



NEWS FROM THE NORTH WESTERN SYNOD

11TH DECEMBER 2019

Newsletter

The North Western Synod Office will be closed from 3.30pm on Friday, 20th December 2019 due to Christmas holidays and annual leave, and will reopen at 9.15am on Thursday, 2nd January 2019.

Telephone voicemail messages can be left and will be dealt with on our return.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

- 1: [Radcliffe and Stand URC - Pastoral Worker and Community Development Co-ordinator \(fixed term\)](#)
- 2: [Walking, Falling and Keeping Going - \(Re\)discovering and maintaining a radical creation-centred way of being](#)
- 3: [Press Release](#)

1: Radcliffe and Stand URC - Pastoral Worker and Community Development Co-ordinator (fixed term)

Following the uniting of Radcliffe and Stand churches we are seeking to develop our mission and community outreach. A community hub focused around the Listening Ear Café has recently been launched in Radcliffe and alongside this we are seeking to appoint 2 people on a fixed term basis to support this ministry.

The Pastoral post will work in tandem with the work of the new Co-ordinator and we hope that both roles will bring a 'pioneering' spirit to the life, work and ministry of the church and community hub.

We anticipate these new posts as being bridge builders between church, community hub and the wider community as we seek to be a visible, transformative and practical outworking of God's love in Radcliffe.

Pastoral Worker 15 hours c£21,500 (pro rata)

To support and develop established links with the local primary school in pastoral care activities, Messy church and assemblies

Provide a level of detached outreach for those largely unconnected with church in the Chapelfield area through discovering community hot spots and discerning if and where the church can bless and add value to that work. Identify pastoral needs in the wider community and where possible responding appropriately and sensitively. To support a team of volunteers

Community Development Co-ordinator 10 hours c £18,000 (pro rata)

You will be well organised and one of the key 'faces' of the church when engaging with clients and partner agencies. Have oversight for bookings and general running of the project, and seek ongoing funding opportunities.

Seek to develop, relationships already established at Radcliffe and network with the community groups using the building and grow new connections. To recruit and train volunteers for the community café

Interested? For more information on both posts with job description and person specification please use the link: <http://radcliffeurc.org.uk/vacancies/>

Applications are invited by letter of application with CV which must address the person specification for the post.

Please return applications to admin@radcliffeurc.org.uk by 5 January 2020.

2: Walking, Falling and Keeping Going - (Re)discovering and maintaining a radical creation-centred way of being

A gathering open to all Green Christian members who are interested in following our Way of Life and an opportunity for Companions (followers of the Way) to come together to share their experiences of the journey so far and discerning next steps

There will be presentations and discussions on each of the 4 Way of Life disciplines with questions such as:

Prayer - What is God calling us to do in these times?

Living Gently - Do we need to take this to a new level?

Public Witness - What are our fears?

Encouragement - How are we encouraging each other?

and including sessions on reflection, prayer, poetry, art and music

**St Aloysius Church Hall, 20 Phoenix Road, London NW1 1TA (near Euston station)
Saturday 1st February 2020. 11am to 4.30pm (Tea & coffee from 10.30am)**

The Green Christian Way of Life is offered to GC members for whom care for God's creation in all its forms is a fundamental outworking of their faith. It is a calling for deeper engagement and shared encouragement. More information at www.greenchristian.org.uk/way

Cost free – but donations on the day welcome. To book a place please e-mail georgedow@greenchristian.org.uk

3: Press Release

Repair Café takes on throwaway society

Chorley Repair Café could be part of Chorley's answer to concerns about the planet. On Saturday 19th they'll be repairing household items for free, saving them from landfill.

This will be the café's second session, the first, held in November, saw 25 items examined and 21 of them fixed there and then. Items including a vintage sewing machine, an amplifier, leaf blower and children's coat were saved from landfill by a team of skilled volunteers.

Andy Littlejohns, who coordinates the café said "when we first talked about setting it up, in September, we had no idea it would take off so quickly. In no time at all we had a team of skilled volunteers raring to go. The feedback from the first session was really positive. Some of the things we repaired held quite a lot of sentimental value and their owners weren't holding out much hope. Others were just happy to see everyday items working again".

Dissatisfaction with the disposable nature of many items has grown in recent years, as awareness of environmental damage grows. Programmes like the Repair Shop have also reawakened interest in repair skills. Chorley Repair Café taps into both of these interests, fixing things that often can't be repaired, at least not economically, elsewhere and sharing repair skills with people who come along.

Andy said "we're hoping to add more repair stations to the cafe as times goes on. We'd love to be able to sharpen tools, if we can get the equipment, and we've had a few people ask about clocks"

The Repair café meets on the second Saturday of the month, from 10am – 12pm in the Halls at Chorley URC on Hollinshead Street. The next two meetings are December Saturday 14th and January 11th.

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Andy Littlejohns is the Church Related Community Worker at Chorley URC. The role involves enabling the church to better engage with and serve the local community.

The Repair Café movement is an international movement started in Amsterdam in 2009, since when over 1,500 have been started worldwide. Chorley Repair Café held its first session in November 2019.

Chorley Repair Café volunteers can fix electricals, bikes, furniture, clothes/textiles, jewellery.

Chorley URC, in Hollinshead Street, was founded in 1792 and is now one of the largest United Reformed Churches in the north-west.

The congregation covers a huge range of ages. It includes two talented choirs and a twelve strong puppet team.

Chorley URC is committed to serve the community of Chorley through mission and service. In partnership with Chorley Help the Homeless, it currently provides a free meal each Thursday evening to anyone who wishes to attend.

Chorley Repair Café's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/chorleyrepaircafe/

Chorley URCs website : www.chorleyurc.org