlehem Care & Hospice Trust (formerly the Hallam Bethlehem Fund) - aims to provide a care-centre for the poor and elderly and a hospice for the dying in and around Bethlehem, where a lack of resources and the absence of healthcare, social services and pensions leaves the elderly, especially men, particularly vulnerable. To date £208,000 has been raised towards the £1.5m project cost.

Parish contact: Joe McNally (www.bethlehemcareandhospicetrust.org)

Ed Aid - was a charity group helping people in The Gambia, in particular, with children's education. We often supported them in kind, through collections of items such as stationery, rather than cash. Sadly the group is now winding up.

Toilet Twinning - Toilet Twinning is an initiative organised by Tearfund. Toilet Twinning provides clean water, sanitation and toilets in the developing world. They also provide education programmes about the importance of sanitation.

Parish contact: Barbara Richardson (www.toilettwinning.org)

ASSIST Sheffield – helps destitute asylum seekers by providing accommodation, advice and other support to those in most need or distress. ASSIST are totally reliant on volunteers, grants and the generosity of the people of Sheffield and the surrounding area.

Parish contact: Tony Willcock (www.assistsheffield.org.uk)

St. Wilfrid's Centre - St Wilfrid's Centre is a community where homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded adults can find understanding, practical assistance, a sense of belonging and the support to regain self-esteem. The Centre aims to provide people with opportunities to improve their quality of life.

Parish contact: Steve Corker (www.stwilfridscentre.org)

The Terminus Initiative - a charity run by local Christian churches on the Lowedges estate. A Cafe and Shop provide a meeting place, healthy food and reasonably priced goods. A women's conversation group helps refugees and asylum seekers to integrate. The charity is working with Sheffield City Council to reduce isolation, increase community cohesion and empower people to make positive choices.

Parish contact: Charles Perryman (www.terminusinitiative.org)

SVP Furniture Store - The Store accepts donations of household furniture to give free of charge to the vulnerable and people coming out of homelessness in Sheffield. This may include those escaping abuse, recovering alcoholics, people suffering mental health problems and families who are unable to afford furniture.

Parish contact: Ralph Dickins. (www.svpfurniturestoresheffield.org.uk)

Ben's Centre - the charity aims to relieve the poverty, sickness and distress of people with alcohol related problems in Sheffield by providing a day centre offering advice, food, hygiene facilities, clothes, laundry, hot drinks, free telephone calls / internet, etc. It is a 'damp' day centre, i.e. people can attend with alcohol in them, but they can't drink in the centre.

Parish contact: Hilary Donnelly (www.benscentre.org)