As mentioned, 2014 was a remarkable year for the Leamington Night Shelter. In May we were given the Mayor’s Award for 2014 along with three other persons. This was followed by a radio interview at the BBC CWR studios, and in September we received the Brakes Trust Leamington Citizens of the Year Award. We believe that these Awards are for all who are in any way connected with the Leamington Night Shelter - you are all Citizens of the Year! We see the Leamington Night Shelter as a jigsaw – different shaped pieces of different sizes. With everybody contributing in some way to keep the Night Shelter going - and all the pieces are needed to complete the picture.

For some time we have wanted a medical presence at the Night Shelter. We are now fortunate that a doctor is very generously giving his time by visiting the Night Shelter once a month. He is wonderfully supportive of the Shelter and the work we do; we really appreciate his support. One of our supporters, Andrew Emm, without being asked, very kindly created a web-site for the Shelter. This has given a new opening for us; and we have had a lot of beneficial enquiries through this site. This has been an unexpected blessing for us.

Another blessing is our fellow volunteers, who without their help we could not operate the Leamington Night Shelter. One of our volunteers, Vidhi, who until last summer, was a student at Warwick University, has now completed her degree, and has returned home. We are truly grateful for all that she did for the Shelter whilst she was with us, devoting many hours, both evenings and mornings, to the Shelter. We miss her, but we wish her well in her new job.

We were asked to give a number of talks within the last few months; for example to the Radford Rendezvous Club in Radford Semele; to the sixth formers at Princethorpe College; and to medical students from Warwick University. It is very heartening to know that people are so interested in the problems and needs of vulnerable and homeless people.

For our clients, we are grateful for the trust they place in us; they are so appreciative of what everyone does for them that they are a joy to serve.

Finally, 15th February 2015 was our sixth anniversary. On our first night, 15th February 2009 we had five clients, they all stayed overnight. In the subsequent six years, we have had a total of 689 different individuals, male and female, visit the Shelter. We give thanks to God for all our volunteers, supporters and clients and also to the Radford Road Church where we operate the Leamington Night shelter.

May God bless you all.

Margaret and Chris