

# Catholic Care news



**Welcome from  
Carol Hill,  
Director of  
Catholic Care**



Welcome to the Catholic Care spring newsletter full of news from the charity. I do hope you enjoy your read and please do pass on to your family and friends to share the news. We regularly put news items on our web site and you can keep up to date by visiting [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)

## Events 2017

### Fish & Chip Calypso Evening

Fish & Chip Calypso Evening at 11 North Grange Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 2BR. Friday 9th June 2017, 5pm to 8pm. Tickets are priced at £8 for a large fish and chips and £6.75 for a small portion.

### Christmas Party Night

Christmas Party Night at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Leeds. Saturday 25th November 2017, 7.30pm until late. Ticket Prices are £27.50

**Tickets for both these events are available from: Janet.flynn@catholic-care.org.uk or call 0113 388 5400**

**For further details about these events please see our website: [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)**

## Canon Peter Maguire RIP

Catholic Care's trustees, staff, former colleagues, friends and those who had cared for and supported him gathered to give thanks for the life of Canon Maguire, firstly on the evening of Wednesday 11th January at St John the Baptist Church in Normanton, Canon's last parish before retirement, and then at a Funeral Mass at the Cathedral of St Anne on Thursday 12th January.

Father Duane Reilly was the main Celebrant at St John the Baptist Church, Normanton, supported by around 20 brother priests. The Eulogy was delivered by Canon James Callaghan who spoke about Canon Maguire's work and the positive impact he had made on the lives of so many.

The Funeral Mass in the Cathedral was celebrated by Bishop Marcus along with around 50 priests from across the Diocese. Canon Callaghan delivered the sermon saying "it is for his long association with Catholic Care that Canon Maguire will be best remembered around the Diocese."

Canon Maguire started his official association with Catholic Care in 1982 when he was appointed Administrator (CEO), following in the very large footsteps of Mgr. John Murphy.

He continued in the role of Administrator for 10 years and oversaw major changes in the services delivered by Catholic Care. He had the unenviable task of closing down a number of residential children's homes as the care of children moved out into the community, but he was also a visionary and saw the opportunity to open small group homes for adults with learning disabilities and mental health issues. These services continue successfully today.

Perhaps the part of the work Canon Maguire enjoyed the most was the adoption service and he carried with him happy memories of the families and the blessings he gave to them as they took a child into their family.

Canon Maguire handed over the reins of Catholic Care in 1990 to Stuart Hanlon, yet still remained involved, offering his experience and energies in the role of Trustee, a role he finally stepped down from in 2016.

His 34 years' dedicated service to Catholic Care were celebrated in May last year when Bishop Marcus celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving followed by a reception at Bishop's House for friends and former colleagues. The smile on his face that day said it all.

Following his retirement his health failed and Canon Maguire was cared for at his home by Catholic Care, who treated him just as he treated many, with respect, dignity, friendship and compassion.

**May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.**



## A Big Thank You To All Who Supported Our Christmas Appeals

As part of our 2016 Christmas Appeal we asked people to take a moment to remember the many people in our communities who do not have a place to call home, or a family to be with, who are struggling financially, living alone or experiencing social isolation. In particular we were asked to remember:

- The Homeless and destitute
- Asylum seekers and refugees
- Older people
- Children in care
- Broken families
- Those left behind by society, especially those with a disability.

Your response was amazing and you gave so generously. Thank you to:

- Our donors, supporters and schools who have made **financial donations** to the hardship fund totalling £1,857. This enables us to deal swiftly with traumatic circumstances and supporting families during the year.

- The schools in the Diocese of Leeds who made donations to our **“When a child is born appeal”**. The pupils were asked to think about the gifts they could bring baby Jesus if he was born today. These gifts are used throughout the year in our Gianna project, which offers confidential one-to-one support and advice to women and girls during and beyond pregnancy. Your generous gifts have also enabled us to support refugees and asylum seekers and the centre for trafficked women. Our stores are now fully replenished.
- All those who have donated **toys**. We made over 130 toy deliveries to needy families in the community, and to refugee families who arrive in the country with nothing. Your generous donations have put a smile on the face of a child.

- All those who have donated **food and toiletries**. Our team have delivered around 70 hampers to families who really struggle all year round and especially so at Christmas.

Your generous donations of gifts also provided “Christmas stockings” for the young people in our care for whom Christmas is an exceptionally difficult time.

*“Thank you for continuing to remember those who had nowhere to go and no one to care for them at Christmas and throughout the year. Your generosity has made such a difference.”*

*– Carol Hill, Director*



## Celebrating 25 Years

Unfortunately Peter Simmons was unable to attend on the Oscars evening last October and so just before Christmas, Carol Hill (Director of Catholic Care) caught up with Peter for a coffee. Peter currently works with older people and supporting adults with a learning disability. He has served Catholic Care for 25 years.

Carol told Peter’s colleagues gathered that he joined Catholic Care in November 1990 initially only intending to stay for a short while – and here he is nearly 26 years later.

After spending 10 years in children’s residential services in the South, Peter came back up North, joining his sister Mary who already worked for Catholic Care.

Working in the children’s homes at Redholt and Moor Road, where he was known to the children as ‘Big Pete’ he progressed to Registered Manager at Fixby Road children’s home and later at Lanshaw Crescent.

As the needs for children’s residential care diminished Peter moved on to the Adults with Learning Disabilities Service in 1999. Taking on the role of Registered Manager at Westhaven in Dewsbury, Peter’s transition into this service proved to be a great success both for him and for the residents he cared for and supported.

2013 saw a further change for Peter as Catholic Care further developed its Supported Living Services and Peter joined the team as Assistant Domiciliary Care Manager. This service is now extending into provision for older people and Peter has been supporting older people living in their own homes and also retired priests from the Diocese.

In and amongst all this Peter is also well known for his artistic flair, which he has used in presentations, photography, videos etc. – it seems there is no end to his talents.

Peter takes on all challenges with a smile (or could that be a grimace) and his cheery manner is welcomed by all. Not bad for someone who was only here ‘for a short while’



## Congratulations on retaining “Outstanding”

Congratulations to all the staff and the young people at our Leeds Children’s Residential Home who obtained a rating of **Outstanding in all areas** at their Ofsted inspection in November 2016. Ofsted have the following definition:

**An outstanding children’s home provides highly effective services that contribute to significantly improve outcomes for children and young people who need help and protection and care. Their progress exceeds expectations and is sustained over time.**

### Some quotes from the inspection report:

“The children’s home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good.”

“The exceptionally nurturing and individualised approach to care really helps children and young people .....”

“Children’s and young people’s behaviour significantly improves as a result of the nurturing approach to their care.”

“...children and young people receive the outstanding care they deserve.”

## Mindful Schools Programme at St Joseph’s Primary School Castleford

**Over the last 6 weeks staff and children at St Joseph’s Primary School Castleford have been enjoying weekly Mindfulness sessions delivered by Catholic Care staff. St Joseph’s has been a pilot school for this exciting approach which will be made available to more schools over the coming year.**

Children from Year 2 to Year 6 have been taking part in a range of exercises including focussing on sounds and listening, thinking about emotions and feelings as well as giving attention to breathing. Compassion and kindness are key elements of the sessions where the children create a more caring environment in the classroom and school. Staff have also enjoyed weekly sessions in their staff meetings and have commented on how beneficial the experience has been.

Solid scientific evidence suggests that mindfulness interventions improve attention, self-control, and emotional resilience, helping memory and immune response. By delivering this programme we aim to equip children and staff with tools to positively manage the emotional demands on daily life.



## Trustees On Tour

**On Tuesday 7th February the Trustees continued with their visits to our homes and projects when Bishop Marcus and Sue Rix went “on tour”.**

Their first stop of the afternoon was Foundry Mill where staff together with the tenants and some family members gave Bishop Marcus and Sue a really warm welcome. Light refreshments were on offer and the tenants spoke warmly of their stay at Foundry Mill and in particular how safe they felt. The highlight of the visit was Chris, who lives at Foundry Mill, presenting Bishop Marcus with a framed picture of a house he had drawn.

All too soon it was time to move on to the next stop, the children’s home. Here another warm welcome waited from staff and young people. Bishop Marcus and Sue were treated to a tour of the home, including the new flats, and there was time for a chat with staff before tea and cake.

Bishop Marcus commented on the challenging work being undertaken so well. Sue Rix was so pleased to see such a significant positive change in a young person she had first met a couple of years ago, which confirmed the bishop’s observations.

The final destination of the tour was The House of Light where residents, staff, family members and Trustees from the House of Light Trust were gathered. It was great to see the residents so looking forward to the visit; in fact we were only half way down the drive when George opened the front door with a beaming smile. There was lots of talk over a cup of tea accompanied by the last of the Christmas cake before George and Caroline on behalf of all the residents proudly showed Bishop Marcus and Sue around their home.

*“What an amazing afternoon, a total joy to be with some of God’s chosen ones both residents and staff.”*

*– Sue Rix, Trustee*



## Who cares for the carer?

'Who cares for the carer?' I hear you say,  
'Their day blends with night and then night becomes day,  
The cooking, the cleaning, the hospital trips,  
The changing, the bathing, wiping food from his lips,  
The meltdown, the tears.... so hard to endure,  
What keeps them from walking straight out of the door?'

I'll tell you what stops me from leaving each day,  
And what gets me through when I don't want to stay,  
It begins with an 'I' and ends with an 'e',  
It's a power, a force, emanating from me,  
An empathic heart, a gift from above,  
I do this, my friend, in the name of LOVE.

## Catholic Care Christmas Party

**Festive music played and the room at the Crown Plaza in Leeds was adorned with decorations as Carol Hill (Director of Catholic Care) welcomed guests including the people we care for and support, Trustees, staff, friends and donators and people from the Parishes to the annual Catholic Care Christmas party.**



What a wonderful night it was with so much enjoyment and merriment! The evening started with a delicious meal and was followed by a fundraising raffle which was great fun as the suspense grew with each ticket pulled out of the bag. We were so fortunate to have been donated some wonderful prizes and many people left the party as winners. It was also great news that £485 was raised for our 2016 Christmas Appeal. After this the music was turned up and the dancing started. What an energetic group of people with not an inch on the floor until well after midnight.

Some of the people we care for and support stayed overnight in the hotel and had a truly fabulous weekend.

**Thank you to all those who made this evening such a wonderful occasion.**

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email in the future please let us know. Please send your email address to [karen.byram@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:karen.byram@catholic-care.org.uk)

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## What People Say

At Catholic Care we value all feedback from the people we care for and support, their families and friends and the professionals we work with. Here's a selection of what people say:

### About our adult learning disability service:

"What a lovely place, it's a real home"  
A visiting doctor.

### About our children's home:

"This is my first visit to the home and I have to place on record how impressed I am with the quality of accommodation. The standard of accommodation is excellent"  
Regulation 44 Inspector.

### About our School's Children & Family Wellbeing Service

The following was obtained from our recent feedback questionnaire:

"An increasingly invaluable service"

"The service goes from strength to strength. I have recommended Catholic Care to many schools and will continue to do so"

## Hot off the press!

Lucy Irven will be joining Catholic Care as the new Diocesan Refugee Facilitator on 3rd April 2017.

**Please see our website for further information: [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)**



Catholic Care

A service you can believe in