

opendoor

Mission statement

- To make a positive difference in our community.

Open Door Exmouth
www.opendoorexmouth.org.uk

August 2014

Fond farewells...

As many of you will be aware, we bid Mike Coombes, Open Door Chef, a fond farewell this month, after over 5 years of service.

During that time, Mike has taken the café from strength to strength, bring in new menus, lots of home made and delicious meals, plus the infamous fry up! We reckon he's served around 20,000 meals!! And on top of all that, just recently he found the time to get married to Annabelle, so to say it's been a busy few years for him is perhaps an understatement!

Mike leaves us to start a new life with Annabelle in Plymouth. Please join us in wishing them

both the very best and praying for God to guide them and bless them as they move on.

We are having a leaving do for Mike in the café on Wednesday 27th August, 2 - 3pm. If you are

free and would like to say goodbye, please do pop in (there will be plenty of tea and cake!). In the meantime Mike, from all of us at Open Door, THANK YOU and God bless you.



A few words... from Kit!



Hi everyone! I'm Kit and I'm so excited to be joining the Open Door team.

I've lived in Exmouth for the past 33 Years, am married to Ray Baxter and have 3 children, Emma, Charlotte and Prince.

I have been a member of Ichthus Church for 23 Years and heard about the work of Open Door through fellow Christians. Ray and

I then volunteered in the café which was where I really started to understand the massive support that Open Door offers to people who are struggling.

I love food, I love cooking for people and I just love what Open Door is doing in our community, hence why I'm so excited to be a part of it! Thank you to all those I've met so far who've been so warm and welcoming and for those volunteers and customers I haven't yet met, I look forward to meeting you soon! Bon Apetit!

Men's Shed

Please note the Monday session has now changed to a Thursday session so the opening hours of Men's Shed are:

Tues, Weds, Thurs
10am - 4pm
(drop in anytime)
Clayton House,
Salterton Road,
Littleham.

If you know any men who might be interested, please do encourage them to come along.



From Open Door to Church...

Open Door Exmouth

The Open Door Centre
Church Street
Exmouth
Devon
EX8 1PE

Phone 01395 224218

Fax: 01395 488496

E-mail:

info@opendoorexmouth.org.uk

www.opendoorexmouth.org.uk

Please pray for:

- Give thanks for Open Door Week - for the busyness in the café, the positive impact that the mens shed group had, the support the ICE team were able to offer the college and the impact that Nightshift and the Contact Centre had. Give thanks and pray for God's blessing for all the staff and volunteers who worked really hard to make the week a success.

- Give thanks that the school received funding for Sarah's post for another year so our ICE mentoring work continues! Pray that we can build up a strong team of volunteer mentors to support young people who are struggling at the college.

- Give thanks for Mens Shed and the difference it is making in Littleham and to the men that attend. Pray for more men to be able to come now the Monday session has been moved to a Thursday. They are desperately in need of more space so have proposed a site to build a workshop on. Pray that if this is the right next step, that God will open the doors!

- Pray for Mike as he moves to Plymouth, that he and Annabelle will be blessed in their new life together. And pray for Kit as she settles into her new role as Open Door chef.

- Pray for wisdom, guidance and strength for all Open Door staff and volunteers!

It's always wonderful to hear when people we've helped at Open Door start going to church. To know that they are finding positive and supportive friendships, wise counsel and a hope for the future.

Through Open Door, we come into contact with people who are searching for something more. Something that alcohol or drugs won't satisfy. We come into contact with people who think that they've messed up their life and it's beyond redemption. And of course, the gospel message is an amazing one, where all are forgiven and all can start afresh.

Volunteers needed!

Firstly, a big thank you to those who have volunteered to help Nightshift recently - it's a real answer to prayer and we're looking forward to welcoming you to the team! We still need 2 more Nightshift volunteers ideally so if you or someone you know might be interested, please do get in touch. We can arrange for a trial night out with the team so you can watch how things unfold and decide if it's right for you. The key is simply if you have a heart for those who are struggling in Exmouth on a Saturday night. That might be a young person who has had too much to drink and needs help getting home safely, or simply listening to someone

When someone we're in contact with wants to ask about our faith, we're of course more than happy to chat. Then the obvious next step is to say 'why don't you visit a church?'

Are you/your church ready to love, walk alongside and not judge?

What sort of welcome would an alcoholic get if they walked through your church doors? Would they be smiled at, sat next to, invited for coffee and food after the service or during the week? What about if they turned up drunk? And how do you feel if the only reason someone wants to come to

church is because they're lonely? They have no interest in Jesus and they have no plans to change their behaviour (yet)?

It's not always easy but I think we should try to remember that we're all messy, just some of us hide it better than others. We all need forgiving, we all need saving. So let's treat everyone the same. Just like God treats us.

I heard Danielle Strickland talking recently about people she's working with (prostitutes, addicts etc) as equals and as friends. She has as much to gain and to learn from knowing them as they do from her. Amen.

And finally...

**COFFEE MORNING
AND
CAKE SALE
THURS 4TH SEPT
FROM 10:30AM
AT
PATHFINDERS,
ON THE STRAND**

If you are able to, please pop in to show your support for this lovely Christian book and gift shop and help raise funds for Open Door Exmouth in the process.

Big thank you to Linda Hunter and Liz Candelent for all their support.

who needs to talk.

We are also in need of a few more volunteers in the café and at the child contact centre. We are finding that these services are busier than ever so it would really help us to have a few extra people to make sure that the volunteers we've got aren't being too stretched.

If you're not sure if you can offer a regular commitment but would still like to be involved, we would like to set up 'emergency lists' for each project so if we ever find ourselves short at the last minute, we have a bank of people to call.

If you could be on one of those lists, please let us know!

I will be away from 2nd - 26th September as I'm off to get married! If you need anything before then, please get in touch. Otherwise, it'll have to wait I'm afraid. See you when I return as Mrs Helen Tribble!