

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

DASH celebrated its first birthday on 24 November 2012.

In our first year we have hosted 32 people for a total of 741 nights of which we are very proud. However, it has to be said that destitution is a condition which was catered for in the Poor Law Act of 1601, so this achievement is hardly something to be pleased about.

Currently we are supporting five people, which is the highest number we have ever had at one time. It is becoming more difficult to find hosts available, and we are worried that if new people come along it will not be possible to help them.

If you or someone you know is able to host, please get in touch. Although the need tends to be for longer stays at the moment, even the offer of one or two nights is helpful whilst we try to find something longer term.

Funding is tight so any donations are most welcome!

TOMORROW CENTRE

We opened the TOMORROW Centre at Huddersfield Samaritans, 14 New North Parade, Huddersfield HD1 5JP in September and it has proved a welcome resource for clients. Each week several new clients come to us to ask for assistance, and, as we feared, with the closure of Clare House, more and more of them are asylum seekers who are awaiting decisions, but who need assistance which cannot be provided by Cascade or G4S. We are very grateful for the support of Samaritans who have generously donated the space and facilities.

The kind of services we are providing at the new centre include accompanying people who have to go to court, supporting people with health conditions to access the treatment they need, assisting asylum seekers who have not yet had a decision with difficulties caused by the transition arrangements whereby the service is now being managed by G4S and helping with form filling.

We were very pleased that Mr A received leave to stay recently. Mr A was the first person to be hosted by DASH back in November 2011

TOMORROW operates on a Tuesday afternoon from 1.30pm to 5pm, but the services it offers can also be accessed by calling the DASH number.

We will not be opening on Christmas or New Year's Day, but are open every other Tuesday afternoon.

We would welcome more volunteers for the TOMORROW Centre, particularly people with language skills.

WEBSITE UPDATE

We will be updating the website very soon, so do pay us a visit!

A very big thank you to our supporters and a Happy New Year.