



Solidarity in action

Emmaus Gloucestershire February 2010

Business is booming

We don't know whether it's in the air, or in the water but something seems to be getting the people of Gloucestershire to come to us to buy and to donate in a fantastic but exhausting rush. The van crews are working like mad, the warehouse is overflowing, and the shop takings are way better than this time last year. Chequers Road, for instance, is taking around 25% week more than this time last year.



Jason, who often works in the shop at Chequers Road said that he was surprised but pleased. "Usually as we near the end of the month takings go down, until people get paid, but that's not happened this month.... let's hope that March is as good."

Emmaus Gloucestershire is getting greener

We are holding a workshop very shortly to look at ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint and reduce the amount of waste that we send to landfill. Keith found a recycling firm who will take all of our cardboard, bottles, and soft plastics, and we have now been approached by a company who will take hard plastic, such as garden chairs, children's toys and so on. The workshop will not be just for talking though, as definite plans for action will be made. Chris has suggested that he comes off the vans, where he has been the mainstay of our collection and delivery service, and works in the warehouse at Chequers Road, where he will be able to co-ordinate and monitor our green initiatives.

New Website

We now have a brand new website, complete with blog and twitter feeds! This has been donated to us by Neil Scriven, of Chuse Design, who, whilst working for the 10 Yetis public relations company, heard about us and volunteered to help. This donation is worth around £3000, so many thanks to all at Chuse Design.

The address of the new site is <http://www.emmausglos.org.uk>

1000 Teapots

With the Paris Salon looming on the horizon a group of students at Gloucestershire College have agreed to help us collect together 1000 Teapots for sale in France. For some reason the French think our teapots are fantastic and so they pay much better money there than we can get here. The students are asking each donor to write a short message to put in their teapot to make it an even more special purchase. Proceeds from the Salon go to international solidarity, such as the Benin water project and the Bosnian Safe House project.

Cheltenham Shop

Martin Oliffe has been appointed to the job of Retail Support Coordinator. He will help Companions at Cheltenham with training, office work and so on, but will also be helping with some van work, and cover at Nailsworth when needed. Martin has many years of retail experience so should be a great help in our efforts to make the Cheltenham shop the best Charity Shop in town.

This newsletter will be available as a download from the Emmaus Gloucestershire website. <http://www.emmausglos.org.uk>