

@Crypt Leeds



Summer Issue 2018

Please sponsor us...



To sponsor us in the Leeds 10k, text TENK18 £5 to 70070 or search for Growing Rooms at mydonate.bt.com and donate online!



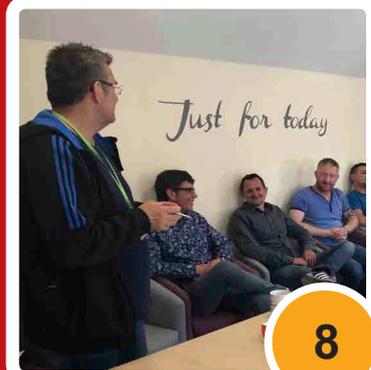
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grows!

Welcome

to our summer newsletter

Chris Fields
Chief Executive Officer



It's all about the money (NOT)

Hi everyone and welcome to what I hope is a warm and sunny summer edition of our newsletter.

Have you ever been in a situation where you have had to constantly battle with, let's say, institutions, banks, committees or friends and colleagues, when differences of opinion are interlinked with faith and a calling from God?

The Crypt is a wonderfully complex and diverse place where all examples of humanity are thrown together in a tasty, salty and sometimes sweet soup.

We have to carefully balance the needs of our brothers and sisters with the needs of our staff, funders, the Council, auditors, trustees and the Charity Commission. Not an easy task.

Add to that the vision for building houses for the vulnerable and the Crypt seeming to get smaller each and every day, with more and more people needing somewhere to stay or eat, and we have potential for "interesting times."

The peace of God and the love of Jesus is all we have left some days when we are crawling away to go home. Compassion is spent, legs refuse to move and in my nineteen years here I have never experienced the busyness and constant calls for help like we are seeing presently.

Ok, so we are busy. Who isn't, you may say? Where is this going?

Some people say we just need more resources (money etc.) Yes that always helps, and it's always good to pay the bills and stop worrying, but what we need more than ever - and probably as much as Don Robins needed in 1930 - are your prayers.

We are now the front line for emergency

accommodation in Leeds and it is showing.

Please pray for the staff, for our wonderful volunteers and trustees.

I know we will be ok. We are not crumbling - God is in charge. But knowing that we are being prayed for helps so much.

On the subject of prayer, it is with great joy that I can tell you all that the first stage of our building programme has started! Yea!

Our old grand dame and loyal home Regent Terrace has been decanted to a temporary home, the empty property has been handed over to the builders for demolition, and a new block of 14 individual studio flats will rise from the rubble within a year or so. Thank you to everyone who put this massive change and opportunity into prayer and offered it to God. They have been answered. Hallelujah.

Proverbs 24:3 says, "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established." I am not pretending to be a wise old sage in this, but we have looked to God for all of my nineteen years to improve, relocate or rebuild Regent Terrace for some of the most troubled souls we look after, and it has been in God's time. Should I have expected anything other than that? This is a long and hard lesson to learn. We think we can change the world but we are not ultimately in charge, and there is a heavenly strategy we know nothing about.

We cannot sit on our laurels however! We still have the build at Hedley Chase to get over the line, and prayer will be at the centre of this too.

In 2 Chronicles 7:15, Solomon had spent an age building a temple fit for

God, and in recognition of that, God said, "Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer made in this place." He is attentive and your prayers will be heard.

Solomon's father David prayed earnestly and ended with, "But who am I, and who are my people that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

We look to the future where we can offer safe and comfortable homes for the vulnerably housed. We look to you, our friends and supporters, to journey with us through dark vales and sunlit mountain tops. Everything is possible with faith, prayer and trust.

A Celtic blessing for a new home:

*May this house shelter your life.
When you come in home here,
May all the weight of the world
Fall from your shoulders.*

*May your heart be tranquil here,
Blessed by peace the world cannot
give.
May nothing destructive
Ever cross this threshold.*

*May this home be a place of discovery,
Where the possibilities that sleep
In the clay of your soul can emerge
To deepen and refine your vision
For all that is yet to come to birth.*

Continues on next page >>>

Welcome continued...

*May it be a house of courage,
Where healing and growth are loved.
Where dignity and forgiveness prevail;
A home where patience of spirit is prized
And the sight of the destination is never lost.*

*May this hearth be a place of delight and warmth,
May it be a house of welcome
For the broken and diminished.*

*May you have the eyes to see
That no visitor arrives without a gift
And no guest leaves without a blessing.*

Words to see us to the next stage in helping those who have never had a place to really call home. Amen.

All blessings,

Chris.



During the period 1st January -
31st March 2018

314

Individuals accommodated.

2,710

Bed spaces occupied during the three months.

71

Service users taking part in Training & Engagement each month, on average.

962

Hours of engagement activities provided.

6,505

Lunchtime meals served at our Care Centre - averaging 102 a day.

333

People supported with food parcels (including adults, children, expectant mothers and independent under 18s.)



COULD YOU BE AN
ANGEL?

Angels of the Crypt

Could you become an Angel of St George's Crypt?

We are currently looking for people who would like to regularly support the work we do and become a St George's Crypt Angel. 164,000 people in Leeds live in areas which are ranked amongst the most deprived 10 per cent nationally - a figure which is up from 150,000 in 2010.

Through our work, we are able to help 200 people a day, but the challenge is big and

on-going. Could you donate £1,000 per year for three years to St George's Crypt to help us change the lives of homeless people? As an Angel of the Crypt, you will receive a Christmas thank you from our CEO, a newsletter, an update on the progress of our new appeal, a calendar of Crypt events and a lapel badge made especially for angels.

Please contact us for more information, (details on the back page.)

Walking tall

In spring, we were delighted to be able to launch The Leg Ulcer Outreach Clinic at St George's Crypt. Facilitated by the NHS Trust and Leeds Teaching Hospitals, the service is available every Thursday from 1pm until 3:30pm, and is open to all clients with lower leg wounds which are in need of medical attention.

Fresh coat

Thank you to everybody who supported us with warm coats over the bitterly cold winter period. We were very fortunate to be featured on BBC Look North where we highlighted the need of warm jackets for our clients, and we were incredibly grateful for such a generous response.

With the warmer weather approaching, we're going to be in need of hats and sun tan cream. Please get in touch if you're able to help!

New shop

We're hoping to sign the lease on a third Preloved shop soon, located on Street Lane in Roundhay. Watch this space!

Dentaid

The mobile dentist unit run by Dentaid will be returning to the Crypt, thanks to a grant from the Swire Charitable Trust. The first services will be available for clients in June.



Regent House

Spring saw a time of dramatic change for one of the Crypt's key services. Regent Terrace - for those of you who don't know - is a commissioned service funded by Leeds City Council to provide care and support for residents who have an alcohol dependency problem. In March, the venue closed so that it could be knocked down and rebuilt. This necessitated a temporary move to a new venue in a different part of Leeds.

We say 'new' - the alternative building was in quite a state of disrepair, with many of its rooms, corridors and communal areas in desperate need of love and attention. Moreover, there was only a short window of time for all of the necessary repair work to be completed.

Following a call to action on social media, a number of individuals and organisations came forward offering their painting and decorating services for free. We're

incredibly grateful to all of those people who gave up their time to come and breathe life back into an unloved building. Thank you! We couldn't have done it without you, and the all new 'Regent House' is looking amazing.

Of course, we will be returning to Regent Terrace with a brand new, purpose-built set of studio flats, which will be constructed on the site of the old facility. As with the previous building, it will be a place where clients are permitted to keep drinking alcohol as the first stage of their recovery. Individuals will engage with a flexible programme of support for addiction recovery and explore pathways to employability, including opportunities for placements on the Crypt's Nurture programme. Staff will also work with clients to enhance life skills, so that they can develop self-confidence and challenge chaotic lifestyles.



Remembering Regent Terrace

The former Regent Terrace building has quite a history! In the 1970s it was the vicarage connected to the All Hallows Church in Hyde Park, and it remained so until a devastating fire tore through the building in the spring of 1970. When a new church was built with a fresh rectory, the old vicarage was bequeathed to St George's Crypt.

In the early days, this building was known as Faith Lodge. It was a general needs facility, housing people from all walks of life who had fallen on hard times. As such, it provided an essential 'complementary' service to the Crypt's on-going work, and afforded the charity some much-needed extra space.

Some time after this, the running of the service was taken over by Trevor and Margaret Marsh, who had specifically moved to Yorkshire from the south of England. They became involved with Faith Lodge at a time when it was relocating to a new building in Little London, and the change of venue meant that the name 'Faith Lodge' was also taken. Thus, Regent Terrace was simply known as 'Regent Terrace' from that moment on.

In the 1980s, the building became a 'wet' hostel, providing an environment where people could continue drinking alcohol as the first stage of their recovery. This service remains in place today, with the current Regent House helping residents to gradually reduce their drinking from stronger spirits to lower-percentage beverages.

Some people have stayed at Regent Terrace for long periods of time. One individual lived at the house for 15 years, after having been made redundant from his job at the Prince of Wales Colliery. Escalating circumstances led to a problem with alcohol dependency, and the gentleman arrived at Regent Terrace in an effort to recover from his addiction. He went on to live a life free from alcohol.

As for the Regent Terrace building, the demolition process has already begun, but parts of the previous structure will remain. Its gate posts are listed, and the portico entrance (pictured above) has been taken away and preserved. It is hoped that it will be incorporated into the grounds of the new building when it opens, which will hopefully be at some point in 2019.

The fun in fundraising



Previous spring events...

Thank you to everyone who supported our spring fundraising events! 12 teams of brains took part in the Crypt Quiz at the St George's Centre in April, and our volunteers also braved the sweltering Bank Holiday temperatures at the Tour de Yorkshire. Thorner, Scholes and Harewood primary schools hosted stalls along the route on Friday, and on Sunday we cooked hot dogs close to the finish line on Oxford Place in Leeds.

All the Fun of the Fayre...

We have a whole list of events shown below, community galas, festivals and fayres. You can support us in many ways - donating prizes for our fundraising stalls, by helping for a couple of hours, or just by coming along to the event itself.

- **Saturday 9th June:** Boston Spa Gala
- **Saturday 16th June:** Bramham Gala
- **Saturday 23rd June:** Strawberry Fayre at Immaculate Heart, Harrogate Road LS17
- **Saturday 23-24th June:** Waterfront Festival, Granary Wharf
- **Saturday 30th June:** Horsforth Gala
- **Saturday 30th June - Sunday 1st July:** North Leeds Food Festival, Roundhay Park
- **Saturday 14th July:** Kirkstall Festival
- **Saturday 14th July:** Beeston Festival
- **Wednesday 1st August:** Yorkshire Day, Lotherton Hall, Aberford, LS25
- **Saturday 1st September:** Chapel Allerton Festival

ASDA FOUNDATION Jane Tomlinson's **LEEDS 10K**

Join Team Crypt 
Sunday 8th July 2018

St George's Crypt charity place
£25 (sponsorship target £100)
Free Team Crypt running top

Event volunteers also needed!

The Leeds 10k is open to anyone of any running ability over the age of 15

VIBE
PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY

VIBE Performing Arts Academy are hosting a theatrical production to raise money for the Crypt, titled Believe in You. 7th July at St George's Church. Tickets £7. Contact info@vibeperformingarts.co.uk to book.

To sign up, join in, buy tickets or volunteer...

for any of our fundraising events and activities, please contact the Fundraising Department at St George's Crypt. Tel: 0113 245 9061 or email martin.barry@stgeorgescrypt.org.uk



Chaplain's Corner

with Reverend Roger

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

As a child, I loved that profoundly simple little hymn, "Glad that I live am I, that the sky is blue."

Being thankful for the gift of life itself is a rare thing, but summer may give us time to reflect, and find delight:

*"After the sun the rain, after the rain the sun,
This is the way of life, till the work be done."*

Our people at the Crypt often demonstrate great courage.

They are often profoundly grateful for the simplest things most of us take for granted. They teach me a lot, if I remember just to listen, and be thankful:

"All that we need to do, be we low or high,

Is to see that we grow nearer the sky."

Sunday:
Give thanks for all who support our work, that you may be blessed in your generosity of time, and prayer, and resources.

Monday:
Please pray for the work of the Crypt Care Centre, that the love of God for all those in need may shine out.

Tuesday:
Please pray for all those involved in our Growing Rooms initiative, overcoming addiction to drink or drugs.

Wednesday:
Please pray for staff, and residents at Regent House still

in addiction, as we build our new hostel.

Thursday:
Please pray for our shops in Pudsey and Armley, that they may be places of blessing to all who use them.

Friday:
Please pray for our cafés: for the Nurture initiative providing good food and training.

Saturday:
Please pray for all those suffering mental illness, that God may ease their sorrow and answer all their need.

Donation form

**For one-off donations, please complete this side only.
For regular donations by standing order, please complete both sides.**

Title and full name.....

Home address.....

City.....Postcode.....

Email.....

Telephone No.....

I enclose a cheque / postal order
(made payable to 'St George's Crypt') for £.....

Bank / building society name:.....

Bank address:.....

.....Postcode:.....

Please pay St George's Crypt (HSBC, PO box 105,
Leeds LS1 1LD. Sort code 40-27-15, account number 54703537)

The sum of £.....
each month / quarter / year (please delete as applicable)
commencing on.....(date) and until further notice.

Name of account to be debited:.....

Account number:.....Sort Code:.....

Signed:.....Date:.....

Signed:.....

Date of declaration:.....

Please let us know if your address or your tax circumstances change.

Please send me information on supporting St George's Crypt with a gift in my will.

(Post your completed form to: St George's Crypt, Great George Street, Leeds LS1 3BR)

Gift Aid Declaration

Please claim Gift Aid on all donations I have made within the past four years of this date and all donations I make in the future. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after the date signed below, or in the preceding 4 years.



Growing Rooms grows!

Growing Rooms, our successful and ever-developing addiction recovery programme, has now moved into new facilities in Armley. The group sessions run from this location three days a week, in a bright, positive and spacious environment that can accommodate up to 20 people. The venue also has a kitchen and dining area so that the clients can eat together and socialise, something which is an integral part of the programme.

There has also been some media interest in the Growing Rooms initiative. Following the success of the BBC Radio Leeds broadcast from the Crypt at Christmas, Growing Rooms has been invited

to put on their very own one hour radio programme in July. Clients will start the training in the next few weeks, with the BBC upskilling them on interview techniques and editing. In the programme itself, Growing Rooms will be selecting and interviewing guests from the world of sport and politics, as well as choosing their own music and clips. Stay tuned for more information!

In other Growing Rooms news, our clients enjoyed a special weekend away in London in April. John Davis and 10 men from the programme went to London to attend a 12 step recovery convention, which provided the perfect opportunity for them to

celebrate their recovery whilst enjoying the sights of London.

All returned safely, committed, charged up and focused for the rest of their recovery journey.

This extra energy will be invaluable to four of the Growing Rooms clients, as they will be taking part in Jane Tomlinson's Run for All Leeds 10k in July, (see front cover!) Danny, Gavin, Martin and Chris - along with Growing Rooms chief John Davis - will be donning their Crypt running tops on the 8th, as they race to raise money for our on-going work. Tghjghkhjkhjkg sponsor them, text TENK18 £5 to 70070 or search for Growing Rooms at

GDPR... OPT IN OR OPT OUT?

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For more information, please contact
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