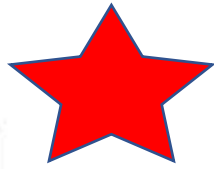
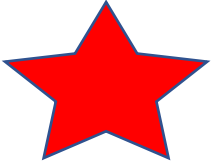


# CHURCH ON THE BUS



## We are open!!!



August 2021



## What's Happening – What's New?

*Isaiah 43: 19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*

Is it just me or does it feel as if we are starting to wake from hibernation? What went before is a bit hazy and what is coming may seem a little overwhelming – but what we can be sure of is Emmanuel – God with us.

It's all aboard for Church on the Bus (CotB) to restart in a way that is appropriate for both volunteers and guests. In this newsletter you will find: some news about what has been happening, for which we thank God; some news about what we hope will happen, God willing; and ways in which you can get involved. Please use this for your prayers, to help you plan your part in CotB, and to spread the word to others.

Praise the Lord – and pass the sausage rolls!

**CotB at Matlock** opened their doors once again at Cornerstone Christian Bookshop on Tuesday July 27th. It was a quiet start with a small number of guests visiting each week. This has meant that they could give close attention, listening and supporting. The new start was greatly helped by the work of 3 new sandwich makers, members of Matlock and Darley Dale Methodist Churches, a vital contribution to the hospitality that is offered.



*John making ready at Matlock*

**CotB at Chesterfield** re-opened on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Their home, for the time being, is outside the Town Hall where they are able to welcome old friends and get to know new ones.

Clear blue skies graced a new start.



## Welcome and Thank you

There have been goings and comings during the lockdown period. We are excited and pleased to welcome the following new Trustees:

- **Phil Morton** joined us in June 2020 – he serves with Derby City Mission

*Phil Morton*



- **Rev. Hilary Moore** was elected as a trustee at the AGM – she is the local Pioneer Minister and co-leader of Gates Art Group

*Hilary Moore*

- **Samantha Abel** was also elected as a trustee at the AGM – she is already a volunteer and is now able to bring her expertise around governance and risk management to the board.

*Samantha Abel*



# GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD

His LOVE endures FOREVER!!!

Many things have been happening, even though we had to stay in our homes and distanced from others, and we give grateful thanks to God and the people involved.

During the lockdown our financial position has remained strong and this has meant that CotB has been able to contribute to the work of other groups which supports our guests and takes forward our vision.

- With the guidance of Trustee Emma Ward, we have provided 17 microwave units to help with refurbishment and the needs of residents at **Newbold Court**.
- **Gifts in Kind** has moved forward; the large container has been added to in the shape of three lock-up garages, donated by Chesterfield Borough Council, for the storage of gifts. Ian and Pauline Macleod have washed, catalogued and sorted the current stock – many thanks to them. Keep reading to see how you might help with this.
- We contributed £2,000 to the refurbishment, decorating and equipping of **Hope House** (formerly the Ponderosa Hotel). This is a Christian-run residential centre with 13 bedrooms providing a way to move from rough sleeping to long-term accommodation. It welcomed the first residents last April.
- We donated £5,000 to **Mount Cook**. The self-contained units were used to provide shelter for up to 40 homeless people during the pandemic, while the normal Adventure Centre activities were suspended. Our funding went towards the provision of food.

We give thanks for the work of local authorities, Derby City Mission and other charity organisations, who have worked hard to ensure the needs of the homeless and disadvantaged were met throughout this difficult time.

## Can You Help With?

Please consider if you could help with any of the following – or maybe you could encourage someone from your church to volunteer in one of these areas.

**Gifts in Kind** – we need: small items for personal hygiene (that can be easily carried), trainers, walking boots, jeans and **new** underwear. We also need to build a team who could deliver goods when they are needed.

**Sandwich Making** – for Matlock and Chesterfield.

**Welcoming Guests** - at Matlock or Chesterfield

If you could help with any of these please email: [churchonthebus@gmail.com](mailto:churchonthebus@gmail.com)

### Please Pray

**Re-opening** – that this may continue to go smoothly and in a way that is, and feels, safe for everyone.

**Homeless and Disadvantaged**

**People in Derbyshire and Derby** – that they will be remembered as everyday life changes. Many will face economic difficulties, and many have multiple and complex needs

**Local Councils** – for wisdom in the use of finances and other resources. That they may value all of the people in their area.

**The Trustees** - that God may grant them true vision, wisdom and compassion as they lead CotB.

**Volunteers** – for strength and safety as they start work again, and for others to join our teams.

**Partner Organisations** – that we may see how we can best work together to serve the needs of the homeless and disadvantaged.

### Different Ways You Can Give Financially

**Regular or one-off donations** – can be made to our Co-op Bank Account: The Church On the Bus. Sort Code 08 92 99 – Acc. 65923339

**Just Giving Page** -

<https://www.justgiving.com/church-onthebus>

**Amazon Smiles** – if you use Amazon please login to your account through [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) this allows you to purchase your goods in the same and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to your nominated charity, which could be CotB

**Give As You Live** – this website gives you access to many major retailers and high street stores. When you shop through this site a nominated charity receives a donation from the retailer – you can nominate CotB  
<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>