

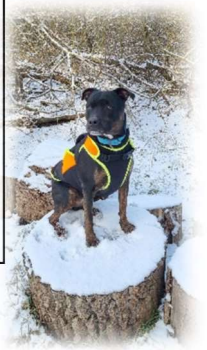


Happy New Year from all of us at  
**COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY NORFOLK**

## PRAYER NEWSLETTER

### New Year ... new beginnings

This is something we pray for our clients, that they will know that each day can be a new beginning! As I type there is snow outside and it's brrrr, but beautiful when wrapped up and walking the dog. I apologise for the time between this and the previous Prayer Newsletter, but while I haven't been writing this, I have been writing some funding bids and spending time helping more clients in person. As you know, we are a small team of three, all part time, so we work together to keep CCN running well for our clients and mentors.



*Give thanks for the staff team and board of Trustees for their gifts and experience. Please pray for them as they seek to take the charity into 2026 and beyond ...*

### Trustees

We feel so supported by our Trustees, who all have something to bring to CCN. From personnel skills, to health and safety, legal requirements, homeless advocacy and charity governance.  
Roy, Paula, Amy, Jo & Guy.



### Volunteering

We were approached by Patteson Lodge Activity Centre in Coltishall to ask if we could provide a team to paint some outdoor equipment. On the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October we collected clients and mentors and set off to discover what we would be doing. Day one was a climbing frame and day two a building. We had a lot of fun!

*Thank God for this opportunity and pray that it is something the clients will remember with a smile. Please pray that it helped with their confidence, skills and relationship with their mentors.*

### Mentors & Clients

We currently have 18 active mentors and 27 clients. We have closed a few clients over the last couple of months; some for no longer engaging and others due to them moving out of the area. One has completed the Teen Challenge rehab programme and their leadership course and will soon be moving to Scotland to work with the homeless there. Some clients have been released after long sentences and need more support to learn how society and technology have moved on. Others are coping with some degree of mental health and addiction and find it more difficult to stay out of prison. We continue to help these 'revolving door' clients and are gradually seeing improvement.

*Thank God for our mentors who give of their time both physically and mentally to support their client/s. Pray for wisdom as they seek to build relationships yet keep boundaries and provide appropriate support.*



**Volunteer Mentor Training**  
**2 x Saturdays**  
**24 January & 7 February**  
**Norwich**  
**inc refreshments & lunch**  
**Please pass on to anyone you think may be interested**



Please pray for the prison chaplains and thank God for the connection we have with them. Many of our clients have attended services in prison and/or have chatted to chaplains. This is a vital work, and we know Jesus can transform lives!



### Annual Meeting

On Thursday 6 November we held our Annual Meeting. We heard from our Patron Lady Pippa Dannatt MBE - Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, Chair of Trustees Paula, Manager Abby and some emotional stories from our clients and mentors. The Bishop of Lynn was in attendance and we are grateful to her for her support and closing prayers. About 50 were in attendance including the High Sheriff Patrick Lines, together with friends and supporters and staff from the council, probation and other organisations who we work alongside to help prison leavers.

*Thank God for the deepening connections we have with so many organisations who are in the same field as us; other charities, local government housing services, the prison and probation service and prison chaplains.*

*We are really seeing a positive shift in how we all connect and this is helping to speed up help for clients.*



### Christmas Social

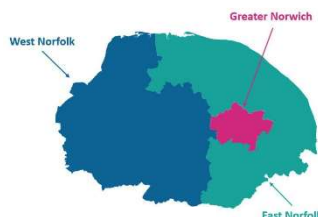
On 11 December, we held our Christmas Social. Staff, trustees, mentors and clients enjoyed festive hot meat rolls and other treats, a Christmas quiz and festive themed pictionary and charades. It became quite competitive and last year's champions managed to hold on to the win! Sadly, several people were not well enough to come along, but we still had fun and the evening was a good opportunity for meeting up and engaging with each other. We want to say a BIG thank you to all our mentors, we couldn't do it without you!

### West Norfolk

As our name states, we should be covering the whole of Norfolk, so we are looking to offer training and sign-up mentors from the West Norfolk area. We have already attended volunteer fairs and meetings there and been offered the use of a training space.



*Please pray that our advertising will find the right people and training dates can be set for the spring.*



### Funding



I mentioned before that I have been writing some funding bids, and I'm pleased to say I have won about two thirds of them. Jack has also won funding for specific training on benefits, which was held for us and our mentors in October, and for running a creative writing project for clients and others to tell their stories and produce an anthology for us to sell to raise funds. Abby has been busy too writing some of the larger bids and has secured a couple of those. This is an important and continuous part of our work as we tend to only have about a year or so of funding at any time.

### Bishops Garden

We are very excited to announce that we have been awarded a date to run one of the Bishop's Garden Charity Days! Tickets are £5 and we can sell refreshments and CCN merch to raise funds.



*Thank God for his continued provision and pray he will guide us to those funders who have a real heart for our cause. Please also pray for more individuals to sign up to give small but regular amounts.*



*In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. Philippians 2: 3-4*

On the road ... last year we visited various groups and churches to give a presentation about our work and opportunity for clients and mentors to share their stories. Please let us know if you have contact with a group who would like to host us.