

Newsletter



A very **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** to
all our supporters from
Church on the Bus

Looking back over the 3 months since our last Newsletter, the most striking thing is how much we have to be grateful to God for! He has moved so many different individuals, groups and organisations to help us in so many different ways, and we would like to use this edition of the Newsletter to express our heartfelt thanks to you all. It is such an encouragement to us in this ministry, which can be very difficult and challenging at times, but which we know is close to God's heart.

Our Thanks to:-

The Men's Group at Dore Church, who meet regularly to pray for Church on the Bus, and in October carried out a sponsored walk from Dore to Chesterfield to raise money for sleeping bags, even carrying some with them on their walk! Outside Chesterfield Town Hall where the Bus parks, the sleeping bags were presented to Captain Alan along with a cheque for a fantastic £695 raised from sponsors!



Church Army, who very generously came to our aid in covering the cost of repairs to the Black Bus' gear box, which totalled in excess of £4000.....we really need to find a cheaper alternative to the Black Bus. Please pray for this.

Ann Hoare and Erica Clegg from St Thomas' Church, Brampton, who held a Christmas Craft stall and donated £275 from it to Church on the Bus.



The Path Lab at Chesterfield Royal Hospital, who so generously responded to Jane Talbot's request for gifts for the homeless this Christmas, resulting in donations of sleeping bags, jackets, gloves, hats, toiletries.



Jane works in the path lab and is one of our regular sandwich makers - Thank You Jane!

And To:-

Church Army again, who will be employing a colleague for Captain Alan over the next 3 years, to support him in the ever-expanding ministry of Church on the Bus. Matt Rowley is currently completing his training in Church Army in Craigavon, N. Ireland, and will be moving to Chesterfield with his wife and 3 children in July to take up this new role.



Please pray for them all as they prepare to uproot and start again afresh in a new environment.

All those who contributed Christmas gifts and food for the parties held on the Bus the week before Christmas. A good time was had by all, with record numbers attending, each receiving a gift. There was even live music and singing!



The Anchor Foundation, who have granted us funding over the next 3 years to enable us to provide additional 1:1 or group meetings with those who need time and space to explore the Christian faith in more depth or grow in their new found faith in Jesus. Rob Stoba, evangelist from the High Peak will take on this new role. He has been working as a volunteer on Church on the Bus since May 2011.



He was introduced to the project by a Church Army friend who invited Captain Alan to lead a mission at his church in Manchester in September, using the 'orange' bus as an outreach vehicle. God moved powerfully with healings witnessed and people coming to faith. We pray that we will see more of this on the Bus in Chesterfield, Matlock and Clay Cross.

And we are thankful that the Matlock Drop-In on Hurst Farm Estate is gradually attracting more interest, with 2 people in particular attending regularly and asking for prayer.

Additional News

We now have a leaflet outlining the work of Church on the Bus. Copies of this can be downloaded from our website.
www.churchonthebus.com

Contact Us

Mobile: 07792 646 569

E-mail: captain@churchonthebus.com

Address: Church on the Bus, St Thomas' Church, Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield. S40 3AW

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