

LEAMINGTON
NIGHT SHELTER

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Registered Charity No. 1153583

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Dear Supporter

Can we begin by thanking you all for your patience in receiving this Newsletter which is long overdue and we appreciate your continued support. As you will see overleaf, 2014 was an extraordinary year for us. Following on from our previous Newsletter in May 2014, we have continued to be open on a Sunday and Wednesday night. We mentioned in that Newsletter that we were concerned that the proposed benefit changes are going to put pressure on the more vulnerable members of our society, and this has proved to be the case. We have had many additional requests for food parcels to be given out as well as the increase of requests for Foodbank forms and the table below clearly demonstrates this. May we take this opportunity of thanking all who have given donations of food to us - both to be used at the Night Shelter and also to be given directly to our clients.

January 2014	1	July 2014	12	
February 2014	1	August 2014	8	This equates to
March 2014	4	September 2014	13	45 different clients
April 2014	3	October 2014	9	requesting a total of
May 2014	3	November 2014	9	91 Foodbank forms
June 2014	16	December 2014	12	

We have also noticed an increase in the number of clients coming to us over this Christmas period. This was 29 different clients coming to us, compared to 11 different clients coming to us the previous year (2013).

We regret to report that at the end of last year, two of our clients passed away. One was in his twenties. He first came to us in November 2009. We have seen him on and off since then, and our sincerest condolences go to his family. Another client passed away in November 2014, who was a rough sleeper in his forties, and although this was very sad we are thankful that he passed away in hospital and not on the streets. Again, our sincerest condolences go to his family.

With regard to the cold weather, although we do not have any facilities to open any extra nights this winter, we are working well with the Salvation Army and Warwick District Council (WDC) to provide a Severe Weather Emergency Provision (SWEP). This enables rough sleepers to have a bed - arranged by WDC, when the weather is below zero for three consecutive nights. So far, this has happened on many separate occasions.

Continued overleaf.....

The LEAMINGTON NIGHT SHELTER is a Company Limited by Guarantee Reg. No. 7028980

This is a Christian initiative arising from

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week 2008 and Hope Leamington.