

Jan-Mar
2017

Upcoming Events:

Fritillary painting trip

Thurs 20th April

Cricklade North Meadow

A group from The Harbour Project will visit Cricklade to paint in the town's ancient meadow (or local house if wet!) and for chat and refreshments at St Mary's. Details: Monica Potter 01793 752061

Refugee Week

19th to 25th June

Swindon City of Sanctuary and The Harbour Project are in partnership with Volunteer Action Swindon and Swindon Amnesty, organising a wonderful programme of events for Refugee Week 2017 that celebrates Swindon's diversity. All events and activities will be listed in our programme and online:

refugeeweek.org.uk

swindon.cityofsanctuary.org

If you would like to be involved and hold your own event for Refugee Week 2017 then please get in touch via one of these websites so that we can ensure you are included in our programme. (All events will clearly state whether or not they are open to the public)

BBQ for Refugees & Asylum Seekers

Sat 1st July, for lunch

Lydiard Park, Swindon

Please contact Steve Aftelak on 536815 if you can help drive a family to and/or from the BBQ or help on the day.

Deanery J&P Contacts:

- **Holy Rood**
Paul Hatch, Noreen Bint
- **Holy Family**
George Timuri
- **St Joseph's, Wroughton**
Steve Aftelak
- **St Mary's Cricklade**
Monica Potter
- **St Mary's Swindon**
Rachel Pryor, Mark Donovan
- **St Peter's**
Liz & Robert Barrett, Louise Burke, Esther Gueu, Gitti & Eric Hayes, and Sameh Salar

Next J&P Group meetings:

Wed 5th Apr, Wed 3rd May, Wed 7th Jun, all 7:30-9pm. For venue or enquiries, email swindon.deanery@me.com

Swindon Catholic Deanery Justice & Peace Group Newsletter

J&P Group Chair: Steve Aftelak

Website: www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk; select "Justice & Peace Group"

TWIGS Community Gardens

TWIGS stands for "Therapeutic Work In Gardening in Swindon," and the charity provides a wonderful range of resources and experiences for those experiencing mental health problems. They manage a set of community gardens next to the Manor Garden Centre in Cheney Manor including a meadow area, allotments, kitchen garden, faith garden, herb garden, etc. People with mental health difficulties such as depression can be referred to the therapeutic activities on offer which include crafts, gardening, and volunteering in the adjacent Olive Tree Café. TWIGS have a number of open days every year—see their website for details. The J&P Group would like to thank Alan Holland of TWIGS for his presentation to the Group in February.



Pride of Swindon!

The Harbour Project was one of the Team Award winners in this year's Pride of Swindon Awards. Congratulations!

The good work of The Night Shelter

Have you ever wondered what happens to leftover and past-date supermarket products in Swindon? The Deanery Justice & Peace Group recently visited The Night Shelter Charity, based at St Mary's Church of England in Cheney Manor, and learnt that The Night Shelter is responsible for collecting these products and distributing them to over 35 other charities in Swindon. Typically they pick up and distribute over 600 crates of goods each week!

In addition, The Night Shelter runs a shelter for the homeless every Friday night from 9pm – 8am at St Mary's Church Hall, Cheney Manor Rd. They offer a hot meal, a chance to shower and wash clothes and a bed for the night. There's an opportunity to relax, chat, receive advice and hear God's word. They also work closely with the other services in Swindon to provide signposting and support to help people move on to more stable situations.

Although their work is already supported by around 120 volunteers, The Night Shelter are currently urgently looking for new volunteers to drive vans or to cook - qualifications are required but some training is also provided. If you think you could help, please contact Becky Davison at The Night Shelter on 07586 420011, or Steve Aftelak from the J&P Group on 01793 536815.

