

## STEPPING OUT WITH LINKING LIVES UK

One of the wonderful bonuses of the work at our various foodbanks and at Hope House in Beeston is that many people find friendship, community and family amongst fellow volunteers and beneficiaries. But we know that there are too many of our neighbours who are isolated and alone at home. We have decided that as well as welcoming people in to our community projects we also need to go out and reach those who struggle to get out by themselves. Following support and encouragement from the Nottingham Together initiative, Hope Nottingham will be piloting a visiting befriending scheme particularly aimed at elderly neighbours who may be lonely.

We are recruiting and training volunteers to visit people near to Hope House, with the intention of helping them to come out and meet people at Hope House or other local community projects. Those needing visits can be referred to us by anyone, but we will also be taking formal referral from local health and social care professionals. The whole project is being undertaken with guidance from national charity Linking Lives UK who have over 20 years of experience in this kind of work. We are delighted that so far we have recruited 11 volunteers from 10 different churches. We are sure that God will bless this unity as the project begins later in March

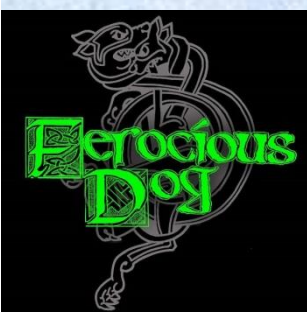


## THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY

In 2018 Hope Nottingham's foodbanks received a total of **89 tonnes of food donations!!** This provided food parcels for **11,750 people**. It is shocking that the number of people needing food parcels continues to rise, but we are so grateful that this need is met by tremendous generosity from people all over Nottingham. Thanks are also due to the many volunteers who welcome and befriend those in need. This friendship is often the first step to lifting people's self-esteem and confidence that can lead people to engage with the support needed to help them move forward, whether that's with employment, housing needs or financial difficulty. As a result we are helping more people find work, get housed and get out of debt. This is possible thanks to approximately **400 volunteers** who between them have given about **50,000 hours of volunteer time** in 2018. **THANK YOU!!**

## FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS WITH NOTTINGHAM FOREST FANS

The very generous fans at Nottingham Forest are now organising collections of food donations a few times a year before home games. Fans are encouraged to bring along items of non-perishable food to The Trent Navigation Inn where they will be very gratefully received by volunteers from Hope. The last collection in December gathered 700kg of food and several hundred pounds in cash. **We are very grateful for the support of Nottingham Forest Fans.** We do need some help collecting this food and taking it from the pub to local foodbanks. **The next collection is on 13<sup>th</sup> April** and volunteers are needed from 12 noon til 3pm to help receive the donations and from 3 -3.45pm to load the donations onto vehicles and transport to local foodbanks. **Please get in touch if you can help.**



## AND "FEROCIOUS DOG" AT ROCK CITY

The fantastic folk rock band, Ferocious Dog, invite their fans to bring food donations to all their gigs in Nottingham. Their fans are very generous and the donations are shared between our foodbanks and Tracy's Kitchen a mobile soup kitchen in Nottingham. Again, help is needed to receive the donations and to transport it afterwards. **The next collection is on 27<sup>th</sup> April.** Please get in touch if you can help.

## HOPE JOB CLUB GROWTH

Our job clubs have been a really important development over the last two years. Our volunteers help people use computers to get online, do job searches, write CVs and apply for jobs. Of equal importance is the encouragement and motivation our volunteers provide to help boost confidence. The job club is now very busy two mornings per week at Hope House and once a week at Beeston Library. Through this we are seeing increasing numbers of people find work and with this a real possibility that we are helping people avoid crisis and the need for food parcels. Building on this success we are now setting up a Job Club at Hope Long Eaton and we're working towards developing others around Nottingham including Broxtowe Estate and Sneinton.

## "I've learnt more here than I did at school"

says Paul 37, who has learnt so much in Hope's Job Club and Computer Club that he now volunteers to help other people too. Paul gained part-time employment recently. This is his first job since leaving school. We are really proud of Paul (*left*) and his achievements



## INTRODUCING NEW TRUSTEES FOR HOPE NOTTINGHAM

Following a very successful trustee recruitment drive late last year, we are very pleased to have appointed three new trustees. We are particularly pleased that now our trustee body represents at least six different churches & denominations. Unity in action!! Our trustees are now:-

Dr Paul Kirkwood, Chair; Tony Richmond, Vice Chair; Dr Simon Duxon, Treasurer; Mary Heritage; with new trustees: Colin Edis; Brian Leigh and Sean Tully.

We welcome the new trustees on board and we are very grateful for their commitment and support.

## MARATHON FOR HOPE

On 28<sup>th</sup> April, David Udoh of Redeemer Church in Beeston will be running the London Marathon in aid of Hope Nottingham. Most of us feel the pain and fatigue at the mere thought of it! We are very grateful for his support. If you would like to show your admiration for David's efforts and support Hope Nottingham, you can sponsor him online. Look out for a link to the sponsorship page on our website.

**THANKS DAVID!!**



Once again in 2019 Hope Nottingham will be encouraging people to make donations through the 40 days of Lent. Traditionally people have been encouraged to **give things up** for Lent but we are suggesting if may be helpful to **Give for Lent**.

Hope Nottingham's work enabling people to work together to support those in need in local communities around Nottingham is much more than Foodbank. Our work to bring transformation for people's lives involves staff time in training and supporting volunteers to help people in all sorts of ways: to overcome loneliness, to prepare and look for work, to get housed and more besides. We are very dependent and very thankful for all donations of money we receive. One way to do this is to give 40p for the 40 days of lent generates £16. Please consider if you can help in this way. For more details see:-

<http://www.hope-nottingham.org.uk/news/lent-appeal-2019/>

## HOPE HOUSE – A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND A PLACE OF PRAYER

Hope House is a Christian Community seeking to welcome everyone and enable all to live abundant lives, with Jesus Christ at the heart of it all. We have times of worship and prayer each day and all our welcome to join in.

MORNING PRAYER TIMES: 9.15-9.30am; LUNCHTIME PRAYER: 12.30-12.45pm, Mon & Tues.

PLACE OF PEACE: a time for worship, Bible teaching and prayer for one another. Thursday 10.45am-12pm

MONTHLY PRAYER & WORSHIP: A relaxed time to worship God and soak in His presence: 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. of Month 7.30-9pm

For more details see: [www.hopenottingham.org.uk](http://www.hopenottingham.org.uk) and daily prayer blog; [www.nigelathope.wordpress.com](http://www.nigelathope.wordpress.com)