

# Partnerships & Mission

## Annual Report 2022

[www.southwell.anglican.org](http://www.southwell.anglican.org)

David McCoulough

*Director of Partnerships and Mission*

Well, 2022 has been another exhausting year of challenges, injustices and uncertainties both nationally and globally. War in Ukraine, energy and cost of living crises, NHS creaking, strikes and industrial action, climate change and challenges about sexuality and identity, two monarchs, three Prime Ministers and four Chancellors – all of this has been contributing to the higher levels of a poor sense of wellbeing and mental health anxieties for so many people. What has the gospel to say in the light of all this and more?

These words from the ordination of Deacons service are pertinent to all people trying to be followers of Jesus.

*“They are to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God’s purposes of love. They are to serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people. They are to work with their fellow members in searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.”*

The Partnerships & Mission team continued to work alongside parishes, projects and partners across the diocese to try and embody this diaconal charge.

- Supporting Ukrainian Refugees by identifying hosts and matching them with Ukrainian refugees was established in the spring and continues to offer help.

[sur@southwell.anglican.org](mailto:sur@southwell.anglican.org)

- At least 40 of our churches have engaged

with the Warm Welcome initiative providing warm spaces or hubs for people struggling to pay heating bills. Over 4000 across the country now. <https://www.warmwelcome.uk/>

- Chaplains and sector ministers are found in often forgotten or surprising organisations. In hospitals, prisons and courts, armed forces and air cadets, emergency services, sports clubs, shops and offices, the deaf community, GP surgeries and hospices, mental health units, schools and Higher Education Institutions and more.

- The diocese has continued to seriously engage with the challenges of climate change. We have a new *Caring for Creation* policy, achieved a bronze eco diocese award and now have over 90 churches registered as eco churches with 27 having silver or bronze awards. But so much more to do.

At the heart of our hope and the activity of so many individuals and churches is our relationship with God, the Holy Trinity and with each other. Only by becoming a more relational church will we be drawn closer into God and be equipped more to fulfil the diaconal charge. <https://relationalchurch.uk/>

At the end of 2022 I decided to step down as Director of Partnerships & Mission in 2023. I want to thank the many and varied colleagues and partners of the past 15 years, for their passion, commitment and support. But most of all to say what a privilege to learn about and support the amazing examples of whole life discipleship found in our churches, sometimes in what may seem like ‘forgotten corners’ of the world.

David McCoulough



# Housing Homelessness and The Church



Liam O'Boyle Partnerships Officer

In the early hours of 11<sup>th</sup> November this year I was privileged to go out in Nottingham city centre with the Street Outreach Team on the annual official head count of rough sleepers which all Local Authorities must do on the same night. I was there to verify the figures which are then recorded and sent to central government.

We found 27 people...including a young man - I'll call Sam - who we found at the top of a freezing cold multi-story car park in the entrance area by the lift in a wheelchair what was shocking was that Sam is an amputee...who told us he'd used the lift to climb to a safe place...the Street Outreach Team were brilliant with him and were able to access the right level of help and support he so badly needed.

According to The Homeless Charity Shelter\* Sam is one of 1,614 people in 2022 who have experienced what it's like to be homeless in Nottingham city.

One of the most shocking statistics from Shelter's report is that not only are there almost 250,000 homeless people living in temporary accommodation in England. But there are an estimated 123,000 homeless children, comprising almost half (45%) of all people recorded as homeless in England.

(Please see box below for numbers of homeless families in temporary accommodation in Diocese from Shelter report)

\* [Shelter Homelessness in England 2022.pdf](#)

Local authority within Diocese	No. of people homeless and living in Temporary Accommodation arranged by the council	No. of homeless children in Temporary Accommodation
<b>Nottingham</b>	<b>1,591</b>	<b>898</b>
<b>Mansfield</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Ashfield</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Bassetlaw</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Gedling</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Rushcliffe</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Newark &amp; Sherwood</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Broxtowe</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>26</b>

Unfortunately, so many of these families will have to stay in temporary emergency accommodation because of the lack of local social housing stock available.

The increase in the numbers is adding to a national housing crisis with far too many people in the communities we live are living in unaffordable, unsafe and unstable tenancies with nearly one million people in rent arrears.

There is a long history of church involvement in housing across all Christian denominations and a number of churches locally partner with Hope into Action to provide housing and support to tenants.

The Church of England’s Housing Commission produced a landmark report called “Coming Home” which sets out vital actions for the Church, Government and other Stakeholders to take with a focus on building better communities and homes, not just houses.

It provides a Christian vision for ‘good’ housing, based around five core values, which are rooted in the Christian story but resonate with us all: good housing should be sustainable, safe, stable, sociable and satisfying. The Report is full of resources to equip the local church to meet local housing

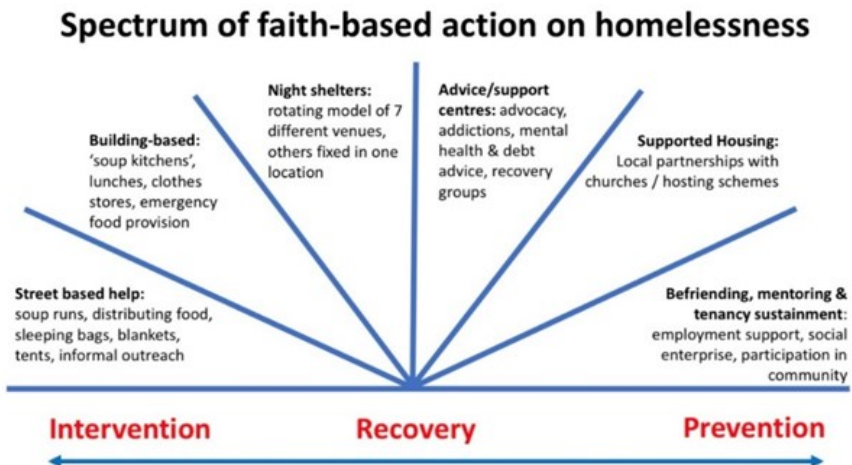
needs and strengthen their communities. There also an increasing need from churches asking how they engage with new housing estates being built in their parishes. [Housing, Church and Community Commission | The Church of England](#)

Across the Diocese Churches and Christian charities like The Beacon in Mansfield continue to offer a lifeline to increasing numbers of homeless and vulnerably housed people in the provision of projects ranging from night shelters to drop-in centers to befriending projects.

Transforming Notts Together’s Wayfinder programme started (coaching programme for people coming out of homelessness to support them as they take on tenancies).



*The Diagram below shows the range of provision churches are involved in:*





**Nottingham Winter Shelter**

Nottingham Winter Shelter opened in November 2022 once again based in a small residential unit on the University of Nottingham’s campus and all 23 beds are occupied every night. (Shelter will run until March 2023) Many volunteers come from churches across the city.

Once again, the reasons for being homeless:

- Relationship breakdown and insecure accommodation.
- Arrears in rent due to cost of living crisis.
- Number of women increased due to domestic violence; a phenomenon acknowledged in the wider population.

The Diocese is represented on the Statutory Homelessness Strategy Implementation Group (SIG) - an essential inter-agency meeting involving a number of partners in the City. Through this we are able present issues/concerns/ways of working together on behalf of the strong faith network in the

city which includes Nottingham’s Faith Leaders Network and Christian Action Nottingham (CAN). The CAN Housing Subgroup is made of churches and Christian charities across the city and the county and is growing, especially as we look to see how Churches can engage more in housing issues. Christian projects continue to work alongside voluntary sector homeless charities, meeting regularly at Nottingham Homelessness Voluntary Sector Forum.

The Forum runs [streetsupport.net/Nottingham/](https://streetsupport.net/Nottingham/) which provides information on all services available for homeless people in the city and county. The website also provides links for members of the public to donate items such as clothes or food, time in volunteering opportunities or money to local homelessness charities.

**For more information and contact** numbers for people experiencing homelessness please see <https://southwell.anglican.org/resources/transforming-lives/housing-and-homelessness/>



TRANSFORMING NOTTS TOGETHER

“if we wait for Govt will be too little too late, if individuals act will be too little, if we act as communities it might just be enough, just in time”



## Refugees and Asylum Seekers

As a Diocese we want our city and county to be a place where asylum seekers and refugees are welcomed, receive hospitality and compassionate treatment and the support to rebuild their lives.

The past year has seen many churches and Christians living out Jesus' radical hospitality in welcoming new arrivals to our city and county.

Churches like St Stephens Hyson Green, St Nics, St John's Mansfield, St Mary's Newark, Trinity Church, St Stephen's and St Christopher's Sneinton, have opened their doors and hearts to offer a warm welcome and hospitality to people seeking sanctuary from countries like Afghanistan, Iran, Eritrea, Ukraine, Hong Kong.

By hosting, by visiting the hotels, befriending refugees, providing conversational English classes, donating clothing (including the Mothers Union in Southwell) and culturally appropriate food churches have embodied Jesus' call to love our neighbour.

By working alongside local authorities and the Charity sector Churches have enhanced our reputation and our willingness to go the extra mile has given others glimpses of what we mean by the Kingdom of God. The way that churches have integrated asylum seekers and refugees into their weekly activities and worship has been second to none and the gifts new arrivals bring into the church are wonderful.

We continue to work alongside statutory agencies, Refugee and Charity sector and Housing Providers on the Multi Agency Partnership (MAF) and the Hotel Operational Group in the city and county.

## Homes for Ukraine in Nottinghamshire

District / Borough	Arrived	Total
• Ashfield	• 92	• 161
• Bassetlaw	• 187	• 318
• Broxtowe	• 116	• 173
• Gedling	• 148	• 224
• Mansfield	• 85	• 151
• Newark and Sherwood	• 245	• 407
• Rushcliffe	• 307	• 491
• Total	• 1173	• 1917



## Ukrainian Refugees

As the horrendous war in Ukraine continues, it remains essential for us to continue national and local support for Ukrainian refugees. There are currently 1,917 Ukrainian refugees in the county and another 225 in the city (please see County Council table above).

Bishop Peter Hill and Liam O'Boyle will continue to recruit potential hosts for the Homes For Ukraine Scheme in partnership with Citizens UK.

If you wish to find out more, please email our diocesan admin team on [sur@southwell.anglican.org](mailto:sur@southwell.anglican.org). For information on local support please see

[Notts Churches' Response to Ukrainian Refugees \(Local Support\) - Transforming Notts Together](#)

For more information of organisations supporting refugees and asylum seekers –

please see - <https://southwell.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Refugee-signposting-Booklet.pdf>

God of all peoples and nations,  
Who created all things alive and breathing,  
United and whole,  
Show us the way of peace that is your overwhelming presence.  
We hold before you the peoples of Ukraine and Russia,  
Every child and every adult,  
We long for the time  
When weapons of war are beaten into ploughshares  
When nations no longer lift up sword against nation.  
We cry out to you for peace;

Protect those who only desire and deserve to live in security and safety  
Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones  
Be with those who are bereaved.  
Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression  
And fill leaders with the wisdom that leads to peace.  
Kindle again in us a love of our neighbour,  
And a passion for justice to prevail  
and a renewed recognition that we all play a part in peace.  
Creator of all hear our prayer  
And bring us peace. make us whole.  
Amen.



Homes for Ukraine  
Nottinghamshire



## Modern Slavery

As a Diocese we work with Victim Support Projects and other frontline charities involved in combatting Modern Day Slavery and Trafficking.

We are part of The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Anti-Slavery Partnership which is a strategic partnership between the City, County and Boroughs/Districts, charities, police, Gang Masters Licensing Association.

We are linked in with The Clewer Initiative, the Church of England's national response to Modern Day Slavery <https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/>  
Locally the Diocese is also a member of CAN (Christian Action Nottingham) Slavery-Free Notts Group made up of local anti-slavery experts and practitioners who belong to Nottingham churches.  
We aim to help churches and Christians across the city and

county become more aware of the signs of Modern Slavery amongst those vulnerable people churches already serve in other capacities – such as food banks or homelessness outreaches and hosted an event around this in November.

For more information and resources about Modern Slavery in the city and county please see - <https://www.slaveryfreenotts.com/>  
If you suspect slavery is happening or discuss any concerns and get advice, please phone The Modern Slavery Helpline: 08000 121700



# Chaplaincy

**Our chaplains offer confidential pastoral care, religious services, spiritual guidance, and counselling to anyone at times of need, wherever it's needed, and in a wide range of workplace settings, such as in healthcare, prisons, retail, sports clubs, emergency services, and GP surgeries.**

## **Supporting Chaplaincy and Sector Ministry**

Currently there are approximately 70 Anglican chaplains ministering in our diocese.

A mixture of ordained and lay, full time to an occasional few hours a month, some paid, most volunteers.

Some are working in sector ministry, such as Healthcare, Prisons, Higher Education and the Armed Forces; some are working at a more parish or community-based context, such as workplaces, town centres, police stations, Air Cadets; some for specific groups or periods of time, such as Civic chaplaincy, Royal British Legion and Mother's Union.

A wide range of contexts enable our chaplains to share something of the Good News in many places in our diocese.

Organisations frequently request chaplaincy support and a number of those in ministerial training (ordained and lay) request chaplaincy placements. In the past year placements have been in sport, prisons, hospitals and Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre .

## **Chaplaincy Development**

In June + Andy hosted a gathering of 35 chaplains, including schools' chaplains (who are managed and supported by the Education Dept)

Meetings with Sports Chaplaincy UK discussed the opportunities for developing work in Professional Football Club youth academies, local sports clubs and leisure centres.

Lead Officers and local leaders to develop more training for chaplains, including vocations, induction and reflective practice.

## **During 2022 appointed to new ministries:**

- James McWhirter RN at Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre at Stamford Hall. James is also Reserve Chaplain for HMS Sherwood based at Chilwell.
- Grant Walton as Co-Ordinating/Anglican Chaplain at the University of Nottingham
- Daniele Bocchetti and Anna Clarke as p/t chaplains at Uni of Nottingham
- Andrew Porter as p/t chaplain at NTU (Brackenhurst Campus)
- Dave Clarke at HMP Whatton
- Sam Tredwell and David McCoulough as Bank Chaplains at Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) NHS Trust
- Becky Hancock Air Cadets Bawtry
- Bryony Wood Air Cadets Retford

## **We said thank you to those finishing:**

- Tim Pownall Jones Notts Healthcare Trust Rampton Hospital
- Robert Heaton HMP Ranby
- Alan Griggs NUH NHS Trust
- Alex Shiels Worksoop Town F.C
- Julian Hemstock NUH NHS Trust
- David Milner Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service

And a special note of thanksgiving for the support of the late Colin Slater for Sports Chaplaincy in the diocese.

## **Nottingham Workplace Chaplaincy**

Jo Tatum - Nottingham Workplace Chaplaincy

The working world hiccupped into 2022, we anticipated full steam ahead, but Covid was tenacious and held its grip, meaning the 'unlocking' of the city was slower than we hoped for.

Businesses were reluctant to open their doors wholeheartedly and the return to work

by all employees continues to be a challenge even as we close 2022.

There is a nervousness, and uncertainty in smaller businesses particularly with rising costs in the Autumn of 2022.

But the city at Christmas was (according to early reports) one of the busiest and most profitable. It incites a hesitant optimism for some, and signs of hope for those of us with faith.



## **GP Chaplaincy**

Now established into a steady rhythm in Sneinton, a team of 4 led by Rev Lynda Blakeley serves the Windmill surgery. They have had the opportunity to listen to and pray with a number of patients and the expectation of prayer for healing is a significant offer for all patients.

## **Community Chaplaincy**

Sherwood Chaplaincy continues to flourish, again now an established part of Sherwood high street, in shops and cafes and small businesses. The Chaplaincy's café and food provision at St Martin grows in numbers and is a place of meeting for the community, and a place of prayer and sanctuary for both the busy and the marginalised.

## **Police Chaplaincy**

Police Chaplaincy team continues to grow, we have a new member this year from another police force who has moved to Nottingham. He brings with him years of experience and will enrich our team as we endeavor to minister to the staff and officers wider, younger and deeper.

The Chaplaincy was able to lead a funeral for an officer who had died in service, it was a wonderful opportunity to share the love and transforming power of Christ, with hundreds of police staff.



I attended the first Police Chaplaincy conference since 2018 and from that we formed a regional network of Lead Chaplains, from Derbyshire, Leicester, Lincolnshire, and Nottingham. Our regular meetings are a wonderful opportunity to pray together and encourage each other in best practice.

The Chaplains have been invited to join in with the Wellbeing Team when they 'roadshow' at different Police Stations across

the County. This project had been cancelled in previous years so the opportunities to spread the word about Chaplaincy 'on the ground' has been great and extremely well received.

The Emergency Services Carol Service held at Southwell Minster was filled to capacity now that restrictions have been lifted and it was to see people touched again by the power of the Christmas story.



Liam O'Boyle  
Notts County  
Football Club  
Chaplain



David Milner's presentation  
on retiring as Notts Fire &  
Rescue Service Chaplain



## Nottingham Workplace Chaplaincy

After a stumbling start the year quickly picked up momentum, it seemed as though everyone is keen to make up for lost time.

St Mary's in partnership with the Workplace Chaplaincy opened its doors every Wednesday for Workplace Wednesday, a chance for workers to enjoy the space of St Mary's, and its creative environment, to work, meet, think and of course drink coffee! The Insight Meetings picked up again with a new calendar of speakers, finding it's permanent home in St Mary's. A wonderful outcome of this partnership working is the launching of the Lace Market Chaplaincy, with its Chaplain, Louise Third. Louise is an experienced business woman who has long felt called to offer the love and inspiration of the Christian message to local business people.

We have planned to run an online Grief Café with Nottinghamshire County Council, this will launch early in 2023.

City Transport have now returned to a full timetable, it has been a difficult time for them, there have been drivers involved in accidents, and some significant numbers of staff with profound health issues. The Chaplaincy counts it a privilege to walk with men and women on these difficult pathways.

We have also added another Chaplain to our team, Maggie Ross who takes over the Chaplaincy at Marks and Spencer. Maggie has many connections with the City, through her work at Age UK and her

continuing vocation with the judicial service.

## Chaplains

We said goodbye to Mike Houghton this year, Mike has been with the Chaplaincy for a number of years, but during Covid spent and developed a greater ministry in his local community. We thank him for his dedicated service to us and pray for his continuing fruitfulness in all he does.

The year has whizzed by and feels as though we are on the threshold of even more incredible opportunities. Increasingly people are excited at the potential of offering Chaplaincy in all its variety of places and spaces. I for one can't wait to see what comes next!



Revd Jo Tatum Workplace Chaplain



## **Bronze Eco Diocese**

This year the diocese achieved a Bronze Eco Diocese award from A Rocha UK, the Christian environmental charity. We are in the first third of dioceses to reach the Bronze level.

In announcing the award Bishop Paul said, “I am delighted to be able to say that the diocese of Southwell and Nottingham has just received its’ Bronze Eco award. We had to satisfy nine requirements which included having a Caring for Creation policy in place, declaring a Climate Emergency and Jubilee House having its’ own award.

Although this is a significant achievement we know that this is just the start and we have much work to do together over the next few



years. We are already looking at what is needed to get to Silver.”

## **Growing Number of Eco Churches**

At the end of 2022 there were 91 registered Eco churches in the diocese. 20 of these with a Bronze award and 7 a Silver one.

The Silver Eco churches are Holy Trinity, Kimberley, Holy Trinity, Southwell, St Mark, Mansfield, St Mary Magdalene, Newark, St Michael & All Angels, Bramcote, St Patrick, Nuthall, St Wilfrid, Calverton.

Those churches who have not yet started out on their eco journey are encouraged to start a discussion and register with A Rocha. Email Robert Cleve: [deo@southwell.anglican.org](mailto:deo@southwell.anglican.org) for more information.



## **Church Schools**

Half of diocesan carbon is generated not by churches but church schools. There are a smaller number of these but they are often larger and operational for longer times each week. The Diocesan Board of Education has developed an approach to Caring for Creation for schools and is actively working with them towards becoming Net Zero Carbon by 2030.



## Jubilee House

Eight-year-old Jubilee House was designed and built to embrace sustainability. It has continued its' eco journey this year and gained not only a Bronze award but progressed to Silver.

Biodiversity has been improved by installing bird feeding, bug, and hedgehog stations on the land around the office.



## Diocesan Eco Policy

In May Diocesan Synod approved a new Environment (Caring for Creation) Policy. This declared a Climate Emergency and committed the diocese to working towards the Church of England's target of becoming Net Zero Carbon by 2030. The Policy emphasises that progress will not be down to a few "eco warriors" but that all aspects of mission and ministry across the diocese will be involved in achieving this.

## Caring for Creation Small Grants Fund

For the first time churches were able to apply for grants of up to £250 to develop their responses to the challenges of climate change and environmental injustices.



In December 12 grants were made to churches, All Saints Barnby in the Willows, St Cyprian Sneinton, St Leo's Basford, St Mary's East Leake, St Mary's Edwinstowe, St Paul's Daybrook, St Paul's Wilford Hill, St Peter's Ravenshead, St Peter's and All Saints, Nottingham, St Stephens and St Mathias, Sneinton, St Wilfrid, Calverton and Wiverton in the Vale. One church planned to create a Physick Garden in the church yard with herbs, scented plants and flowers and another to reduce landfill waste by sharing used school uniforms, clothing & essential school items amongst the parish and local communities.

## Energy Footprint Tool

A key tool for managing our carbon footprint to zero by 2030 is the Energy footprint Tool (EFT) which enables churches and schools to record their energy usage each year.

Although we had the fourth best submission rates across the dioceses, still only half of churches and schools submitted their data (49% for churches and 55% for schools).

Lord Kelvin the Victorian physicist and founder of thermodynamics said "If you don't measure it, you cannot improve it". We hope that every church and school will enter their data in 2023.



### **Calculate your carbon footprint.**

Churches and church halls use the **Energy Footprint Tool**  
Access via [parishreturns.churchengland.org/](http://parishreturns.churchengland.org/)

Schools, cathedrals, TElis and offices use the **Energy Toolkit**  
Access via [ftl.parishreturns.org/](http://ftl.parishreturns.org/)

**Open 1 Jan - 31 Jul 2023 (for 2022 bills)**

## **Equality and Diversity**

### **Racial Justice**

The Global Majority Heritage Advisory Group have been meeting regularly to review the ongoing work towards racial justice and increasing diversity across the Diocese, through lay and ordained leadership. They hope to produce a first report on their work early in 2023.

### **Living in Love and Faith (LLF)**

During 2022, the national consultation phase of LLF continued, with a wide variety of churches around the diocese participating in various ways and individuals contributing to the national feedback survey. Although the consultation formally ended in April 2022, a number of courses and groups have continued across the diocese as the resources provided have been welcomed. James Halstead has supported parishes and the bishops in the various phases of this project, including presenting at a variety of Deanery and Diocesan Synod meetings.

### **Disability Awareness**

In October we launched the Diversity and Belonging online course at the diocesan conference. This is an introductory course designed to help us reflect on diversity and inclusion, and make practical changes to ensure everyone has a home in our churches and communities. It is available to everyone in the diocese through the Learning Hub and we encourage everyone to complete it.

Pete Edwards has taken on the voluntary role of Disability Advisor for the Diocese.

Pete has also been appointed as Vice Chair for the National Disability Advisors Network by +Richard, Bishop of Bedford

Some parishes have been asking for Access Audits. Pete as sent them an access checklist to complete, once this is done he has offered to meet and look at actions.



### **Deaf Community**

The Revd Wendy Murphy has continued to offer a monthly service for Nottingham Deaf Society and Deaf Church members there. She has achieved 03 in British Sign Language (BSL) which is level 1 (the old level 3 qualification)

### **Hate Crime**

The diocese is represented on the Safer Nottinghamshire Board's Hate Crime Steering Group – made up of Statutory and Voluntary/3rd Sector Organizations – this coordinates partnership activity around hate crime in Nottinghamshire and looks at the challenges of hate crime and how we respond to it. The group also facilitates opportunities to bring diverse communities together and increase community cohesion.

# TRANSFORMING NOTTS TOGETHER<sup>+</sup>

## Summary

- 88 projects supported
- 97 churches supported
- £112000 in grants
- 33 workshops delivered
- 49 places of welcome supported
- 9 newsletters circulated
- 6 networks coordinated with 58 network meetings facilitated

## Areas of Work in Development

### Mental Wellbeing

In September, Sue Buckby began work as Mental Health Development Worker at TNT focusing on 3 main areas:

1) Develop and deliver a workshop to help equip churches to start a new wellbeing ministry.

'Come As You Are' is a two-part facilitated conversation being rolled out in February 2023

to help us cultivate good practices ourselves and consider who we can partner with to better support people in our churches and communities with their wellbeing journey.

2) Develop a Mental health subgroup as part of the CAN network. An initial group of people, made up from church representatives as well as Christians from the public/ voluntary sector, met in November to pray and encourage, and will continue to meet on a bi-monthly basis.

3) Train as a Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) instructor and train 50 clergy and volunteers within churches as MHFAs within their communities at 'cost price'. We are currently aiming for summer '23 to offer this.

For more information please email [sue@transformingnottstogether.org.uk](mailto:sue@transformingnottstogether.org.uk) or visit <https://transformingnottstogether.org.uk/areas-of-work/mental-health>



## Wayfinder

Wayfinder is a befriending style service that seeks to provide low-level support to people who have recently been homeless or are at risk of homelessness. It is based on a foundation of relationship. The Wayfinder project has been active since June 22 when Jemma Baldry came into post.

Since then we have been able to explore a variety of delivery options in order to ensure that we were able to use the programme as another method of supporting, equipping and resourcing the churches and organisations on our networks. In this time, we have been able to establish some positive relationships with potential referral agencies; exploring key aspects of both our service and theirs in order to establish the most effective approach to collaborative working.

Currently, our focus is on establishing partnerships with churches and organisations with whom we might work to build up our

volunteer base. This partnership would be determined by the work the church is already doing in the community and enable us to create a “satellite hub” for Wayfinder; a base; a community for us to be a part of and for our volunteer: participant matches to seek wider support. This could potentially form a base for Jemma, as coordinator, and provide the church/organisation with access to the wider resources of TNT and further develop those connections and networks across the county.

As part of our partnership, the church would encourage its existing volunteers to engage with the Wayfinder programme. In return we can use our extensive resources to “upskill” and equip which we would hope support that community to continue doing what it is doing.

For more information email [jemma@transformingnottstogether.org.uk](mailto:jemma@transformingnottstogether.org.uk) or visit <https://transformingnottstogether.org.uk/areas-of-work/wayfinder>

### Spotlight on Real Conversations

TNT received funding as part of Faith New Deal within the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities, to run the Real Conversations Project. These conversations were an opportunity for local groups to look at the resources within their communities and share suggestions for change with leaders of their communities. We used existing Place of Welcome for the conversations, involving 15 churches and 1 library, and 544 individuals. We are now preparing for 2 big conversations with 2 groups, who have invited local councillors and police officers to discuss the changes they would like to see in their community. As part of the Real Conversations project, we spoke to individuals about the positive aspects of their community:



“Since moving here I have felt ambushed by kindness”

“It is lovely to have community groups where we can leave our things at home and just be”

“After starting up an outreach project to young people in our community, the youth now come and say hi to you in the street when they see you, which has had such a positive impact on our community”

## Bringing People Together

### Social Action Audit

In the spring and summer of 2022 TNT, in conjunction with Cinnamon Network and Nottingham City Prayer, got in touch with churches and Christian compassion projects across Greater Nottingham to try and measure the impact of social action across the City. A huge thank to you all those that responded, which gave a snapshot of the number of volunteers, the time commitment, as well as stories of transformed lives through each project. The audit forms part of a wider conversation with civic leaders, about how The Church is making a difference in our different communities, and how we can explore ways of working more closely in partnership to bless the City of Nottingham.

### Real People Honest Talk

Back in January of 2022, under the banner of Near Neighbours, we welcomed 65 people to our Real People, Honest Talk event – the Big Conversation at Trinity Church. Four community groups from NG7 discussed what they like about their community, and what needs to change, and came up with plans and ideas to move forwards. It was a very special day full creative ideas and very honest sharing of stories, with our guests including two of our MPs. One group leader emailed in saying: "Thanks for the amazing opportunity provided for Belongs Youth Group. It was a pleasure for me to see our young people Blooming. This was a defining moment for them, which only comes around once in a lifetime. Many Thanks for including us in REAL People Honest Talk."

## CAN Volunteers' Thank You Evening

On 7th July, over 200 people, representing 43 different churches and Christian compassion projects, gathered at Trent Vineyard to celebrate the work that volunteers are doing through these organisations across Greater Nottingham. The event was hosted by Transforming Notts Together (TNT), in conjunction with Trent Compassion and Justice ministries. Hundreds of volunteers were invited to an evening of desserts, music and networking to be honoured for the impact that their volunteering is having. Local church leaders, as well as political leads Lilian Greenwood MP and Caroline Henry, added their voice of thanks to all those who have continued to support others during the pandemic and beyond.







### And Another Thing...

In addition, let's give mention to hosting two Housing Summits, gathering those working around homelessness prevention through to holistic housing support; hosting two Ukrainian Refugee Summits, gathering churches and civic leads to respond to the immediate need arising from the war in Ukraine; Let's Talk Money (youth budgeting), Racial Justice, and Dementia workshops. We are here to equip The Church in Nottinghamshire, to help people break free from poverty and isolation. Thank you to all those who partner with us, we truly believe that there is strength in unity and we can do far more together than we can in isolation.

Transforming Notts Together coordinates a number of networks around Nottinghamshire to bring together church and project leaders, build relationships and promote joined up working. They are:

#### Christian Action Nottingham

137 members representing 77 organisations, with 51 further members linked into a sub-group area

#### Faith Action Mansfield

42 members representing 31 organisations

#### Faith Action Newark & Sherwood

24 members representing 20 organisations

#### Faith Action Support Ashfield

41 members representing 22 organisations

#### Places of Welcome

49 venues with more already planned for 2023

#### Grief Café Coordinators

19 members representing 14 organisations

If you would like to connect with your local network, or partner with us to set one up in your area, then get in touch.

### **Our 9 Network Subgroup Area**

- Children & Families
- Housing & Homelessness
- Prisons & Supporting Ex-offenders
- Food & Community
- Modern Slavery
- Social Enterprise & Employability
- Refugees, Asylum Seekers & Migrants
- Finance & Debt
- Mental Health and Wellbeing



### **Revd Simon Cartwright**

### **Personnel Changes in 2022**

We said goodbye to Hannah Buck (chief officer), Rev. David McCoulough (trustee), Caroline Riley (CAN Development Worker), Lindsay Cressey (Development Worker), Lauren Parton and Jackie Smith (Assistant Development Worker), Paul Howard (Older Persons Enabler).

We said hello to Rev. Simon Cartwright (Chief officer), Rev. Peter Hill (trustee), Nigel Adams (CAN Development Worker), Jemma Baldry (Development Worker) and Elissa Hartley (Assistant Development Worker). Our TNT 2022 Impact Report would not have been possible without each and every one.

Thank you!

### **How to contact us**

#### **Website:**

**transformingnottstogether.org.uk**

#### **Email:**

**<simon@transformingnottstogether.org.uk>**

**Mobile: 07973 801647**

#### **Social Media:**

**@transformnotts**



**TRANSFORMING  
NOTTS TOGETHER®**

**NEAR  
NEIGHBOURS**



## **Refugee Roots welcomes all, helping those in need find friendship and a place to call home**

### **Refugee Roots welcomes all, helping those in need find friendship and a place to call home**

Refugee Roots is a Christian charity that helps asylum seekers and refugees build relationships and navigate the complexities of building a new life in the UK. Our range of empowerment initiatives includes befriending, accompanying asylum seekers to appointments, information, advice and guidance; as well as support groups and activities, such as free English conversation classes.

We thank God for the incredible support from the community and individuals who have joined in our work to make a real lasting difference to the lives of refugees in Nottingham. The support from the Diocese has been of significant help to the Charity. Despite the challenges and difficulties faced, we have risen up with your support and encouragement to keep going.

It's been a year of change too, as we moved from our birthplace of St Stephen's with St Paul's in Hyson Green to a city centre venue in Tiger Community Enterprise CIC's new Community Hub (Tiger Community Hub) on the Lister Gate.



During the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 we worked with and supported 310 participants. (141 Female participants and 167 male participants).

## **Our support included:**

### **Befriending (one to one)**

Volunteers met weekly with participants for support which included help With language learning, confidence building, accessing other services and reducing isolation.

**38** individuals were supported through Befriending

### **Art Sessions**

Weekly art sessions provided safe and creative spaces for participants.

**70 participants** have been involved in Art sessions.

### **Accompanying refugees and asylum seekers to appointments**

Volunteers accompanied participants to appointments such as medical and home office appointments

**28** participants helped by our Navigators (accompanying).

### **Information, Advice and Guidance, and Signposting**

Our support worker has provided information, advice and guidance on a range of issues such as housing, welfare, and education. The support worker has also made referrals, signposted to and provided information about other service providers.

**150** participants were supported with Advice and Guidance.

### **Access Project and Access Women’s Group with English Classes**

Various weekly group sessions where volunteers taught English, created welcoming and safe spaces for refugees and social opportunities to make new friends.

**142** participants supported through Access (English Classes, Workshops and Social Activities)

**28** women were supported through the Women’s Group which offered free English conversation classes, social activities and crafting workshops.

### **Social Groups and Events**

Day trips, meals, and celebrations, including events during Refugee week.

### **Training and Workshops**

External facilitators led workshops on topics such as Wellbeing, Life in the UK and more.

**“I am very happy at Refugee Roots, I have been involved in the cooking classes and attending English classes where I learned a lot”**

Morteza, Participant





80% Strongly Agreed and 14% Agreed Refugee Roots helped them  
79% strongly agreed and 15% agreed that their issue was resolved  
80% strongly agreed and 14% agreed they learned new skills  
76% strongly agreed and 14% agreed their English language improved  
91% strongly agreed and 6% agreed they were more confident  
84% strongly agreed and 11% agreed they felt they had a say in the decisions and enough control over the support and activities they benefited from.

**121 Volunteers** have supported our projects and activities many of whom represent churches within the Diocese. It makes all the difference to have such dedicated volunteers who care, we are grateful for all that each one does and collectively what they achieve.

Already 6 months into our next period and we are seeing unbelievable growth. This is resulting from the growth of the Charity, increased demand for services, and the growing refugee population which is partially due to the Ukrainian conflict and the Homes for Ukraine Scheme and the commissioning of hotels and other properties as emergency accommodations for refugees in Nottingham by the Home Office.

We value your ongoing support, prayer, and encouragement.

**“Refugee Roots has helped me tremendously from the first day I arrived in Nottingham.**

**First they provided me with a befriender. They have supported me with travel to appointments and their support worker has helped me with everything I needed. Refugee Roots found a volunteer to accompany me to my Home Office interview which was important for me and meant a lot. I am regularly part of the art class and as many other activities as I can. I am thankful that I found such wonderful people at Refugee Roots and that they truly became a family. Refugee Roots gave me hope and a reason to start again.”**



Get the full annual report from our website [www.refugeeroots.org.uk](http://www.refugeeroots.org.uk) from mid-late March. Our AGM will be on 8th March, you can find out more on our Events page.

# Nottingham citizens

**'Building the power of communities to work together for justice and the common good'**

100's of lay and clergy benefitted from community leadership training

Dozens of Anglican leaders on city-wide campaigns

Be-spoke in-house 'social justice' sessions delivered via Licenced Lay-Ministry training,  
*Real Life* and St Mellitus

33 diverse member organisations make up [Nottingham Citizens](#)



## Taking action:

Campaign teams have been taking action, bring together people from churches and other faith and non-faith organisations to tackle poor mental health, fair work, and racism. We've also been bringing together children and young people around an exciting 'Young People's Manifesto' project ahead of this year's local elections in the city.



**Connect:**

**nktr.ee/nottinghamcitizens**  
**t: @NottinghamCitz**  
**f: @NottinghamCitz**  
**l: nottinghamcitizens**



**Some highlights include:**

Our *Fair Work* team joined in with a national [Citizens UK campaign](#) to win pay rises in the health and care sector. Together we have won over 23'000 pay rises, benefitting almost 90'00 people and their families.

Locally, our action led to [Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#) committing to the real Living Wage. As our counties 4<sup>th</sup> largest employer, this will have a substantial impact on local families.

We also celebrate Nottingham Forest FC's decision to start paying all staff a real Living Wage. Fantastic perseverance from the team following a 3 year campaign!

Our anti-racism campaigning led to the establishment of a new anti-racism training collaborative for all trainee teachers in the city

Our *Mental Health* team are working with health services to improve communication with carers when family member are admitted into mental health services. We are co-producing new policies which will positively impact patient outcomes.

Our [#YPManifesto23](#) project is well underway! 5000 conversations later, young people from across the city are taking action on Safety, Mental Health and the Cost of Living Crisis, leading to an event at St Nics church ahead of the local elections.

***citizens*uk**

# Contacts

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## **Nottingham Workplace Chaplain**

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## **Other contacts**

For more information/details of the groups/partners detailed in this report please contact Catriona Gundlach

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