

East Northants Community Services (ENCS) – November 2020 update Also serving the district through the East Northants Faith Group (ENFG)

(Registered Charity Number 1154210)



ENCS update

At ENCS, we are reliant on grant funding and donations from individuals, groups and companies to keep our services running. We are incredibly grateful to all those who can support us, whether with food items, their time, financial donations, spreading the word or keeping us in their prayers. If you can support us, you can drop off donations at our food banks during their opening times – although we already have plenty of pasta, soup and baked beans at the moment, thanks.

You can also use our **giving page** to give a one off or recurring donation <https://www.give.net/20217071> and remember to **gift aid** it if you can! God bless, Jo Burns

How to access services:

- Unfortunately our **night shelter** is currently closed (although watch this space!) but if you or someone you know is homeless or at risk of homelessness, get in touch with Homes Direct as soon as possible, on 0345 600 5050.
- Our **food banks** are there to help people with food, but we are also there to help prevent individuals and families from having to rely on food banks. We can help with paperwork, signposting to other services, budgeting, benefit paperwork, amongst other things! We believe no one should have to keep accessing a food bank so please let us know how we can help you or someone you know.
 - **Rushden:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30am till 12noon at Full Gospel, 60 High Street South
 - **Raunds:** Thursdays 9:30am till 12:30pm at Raunds Community Centre
 - **Thrapston:** Tuesdays 1pm till 3pm at the Baptist Church
- **Recovery House** – if you or someone you know needs to access our rehab, they can give Recovery House a call on 01933 353760 to arrange an assessment and find out more.

If you have any queries on the work of ENCS, or wish to help in any way, please contact Jo Burns on info@encs.org.uk or 07871 999020,

Living with Autism Introductory Free Webinar

David Crisp (of St Mary's Church, Rushden) will be hosting his first webinar at 7pm on Saturday 28th November entitled "Living With An ASD", speaking about his personal experiences of having autism.

Register in advance at:

webinar:https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xB8cx06oSU2k5uOM9mVjog

Details at wired4autism.co.uk or 07572433801.

You may wish to respond to the current call for evidence for the Government's **Faith Engagement Review** at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence>, and asking questions such as: **"Are faith groups, places of worship and people of faith a force for good in society?"**.

Responses are needed by 11 December.

Please contact Andrew Presland at andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com or by phone on 01933 316927 if you would like more information on anything mentioned here.

MY CHRISTMAS WISH 2020

TOY GIVE AWAY EVENT for *deserving families* in the **RUSHDEN AREA**

Donations can be dropped off at:

Simpson and Weekley Estate Agent

High Street, Rushden during office hours, just knock on the door

Gifts will be distributed on 5th December

Any deserving families you would like to nominate, please email: jmmaddams@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO HELP A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS WISH COME TRUE!

Organised by: Independent Wesleyan Church (Charity No: 1132251)
In association with Simpson and Weekley Estate Agent
and East Northants Child Contact Services-CC



Faithful volunteering

A recent study suggests that those who practice a religion are more likely to volunteer their time to help others before and after lockdown, than those of no faith. According to the research commissioned by charity Faiths United, 72% of religious adults helped the vulnerable with shopping during lockdown, compared with 46% of the general population.

The study of 4,575 Brits carried out by Savanta ComRes in August found the gap closed during the pandemic, showing that the UK population as a whole stepped up their volunteering efforts. However, 38% of religious people say they are more likely to do the same after lockdown compared with 26% of others.

Zaki Cooper from the charity told Premier there a couple of factors at play: "Helping people in need lies at the heart of all our religions. It lies at the heart of Christianity. That message is very central to the New Testament and all the scriptures and it lies at the heart of the various other holy books in their scriptures.

"But the second reason, aside from theology, is the infrastructure that faith communities provide. There are thousands of faith charities all over the UK. "According to a survey a few years ago, there are 29,000 faith based charities in the UK. So faith communities do charities very well. If people want to volunteer, there are all these amazing charities from churches, mosques, synagogues, gurdwaras and temples that they can volunteer through."
https://premierchristian.news/en/news/article/people-of-faith-more-willing-to-volunteer-before-and-after-lockdown-than-non-religious-people?fbclid=IwAR2Cn-zfwISnvWYy-8hUATVHp-2uQpyiBxztKu9XC5eEMNCCRTD4Qj_1UQU