



Julian Trust Newsletter

Winter 2017

Welcome to our Newsletter 2017

Dear Friends and Supporters

It's been a long time since our last newsletter - and lots has happened!

We've seen some more changes to our building, we had our fabulous Volunteers' Party, and held another successful Doors Open Day.

As we head into the colder season we'll be relying on supplies of sleeping bags, warm clothes and blankets. It's our priority to keep making sure our guests are as safe and warm as can be over the winter.

Wishing you all the best and always grateful for your support.

The Trustees

Jenny, John, Dush, Chris, Richard D, Richard M, Stuart, Joe, Jo Geoff and Gloria

An eggcellent treat for the guests



Back in April we received a lovely donation of Easter eggs for our guests.

The lovely Street Life Sarnies sent us a box of Easter eggs to give out to guests over the Easter weekend. The chocolatey treat was really appreciated by all and here are some of the Saturday team who handed them out!

Totally Tropical Thank You Party!

Those of you who managed to attend this year's Thank You party will know it was one of our best! As we had such a great year in terms of volunteers and the changes we've made to the building, we decided to make a bit more effort this year. We even had performances from the Bristol Reggae Orchestra and delicious curried goat and jerk chicken.

We have around 200 volunteers who support us through the year through cleaning, cooking, serving, supporting and overnight shifts too. We reckon you provide us with an incredible 14,304 hours of volunteering across a year, which is something pretty special. What better way to celebrate that generosity than by spending a few hours relaxing to some reggae and sipping Red Stripe at our Thank You party?

We cannot express in words how grateful we are for each and every hour that our volunteers give to us and our guests so we can continue to provide the brilliant support to that so many simply couldn't do without. As usual there was a weird and wonderful selection of prizes at the raffle - such as a large pink doll, a selection of watch straps and some champagne! Thanks to all who attended, donated and took part. We look forward to celebrating all your hard work again in 2018!



Spotlight on: Chris Mallaney – Good Luck Chris!



A new job and house move to Cheltenham have meant that Chris has had to leave us after only a year as a Trustee, but much longer as a Tuesday supervisor and overnighiter. We need more Overnighiters and Trustees. Can you help? Training provided.

Hi, I'm Chris.



I was a volunteer every Tuesday evening. I've been volunteering here for about two and a half years and a Trustee since November 2016.

Personally, I've had some tough times in my life and was lucky enough to have the support I needed from an amazing family who really helped me out. I felt that I wanted to give something back to the community and to help out people who are also having a hard time. Julian Trust is the perfect place for me to do this.

In the day I work as a care assistant for adults with learning disabilities. I find you need similar skills to at the shelter, because you need to be patient and to have great people skills. In my spare time I like to cycle and go to the pub. My favourite drink is a Guinness and my fave pub is the Golden Lion. I also really like eating.

Every month I do an overnight shift at the shelter. I really like this shift because it's a good time to get to know another side of people when it's a little quieter and there are only 18 guests. I'd really encourage anyone who has the time to do an overnight shift, it's a unique opportunity to get to know the guests a bit better and feel like you're doing something really worthwhile. Plus we always need overnighiters!

I also was a supervisor on a Tuesday and it's a really great team where everyone knows their role and guests really recognise the effort of regular volunteers. I'll really miss the place as well as the people as I'm off to start my new adventure in Cheltenham. It's been a great experience.

We need your help!

We really need some more overnight volunteers! Do you have one or two nights a month to spare, or do you know anyone who would be willing to help? Here are some FAQs about being an overnighter...



What's it like to be an overnighter?

It's a great opportunity to interact with the guests in a more peaceful environment. The evenings can be quite busy with often over 50 guests. When we close the doors at 10.30pm there are just 18 guests who generally just want somewhere quiet, warm and safe to lay their heads.

What do you actually have to do?

An important task is the laundry. It's an easy job but it's so important the guests are able to have clean warm and dry clothes to put on fresh in the morning. Overnight there's usually not much more to do other than set up for breakfast which is usually toast and cereal. Sometimes a guest may ask for an extra drink of water and that's about it! The most challenging element is not burning the toast!

And can you sleep?

Yes! Our two volunteers take it in turns to get about 3 hours sleep in shifts in our volunteers' bedroom. If you ever need to go into the dormitory there is a little bell to alert the other overnighter to come with you – you'll never be on your own.

Sounds interesting?

Talk to your supervisor or Jenny Oates if you fancy giving it a go. We can put you on a shift with two other volunteers so you can 'try before you buy' and you won't have to commit until you know it's for you. We look forward to hearing from you!

Doors Open 2017

The Bristol Doors Open Days is a once-a-year chance to look behind closed doors and discover the city's hidden treasures. Visitors can explore fascinating buildings, join guided tours and enjoy a range of events and activities – all free!

There were over 100 venues taking part this year, and we were one of them!

Thanks so much to those who came down and helped out this year. It's such a great opportunity to raise awareness of the great work we all do and get some new supporters on board too.



SOS Bristol

The Julian Trust has joined forces with St Mungos, Crisis Centre Ministries (CCM) and Caring in Bristol (CIB) to raise funds for all the night shelters in Bristol. As well as our longstanding service, CCM have been running a women-only shelter for some time and, since February 2016, St Mungos and CIB have been running an assessment shelter and a move-on shelter for people engaging with their team to create a move-on plan into supported accommodation.

Together we provide up to 70 bed spaces for rough sleepers and this is supplemented by more beds

in extremely cold weather.

The fundraising campaign has been labelled 'Safer off Our Streets' (SOS Bristol) and has so far been an online-only campaign raising nearly £38,000 for the charities.

The campaign is continuing and has been extended by contactless card points in Broadmead. As well as raising funds the campaign has contributed to a significant increase in referrals to Streetlink – where the public can notify the Outreach team of rough sleepers so contact can be made and plans to move off the streets worked out for each individual.



Doctor Who?

Our fabulous Monday volunteers, Kelly and Yana have graduated from Bristol University and are now qualified doctors. They've been wonderful support and we are incredibly proud of them and their achievements. They even came down to support the day before their graduation. They now have placements in Wales and in Brighton, so we shall miss them terribly but wish them all the best!

Sleepout 2017

On the last Friday in February at the end of Homelessness Awareness Week, 25 hardy Julian Trust supporters joined nearly 200 others and took part in the annual sponsored sleepout at Pip'n'Jay church. Also taking part were members of the Bristol Chinese Christian Church and Councillor Paul Smith.

Those who take part don't expect to get a comfortable night (this year we had some rain, but not too much cold) but are reminded that they have warm homes and showers to get back to in the morning – not like most rough sleepers who will be faced with this experience night after night. The annual sleepout organised by Bristol Homeless Forum helps raise awareness of homelessness issues as well as raising funds. **Over £55,000** is estimated to have been raised for all the charities who took part this year. Keep your eyes peeled for info on our 2018 Sleepout!

A HARVEST THANK YOU TO ST. STEPHEN'S INFANTS!

Every year we are supported by many schools, churches and individuals with large donations of food. A big thank you to them all. One of those schools is St Stephen's Infants School in Kingswood. At their harvest Festival Assembly service not only did they bring in many tins and dry goods, but also they provided vegetables from the school allotment grown by the pupils themselves.

In the photo Tim Ruck, the Headteacher, proudly presents some of the produce to Frank Walters, one of our regular Wednesday evening volunteers in the shelter kitchen. The potatoes were full of flavour and, of course, outstanding in their field!



This lovely pair, Jess and Luke Bodman (Friday volunteers) recently tied the knot.

Teacher Jess hopes to do a project with her students to raise funds for the shelter in the near future.

We're really grateful and wish them an extremely happy marriage! ♥

Dates for your diary

Annual Carol Service

Wed 6th December,
7.30pm

At the Shelter

ALL WELCOME

Christmas Closure

Last Night before closure

- 22nd December 2017

Re-opening - 3rd January
2018

Shopping List: Top things we need..!

At the moment we really need

- Boxer shorts and socks
- Hats, scarves, gloves
- Sleeping bags and blankets
- Warm mens clothes
- Corned Beef
- Biscuits

Please check our website for
updated lists. Thanks!

Get in touch if you want to add anything to our next Newsletter.
Contact Jo at Mojoguppy@hotmail.co.uk or 07779660410



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