



Solidarity in action

Emmaus Gloucestershire December 2009

Health and Safety Course

We have just received the certificates for all those who attended the recent one day risk assessment training course. The trainer, Adam Jackson, contacted us to say that he was very pleased by the enthusiasm of everyone there and wanted them to know that if they need any further help then he can be contacted and will try to answer any questions. HSMC have a website HSMC.co.uk at which you can find contact numbers if needed.

Appointed first aider and Conflict Resolution courses.

We have five people attending both courses which will take place in the middle of January. We have managed to obtain three free places, which is helping to reduce costs. These courses should help us to ensure that we are keeping on top of Health and Safety stuff, and getting some people trained in how to deal with difficult situations.

Fire Marshall Training

This course has been arranged for the end of February and will enable all of us to feel confident in dealing with an outbreak of fire, should it occur. We really need to make sure that everyone is confident in this area and so this training day will be part of our normal work. Everyone will do the training, including all staff and companions to make sure that we are fully prepared should fire break out. The half day course involves putting out a real live fire and a certificate will be awarded at the end of the course. It's going to be difficult to keep the business running, with everyone being trained, so HSMC have organised two half day course on the same day to help us to make sure things run as well as possible.

Big Issue sales

Every Big Issue sold through the Cheltenham shop earns Emmaus Gloucestershire a small commission. This does mount up, however, to a reasonable sum each week. It has been proposed that this money should go towards the funding of the Night Shelter cooking that takes place on Friday nights, and to funding a soup kitchen in Cheltenham in the New Year. Obviously this is something that needs to be discussed by companions and then decided upon, so those who want to talk about this could chat to Jav, Ian Mobbs, or Dave Taylor to find out more.

High Visibility Jackets

Barry has ordered some high visibility bomber jackets for the van crews. Each jacket has the Emmaus Logo and they should look pretty good. All van crews must wear these jackets to make sure that they are as safe as possible on these dark winter days.

Preloved.Co.Uk.

The owner of Preloved.Co.Uk has decided to donate money to Emmaus. This is one of the UK's leading second hand websites, with a community of more than 2 million people. The site has partnered with Emmaus, to launch a 'Second Hand – Second Chance' campaign. It is 100% free to list items for sale or free pick up on Preloved.co.uk. For two weeks in the New Year, from January 1st – 15th January 2010, the founder of Preloved, Ian Buzer, will be donating £1 to Emmaus for every single new listing posted on the site.

Currently over a quarter of a million items are listed on Preloved, including 74,000 cars, 4,600 wedding dresses, 3,100 prams, 850 guitars, 50 canoes and 13 stuffed animals.