

Additional Reports

Number 72

Number 72 began life in 2007 when two of the current directors wanted to make family and individual support something which is available on the high street.

We started very small and have grown consistently over the years into a charity that employs four people and offers 'informal easily accessed help, support and friendship.' Our schools team offer help and support to children and young people in five schools across the Sudbury area. Last school year we engaged in over 350 one -to-one appointments and ran 10 courses on subjects like Bereavement and Loss, Self Esteem and Anger Management. Issues like homelessness are not easy for one organisation to manage on their own. However we are pleased to work with other agencies in seeking to support anyone who needs help in this way

In addition,

- Our North Street base is available four days a week to offer hot drinks, shelter and something to eat. (Normally toast)

- We seek to address some of the long term causes of homelessness like debt and money management

- We offer advocacy in negotiating with landlords and have been successful in avoiding evictions in the past. Also we have negotiated with creditors and other agencies to try and avoid further difficult consequences.

We also welcome the prospect of future initiatives to see accomodation for homeless people set up in Sudbury.

As we start our 12th year of working in the town, our team have some very exciting projects coming up in the next few months. Watch this space for more details!

Please continue to pray for our work. Your support in this way means more than you know.

Tim Ayrton

Muslim-Christian Dialogue

We have had one arranged meeting this year with our local Muslim community, after Friday Prayers at the Quaker Meeting Hall in Sudbury. This was a social event, mainly to meet the new Imam. It was felt to be very worthwhile. Since then another Imam has been appointed and we will be announcing a date to meet him. Meanwhile individual contacts and friendships continue.

This year we are hoping Rev Colin Chapman will be invited by Churches Together to give a talk on "What do Christians and Muslims have to talk about? -The way forward" - to be followed by a discussion. Jill Pullan (pullanjill@gmail.com)