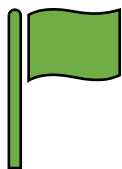


For donations: Christchurch & St John's New Malden, CAF Bank, Sort Code: 40 52 40 A/C No 00098279 Account Name K & NM CAP Giving

New Malden and Kingston CAP Debt Centre (St John's New Malden)

Newsletter May 2020



Flying the flag of 'HOPE' in the face of adversity

A little 'hello!' from St John's New Malden the hub church for the CAP Debt Centre for Kingston and New Malden - a news round-up for May 2020.

Well here we are again...and so much has happened since I last wrote. Who could have imagined what was ahead of all of us at the beginning of 2020?

In these uncertain times it is so reassuring to know that *Hebrews 13:8* says *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever*. He is unchanging and even though the world around us is quite unrecognisable at the moment, and for some it must feel like the rug has been pulled from under their feet, we can take comfort that He is our rock and we can draw strength from Him during these uncertain times.

As you can imagine in light of COVID 19, like all other organisations CAP has had to revamp its operations and service in line with current Government policy, and so face to face visits with clients are currently no longer possible. These client appointments are now being done over the phone by the local Debt Coach, and many head office staff are having to work from home. The service has naturally had to be reworked to comply with the FCA's regulations, and although there is still of course a necessity for clients to provide paperwork, the system has been slightly revised and relaxed in some areas so as to accommodate clients who have no access to the internet or mobile phone devices.



Our national helpline reopened 0800 328 0006 on the 11th May and our debt centre will be taking 2 new clients per month (rather than the usual 4) until further notice. So, if you know anyone who is currently experiencing financial difficulty because of debt please do give them our helpline number.

Be the little bird who spreads the word!



Please continue to pray for our existing clients. I am trying to progress a number of them through the system, but sadly despite promising starts, for some reason or another they are unable to fulfil their commitment to providing the last bits of information and so cannot move forward. This can be disheartening at times, especially as they are so close to making a real change in their circumstances.



On the fundraising front we are pleased to say that Martin Whitten raised the enormous amount of £2,800 in sponsorship, having completed the 24km SAS selection test in January, over the Pen Y Van, the highest mountain in the Brecon Beacons, whilst carrying a backpack weighing 35lbs



What a truly fantastic achievement, thank you Martin for your tremendous fundraising effort which has made a huge difference to our finances.

Waitrose in New Malden chose the CAP Debt Centre as one of its community charities before Christmas and so in the last month we received a cheque from them for £225. And there's more...

Phil Hutchinson, Christine & Keith Keen and I were recently all involved in applying for a Neighbourhood Community Grant from the Royal Borough of Kingston. We applied for the sum of £2,379. and were awarded the full amount towards our work in the south of the Borough. It was very exciting for Phil and I to attend the local council meeting and to receive a unanimous vote in favour of the CAP Debt Centre. Once lockdown has eased, we will be focussing our attentions on the south of the Borough, i.e. the Chessington and Tolworth area.



CAP Money Course. Investigations are currently being made about running an online money course. Details will be announced in due course, but if you have any questions or are interested in taking part please email Phil Hutchinson. philandjen48@hotmail.com

Acts 435. We are also currently looking into working as an advocate alongside this charity which helps to match up needs with donors. Often our clients require things like washing machines or cookers, and so it would be good if we had a means to advertise locally to try and source these products. I can send you details if you would like to be part of this initiative.

I am so proud of the combined work of the Kingston Churches together who have all worked faithfully together serving the community during this time of crisis. It has been heart-warming to hear the wonderful stories of Christian brothers and sisters working closely serving those practically in their community <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7K133BpTjI> If you haven't seen this it's well worth a watch!

Thanks again for all that you do to keep this work going. Without your prayer and financial support we couldn't continue, and who knows what the fall-out from Covid19 will bring, so let's keep pressing on in Him!

With love in Jesus,

Gayle

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Please note that I am now only working on a Thursday and Friday, and so will only be available on those days.