



Christian action on homelessness
Charity No 1093689

How you can help

- ~ **Become a member:** Membership costs only £5 for an individual or £20 for a church school or business. This will keep you in touch and enable you to have a say in our work.
- ~ **Make a donation:** We exist on the generosity of individuals and organisations:
 - £4.00 buys a pair of jeans.
 - £7.50 provides food for a drop-in.
 - £10 will buy a sleeping bag.
 - £200 enables us to furnish a flat with all the essential items needed to help make it a home.
- ~ **Give provisions:** sleeping bags, blankets, socks, pants, jogging bottoms, jeans, t-shirts, soap, toothbrushes and tooth paste are always needed.
- ~ **Become a Volunteer:** you may be able to help by joining our team of volunteers who assist at our Drop-Ins.

Last but not least

- ~ **Please pray** for the homeless here in Poole. Pray for us as a charity, for our Trustees our Outreach Worker, our Volunteers and our work.

Who to contact

For more information, to become a member or if you would like to help in any way, please contact:

Routes to Roots, c/o Revd Pat Southgate (Chair)
St Peter's Church Office, Church Road, Parkstone, Poole, BH14 0NN
Tel: 01202 749085

Thank You

I would like to become a member / renew my membership of Routes to Roots and enclose my cheque for **£5.00** individual / **£20.00** church/school/business

I would like to make a donation to Routes to Roots to the value of £

I am a UK taxpayer and I would like to gift-aid my membership / donation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel No: _____

Email: _____ Date: _____

Please complete and return to **Routes to Roots** at the above address. Please make cheque payable to **Routes to Roots**.

STATEMENT OF FAITH AND ETHOS

- ~ We are a Christian charity which seeks to serve the needs of homeless people of all faiths and none. Our faith and inspiration come from Jesus Christ as revealed in scripture, his story and his acts have a special relevance for homeless people.
- ~ When his mother gave birth to him, the holy family had to move in with the animals where Jesus had a feeding trough for a bed because of overcrowded housing.
- ~ At two years of age Jesus' parents smuggled him out of Israel into Egypt seeking asylum from King Herod.
- ~ Jesus, amongst other things, was labelled as mad, demon possessed, and knew rejection from his home town and even for a time from his own family.
- ~ Through much of his life Jesus was a son of man with nowhere to lay his head.
- ~ Jesus supported the socially excluded people of his day, not by giving alms but by walking alongside them and by empowering them.
- ~ Jesus claimed that the kingdom of God belongs to the poor.
- ~ In the bible the Hebrew word for poor, *anawim*, means literally to be bent down – it implies that to be poor is to be treated as less than fully human, without dignity and respect. Jesus preached good news for the *anawim* of his day.
- ~ Jesus cared for individuals – offering forgiveness to them, but he also challenged systems which were prejudiced.
- ~ *On the basis of this faith our approach in caring for the homeless is:*
- ~ **To encourage participation and engagement rather than dependency.**
- ~ **To stand with the poor and not above them.**
- ~ **To hear and help to disseminate the views of homeless people in the town and not to presumptuously tell them what they should do and think.**
- ~ **To respect difference and not expect or demand conformity.**

