



Solidarity in Action

Emmaus Gloucestershire May 2010

The Charity Bike ride was a great success. The day dawned sunny and fine and the riders and walkers were all in good form. After a great ride they arrived at Cheltenham to be greeted by Andy Hazell, Gloucester and England Rugby Player. Andy handed over a cheque for £1800 to Ian Watson from the Railway Children Charity, the result of 30 miles of effort and a truly fantastic and generous response from the public.



The keen riders ready for the off.



Andy Hazell hands over a cheque for £1800 to Ian Watson, from The Railway Children.

Oo La la

Preparations for the Paris Salon are forging ahead and it looks like it should be a good one this year. Hundreds of teapots, amongst other things, have been collected under the watchful eye of Dave Taylor, who has organized the event, not just for Emmaus Gloucestershire but for several other communities. "The Paris Salon is a major event in France", said Dave, "and thousands of Euros are raised by Emmaus Communities over the weekend in Paris for international projects such as the Benin Water Scheme, which is helping to provide clean water to a number of villages in Africa"

"As well as being a fund raising event it's also a chance for us to meet Companions from other Emmaus Communities from around Europe and swap experiences" "It's not too late to donate things", says Dave, "and if you have something that may sell in Paris then do bring it in to one of the shops."

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AT EMMAUS NAILSWORTH?

Jethro Randolph manages the Nailsworth shop.....He's been speaking to one of our reporters (well, me actually...)

Here at the Nailsworth shop we have a team of over 20 volunteers. Everyone spares what time they can to make the shop the success it is, but what's it like to volunteer here? I was only talking the other day to a couple of our volunteers.....

Marian enjoys the diversity of items that come in from books to religious statues to furniture. "When I tell people I work at Emmaus, they say that it must be great as it's such a friendly shop and a treasure trove of unusual things. I also feel that we're part of the local community and help display a green ethic by reselling so many things that might otherwise go to waste".



Marian looking happy in her work at Nailsworth

Andrew mans the till two days a week and prides himself on giving customers good service at the front desk, taking payments and answering queries in what can be a very busy environment. In fact, Andrew has been known to serve over 220 customers without breaking into a sweat and we don't know what we'd do without him.

Emmaus Gloucestershire Open Day

All of our readers are invited to the Barnwood House Open day, at 201, Barnwood Road, Gloucester on Saturday 10th July. The fun starts at 1.00 pm and the afternoon should be entertaining.

There will be a barbeque and buffet, garden games, a slave auction, bric-a-brac sales, and an auction of fantastic goodies. We are raising funds to help launch a new Emmaus at Bridgend, so it's not just about fun and games; it really is all in a good cause.

It's also a chance to meet up with us and have a chat and a chinwag and learn first hand what we do and what we are about. And who knows, you might just end up with a slave for the day!

Shoe Amnesty

We have become increasingly concerned of late to learn that a number of women are harbouring large collections of unwanted shoes, many of which have never been worn. These shoes should not be left in the bottom of the wardrobe where innocent eyes might fall upon them!

We are therefore trying to help by holding a shoe amnesty during the month of June. Our shops in Cheltenham, Gloucester and Nailsworth will accept your shoes, no questions asked, and our staff are trained to respect your anonymity. So be brave, come forward, and donate your



shoes!