

Give me a better Christmas this year, next year and every Christmas to come

Many of us at this time of year start looking back at the year gone by and think about what we have achieved in the last 12 months. Did we keep our New Year's resolutions? Did we achieve what we wanted to achieve?...

We are pleased to say that this year, Hope has seen many people answer those questions with a resounding "YES"!

'Yes' - in that they have achieved what they wanted and yes they are where they want to be... for others, we need your help so that next year we can help the ever increasing number of people using the Hope Centre services to rebuild their lives.



Last year on New Years Day, David was on the streets. Twelve months on he has a roof over his head, he has begun his DJ career following the training that Hope supported him through and is now planning an event to raise funds for three organisations that have supported him.

Streets... housed... trained and planning his future

Five years on the street, 10 years at Hope and now it's time to pay it back...

For Mat, who 10 years ago was living on the streets of Northampton with no home and (in his eyes) no future, a life with a dog, a roof over his head and the prospect of employment seemed a million miles away. Yet 2019 saw a turning point for Mat.



In April this year Mat woke up and decided to change his life.

"I was bored" said Mat, "I needed something to stop me from sitting around at home."

And after a conversation with the Hope Centre Casework team, Mat was introduced to the Hope Tools workshop.

"I'm now in there two-and-a-half days a week. It gets me out and about and stops me just sitting around."

Mat now works in the tool workshop to renovate second hand tools for resale and is looking forward to taking on more over the coming months.

Mat talks of setting up his own tool project and starting his own Hope Tools franchise. For now Mat is content to learn the skills, help in selling the stock he makes and learn all about the Hope Enterprise business model.

To ensure more people like Mat and David can be helped in 2020, please support our appeal to "Make Hope Christmas Special" by visiting www.justgiving.com/northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/makehopechristmasspecial

Want to donate?

Don't forget to Gift Aid!! Increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you.



Phone

Phone (01604) 214300
to donate via
debit/credit card



Online

www.justgiving.com/northamptonhopecentre



Text

Text CMAS00
plus the amount
to 70070



Bank Transfer

Donate through
your bank
account



Cheque

Payable to
'The Northampton
Hope Centre'



In Person

Call into
our offices at
Oasis House

THANK YOU

Hope would not function without the support of our community – that's every single person who has donated or volunteered.

Here's where we look back and thank people who have become or continue to be a Friend of Hope over the past year by helping out in any capacity they can. Although we cannot thank every person personally on this page, we really do appreciate you.

External Volunteers:

Vivien Smith:

Thanks to Vivien for her sterling work in supporting our charity shop. She is a much valued volunteer



who always steps up to help and has been invaluable in taking on the challenges of the shop since she joined us in May.

Karen Wright:

Karen has recently left us to pursue her dream of starting University in London. Thanks to Karen for all her time volunteering with us, supporting not only the fundraising



team, but also the Day Centre on reception and the Charity shop in the months before she left. She will be sorely missed.

Service user volunteers:

Cecilia:

Cecilia is really passionate about her volunteering role in the laundry and often supports in other areas without being asked. Cecilia's confidence and self-esteem has improved significantly in recent months and she credits much of this to her support from Hope and her volunteering. Cecilia has recently



started to volunteer externally for the Royal and Derngate Theatre, in a customer service role and she is thoroughly enjoying it.

Corporate thanks:

The support we have received from businesses and corporate groups over the past year has been wonderful. Directors and team leaders choosing to aid Hope in all our endeavours by giving their staff the opportunity to spend their

corporate responsibility hours with us is mutually beneficial. For us at Hope, we would not be able to continue the work we do without the volunteer workforce they provide. Each of our projects (Foodclub, Gardening Club, and the charity shop) is run by a member of staff but wholly staffed by volunteers, so not only do we have the help we need to keep going, employees of these various companies get to spend



paid work hours helping in the community, feeling good about having the chance to do it and at the same time bonding with their colleagues.

In this quarter, we have welcomed volunteer groups from gargantuan employers like Sainsbury's, Dr. Martens, Nationwide and David Wilson Homes through to smaller establishments such as Irys and Aquarius. We are grateful for the generosity of all the corporate



volunteers who been through our doors over the last few months and look forward to seeing many more over Christmas and the New Year.

Community thanks:

Ride for Hope Committee:

Our Ride for Hope committee work tirelessly to arrange and organise



one of the biggest fundraisers in the Hope calendar. Outside of their day jobs, the team come together and arrange transport, routes, health and safety aspects, food and accommodation. Some of the team have been on the committee for the full seven years! Without them, the event would not happen.

Jo and Lucy; fundraising ball organisers:

Thanks to Jo and Lucy who, back in October, organised a ball on behalf of Hope (half the proceeds). In total, they managed to raise £3,632.50 for us, which was an astounding effort.

WRITING IN HOPE



"Knowing and participating in its conception still makes me shake" this is a line taken from Ambrose's letter to Hope explaining the impact being a published author has meant to him... "It has taken a long time, surviving through awful times due to mostly ill-thought choices on my part in a past life, to finally realise those times were over"

On 12th September, the book "Writing in Hope" was published, bringing together pieces written by 20 of Hope's clients all of whom have been part of the creative writing group.



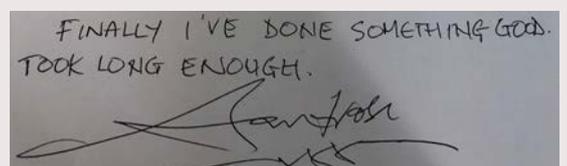
Some pieces are reflective, some are observations but all are absolutely incredible and a brilliant achievement for the Hope Centre Creative Writing Group.

The book is a great Christmas present and can be bought from the Hope Centre, via eBay, at the Hope Centre shop in Abington Street or email louise@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk the book costs £10 plus £2.50 postage (if required).



Thanks must go to Dave Blake and Lorna Robjohns, who run the group, and to all the contributors; the book is brilliant and they can all be really proud of themselves.

Ambrose's letter closes... "Finally I've done something good. Took Long enough"



WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 2019

We want to show you what we have achieved with your donations in the first 10 months of the year:

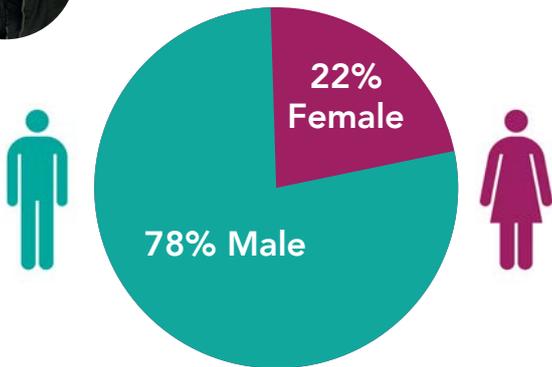
1,035 individuals came through our door



a total of **22,131** visits, all of whom received support and advice from us.



Of these people:



18 people were under 20 years old



In the same period, we provided:



10,447 hot meals (including training courses)



5,200 food parcels



Over 70,000 hot drinks



3,770 items of clothing



Training, volunteering and employment:

74 individuals have been on training & personal development courses this year.

of which

10 have achieved paid employment



41

service users have been regular volunteers.



3,268

hours of volunteering between them



2

into employment



External volunteering:



45

new external volunteers have started with us since January

Our volunteers ages range from

18-97

years old (yes really!)



156

corporate teams have volunteered with us this year



HOPE CENTRE
CHARITY NUMBER 1015743

COMPANY NUMBER
020768301



Hope Catering

For delicious buffets
t. 01604 289111

e. enquiries@hopecatering.org.uk
w. www.hopeenterprises.org.uk



Hope Tools

Lovingly recycled garden tools
t. 01604 210434

e. office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk
w. www.hopeenterprises.org.uk



Hope Food Club

Feeding people on low incomes
t. 0845 519 9371

e. office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk

BIG SLEEPOUT 2020

Can you spend one night under the stars and help make next year's Big SleepOut our biggest one yet?



The event takes place at the home of Northampton Saints, Franklin's Gardens, on Friday 31st January.

You will spend 12 hours out in the cold, to raise money for our charity, and also raise awareness of the issues faced by our homeless clients. It's a great opportunity for a group of friends, workmates, or a family group to make a real difference to homelessness in our town.

You can register free for the event here -

www.northamptonhopecentrebigsleepout2020.eventbrite.co.uk

Although the event is for over 18s only (16+ if accompanied by an adult), we want to encourage young people to take part too by sleeping on the floor at home or at their youth group to raise funds and awareness.

Get in touch for more information - fundraising@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk or (01604) 214300

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

The forthcoming year looks set to be a bumper one for fundraising events at Hope, with the addition of some new ones and the return of some old favourites. Can you be part of Team Hope and help us raise funds? Here's a sample of some of the ways you can get involved.

Dodgeball tournament: Wednesday 11th

December from 7pm-9pm Get your friends, family or even work colleagues together for one of our new fundraisers - Dodgeball tournament at Boost Trampoline Park. For just £80, a team of eight can pit their skills of ducking, diving, dipping and of course dodging against others to see who will be crowned the inaugural Hope Centre Dodgeball champions. Team spaces are limited so book yours soon to avoid disappointment.

Big SleepOut 2020: Friday. 31st January from

19:30-7:30 Our biggest fundraiser of the year is back next year and will be taking place at the home of Northampton Saints - Franklin's Gardens. Register for your free place and raise funds and awareness of homelessness in Northampton by sleeping outside for one night with just a sleeping bag - can you handle it?

www.northamptonhopecentrebigsleepout2020.eventbrite.co.uk

Lego Walk: Saturday 29th February

Think Fire Walk but on Lego! Taking place at Delapre Abbey, another of our new fundraisers, will test your nerve to its limit. Take part yourself or nominate your friends, family members, colleagues or even your teacher or boss!

Rock for Hope: Friday. 13th March

Our primary schools singing competition is back for the second year. Organised by the University of Northampton Events Management students, the event will pit schools against each other at the Deco Theatre to see who will win the coveted first place prize.

Ride for Hope Cycling Rally Holland 2020: 11th-

14th September This year's annual cycling rally will take in some of Holland's best coastal paths and spectacular picturesque rural countryside. Split into teams that suits every ability of cyclist, with a choice of either 200 or 300 mile routes, just £100 will secure your place. All the information is available here: www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/event/ride-for-hope-challenge-ride-holland-2020/

If you are hosting a fair or fete that you think the Hope Centre could benefit from hosting a fundraising stall at, please get in touch with all the information. For more information about any of these fundraising events (plus other upcoming events) visit our website www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk or email tanya@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk or louise@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk or telephone (01604) 214300.

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Oasis House, 35-37 Campbell Street, Northampton, NN1 3DS
t.01604 214300 e.office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk
To learn more about the work of the Hope Centre, please go to www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk

Hope Food Club and Gardening: 01604 214300
Hope Catering: debbie@hopeenterprises.org.uk / 01604 289111
Hope Tools: 01604 210434 / workshop@hopeenterprises.org.uk
www.hopeenterprises.org.uk

Our Patrons:

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