

SCUNTHORPE CENTRE OF MISSION

February 2018

Welcome!

Welcome to our first Newsletter since the launch of the Scunthorpe Centre of Mission in July 2017.



Sean & Paul

Where is Scunthorpe Centre of Mission Based?

Captain Sean Andrews and Captain Paul McDonough work over an initial three areas of Scunthorpe - the Riddings Estate, Westcliff and Berkley. These three areas are identified as areas of deprivation and need from a greater to lesser extent depending on the area, Westcliff being the most deprived and Berkley being the least deprived socio economically. The aim is that the Centre of Mission grows beyond these three areas, which is already happening with activities in Brumby and Crosby.

What has been going on in the first 6 months?

We have been busy building working relationships with statutory and local organisations across Scunthorpe which include ONGO Housing and their Cohesive Communities Department, local police, youth provision, children and families provision, local schools, Lincoln and Hull Probation Trust, Scunthorpe Baptist Church to name a few.

Paul, based in Berkley, has been going into **schools** doing assemblies. He is working towards starting a Messy Church service and is working with local schools on visits to the church in telling The Easter Story.

Paul has recently become chaplain to the Forge Centre in Brumby which works with **homeless men and women** in providing a drop in and food. He is also working in the same building providing support for a fortnightly Kids Church on Thursdays.

He has run a pet service which was successful and folk brought a variety of pets along on St Francis day in October. In December on Christmas Eve he held a Christingle service which was well attended with over 60 people some 40 people up on the previous year after canvassing the local area around the Church of Resurrection. He leads a lay led service here once a month.

Sean (that's me!) is based at the Church of the Holy Spirit on the Riddings and I am involved in **working with young people** at the local youth centre which meets twice a week to provide activities to keep young people safe and away from trouble. Most of the young people come from very troubled backgrounds in many ways. I also help at a younger CLCGB (Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade) club which meets weekly in the youth centre.

I work in local schools in visits and assemblies and share this workload with the local rector Kevin. We work in three schools on the estate from infant to junior. I work with the local family support



School visit to Church of the Holy Spirit

church opens for coffee, cake and chat. This was set up by the local congregation and my role is to support and encourage them in this venture. In the last six months we have seen new members coming to church and starting their faith journey.

Developing Community Spaces

A lot of our time has been spent in Westcliff at the Church of Reconciliation. The building had been previously a local Anglian Church plant linked to St. Hugh's Brumby which closed and the church building fell into a poor state.

Paul and I have been working tirelessly to bring the building back into use and, with the help of the Community Payback Team, the building has been completely transformed internally which has allowed a local tots group to use the building again but has also meant that the **Foodbank** distribution point has been able to start again in partnership with Scunthorpe Baptist Church (SBC). Paul co-ordinates the Foodbank with SBC.

Externally the grounds have also been transformed from an overgrown eyesore to looking more like a place that is occupied and ready to serve the local community. Again, with the assistance of the Community Payback Team, with which we have built a great relationship, we have decorated the outside of the building.

At the rear of the building there is a quarter of an acre of land which is being turned into a nature and conservation area to be used by local schools and groups but also later this year we will be launching a new "Mossy Church" project for local folk to come and learn about nature and faith. To this end a pond has been dug and filled by Community Payback as well as an outdoor seating area using stumps and logs.

In the autumn we had a community Bonfire on this part of the site which was well attended by local folk.

organisation which is based in the church building called Meeting New Horizons, working with families who need support due to a number of issues such as parenting, mentoring people who have suffered from **domestic violence, abuse, low self-esteem** and other issues.

I visit the Pied Piper which is the local pub as a **listening ear** to folk and this has led to great conversations about faith, life and death and through my contacts we are having two church weddings (the first for many years) and folk talking about baptism.

At Holy Spirit we have a weekly Wednesday welcome between 1:30 and 3:30 where the



Foodbank



Patron
HM The Queen

President
The Rt Revd & Rt Hon
Lord Williams of Oystermouth

Chief Executive
Canon Mark Russell

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GET INVOLVED

There are many ways in which you can support this work:

- Prayer
- Volunteering
- Financial support

Volunteering

If you would like to come along and get involved then again please get in touch.



Prayers

Prayer is such an important part of your support. We need God's help in every aspect of our work.

Thank you...

- Thank God for some great networks and relationships already developed
- Thank God for the success of the special services held
- Thank God for the opportunities we have already had to develop community
- Thank God for the Community Payback Team

Please...

- Pray for Sean and Paul and our families
- Pray that folk will see and hear the Gospel through our work
- Pray that the organisations we partner with will see our worth
- Pray for that relationships built so far will deepen and that there will be more opportunities to share faith in relevant and meaningful ways

Financial Support

If you would like to make a regular or one-off gift to support this work please complete and return the form below or visit churcharmy.org/donate

We don't take your support for granted, so thank you so much for standing with us. I want to pray for you so please let us know how we can.

Thank you!

Sean & Paul

You can follow what we are involved in by liking the Scunthorpe Centre of Mission Facebook page @ScunCofM



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Card Number: _____

Valid from: ____ / ____ / ____ Expires end ____ / ____ / ____

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