

The homeless charity that
works

Celebrating 20 years
and new hope for thousands
of homeless people

EMMAUS ANNUAL REVIEW
JULY 2010 - JUNE 2011



emmaus

welcome

We hope this Annual Review gives you a clear snapshot of the dynamism and energy of the Emmaus Movement in the UK. In the past year we've witnessed the opening of two more Communities, 49 extra Companion bedrooms and several Emmaus shops.

This year also represents a very significant milestone in the history of Emmaus UK. In the pages that follow, we reflect upon all that the Movement has achieved over the past 20 years, the values and practices that underpin its success, and the lasting impact for Companions.

It's been an exciting journey so far but, with homelessness on the increase, there are still very challenging times ahead.

Contents

A message from our Patron	page 3
20 years of Emmaus UK	page 4
A message from our Chief Executive	page 7
A message from the Chair of Emmaus UK	page 7
Why Emmaus works	page 8
Empowering Companions	page 10
A message from our President	page 13
From Companion to Community Leader	page 14
Companions, in their own words	page 15
Our progress at a glance	page 17
The financial picture	page 18
A year in numbers	page 20



A message from our Patron, HRH the Duchess of Cornwall



This is the 20th Anniversary year of Emmaus in the United Kingdom and I am very pleased to be able to continue to support this wonderful organisation which offers such an effective solution to the complex problems surrounding homelessness. What makes Emmaus so special is that it offers people, who have been marginalised and ignored by society, a chance to come back and make a positive contribution, not only to their own Communities, but also to the communities around them. I am so proud of all of you and hope that Emmaus goes from strength to strength – rather like our Companions.

Carilla



HRH Duchess of Cornwall
visiting Emmaus Sheffield

A landmark year



It's amazing to think that Emmaus UK started life in the middle of a Cambridgeshire field with just two caravans and a Portakabin. But look how far it has come in just 20 years.

During 2010/2011 Emmaus celebrated the opening of Emmaus Burnley, its 20th Community, followed swiftly by Emmaus Hastings and Rother. Across the UK, that means we now have the capacity to offer 502 Companions - as residents are known - a place to live and work. And since 1991, Emmaus UK has helped around 7,500 homeless people to turn their lives around.

1991

Selwyn Image, founder of Emmaus UK, invites Abbé Pierre to Cambridge where the first Community begins life in Landbeach.

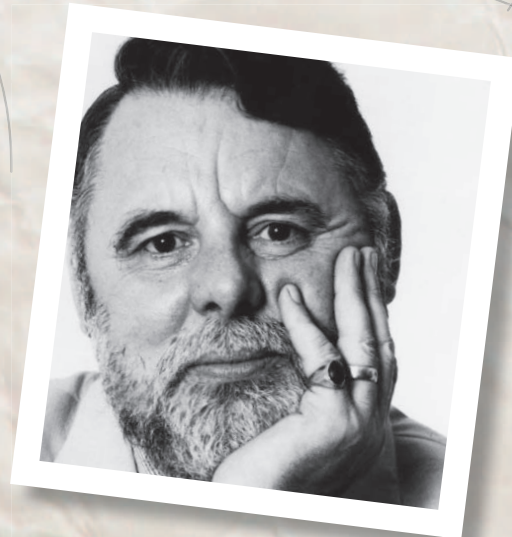


1995

Four Emmaus Communities are already up and running.

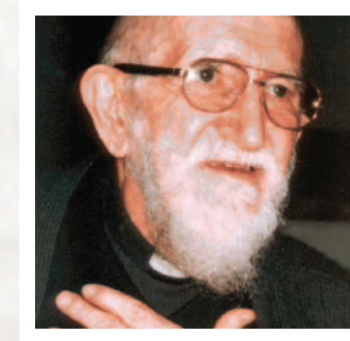
1992

Terry Waite becomes President of Emmaus UK.



2001

The 10th Emmaus Community is opened in the UK



2007

Emmaus founder, Abbé Pierre, dies. UK Companions attend his funeral in Paris.

2006

HRH Duchess of Cornwall becomes Patron of Emmaus UK and the First Community is opened in Scotland.

2008

Sales from 19 Emmaus shops are helping to fund their Communities

June 2011

21 Communities open; 502 bedrooms available; 40 Emmaus shops established.

The story doesn't end here

Emmaus could never have come so far, so quickly without the hard work and belief of Emmaus staff, Companions, Trustees, volunteers and supporters. Thanks to all of you, the Emmaus story doesn't end here. A further 14 Emmaus Groups are striving to open new Communities as quickly as they can to meet the growing need in their local areas where, in the current economic downturn, homelessness is already on the increase.

**Emmaus
has already
helped
around 7,500
Companions
to change
their lives**



An inspirational organisation

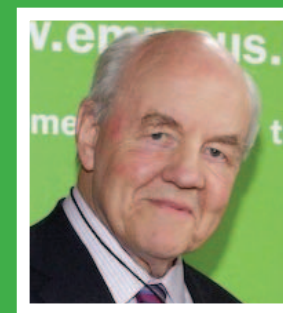
I am delighted to have taken up the post of Chief Executive of Emmaus UK in its anniversary year and at such a crucial point in its development. In my travels around Emmaus Communities, I have seen how Companions, staff and volunteers are united in their endeavours to make a difference in people's lives. What I find truly remarkable is that Companions are not simply working to put a roof over their own heads, but also volunteer their spare time to other organizations. Across the Federation Companions give around 6200 hours per year in addition to the work they put in at Communities.

I look forward to playing my part in the work of the Emmaus Federation and helping to ensure that we can celebrate and build on our strengths, working together for our collective future.

Thank you so much for your support of Emmaus. Homelessness and deprivation are on the increase and your help will ensure that we are able to open new Communities and continue to transform lives.



Arvinda Gohil, Chief Executive, Emmaus UK



I would like to thank our many loyal donors who have continued to support the work of Emmaus through challenging times. Emmaus' unique approach to homelessness and social exclusion is needed more than ever but, with help from you all, Emmaus in the UK is growing at a faster rate than in any other country. It is our hope that, despite the current austere economic climate, we can continue to increase the number of Companion rooms.

John Noble, Chair of Emmaus UK

“ I used to go to bed and pray I wouldn’t wake up. Emmaus has saved my life.”

A home, a job, a purpose

Since 1991, Emmaus UK has grown in leaps and bounds for one simple reason: it's a charity that works.

Rather than offering homeless people temporary shelter or giving them handouts, it provides a long-term solution by helping Companions to help themselves.

Each Emmaus Community is based on a replicable model and adheres to the same fundamental principles and beliefs.

Everyone has value

Emmaus values and accepts people as they are now, rather than judging them on what they might have been. In some cases, drugs and alcohol have been a catalyst for people's homelessness; in others they are an anaesthetic for their loneliness and despair. Emmaus supports those Companions who are addicted to kick their habit and, in turn, they agree not to bring drugs or alcohol into their Communities.

Work gives us purpose

Homeless hostels and shelters provide a bed for the night but will often leave homeless people to wander the streets, aimlessly, by day. Emmaus is unique because it provides a home, a job and a purpose. Emmaus Companions sign off unemployment benefits and work full-time collecting, refurbishing and re-selling furniture in order to help their Community become financially self-supporting. In return, they receive accommodation, food, clothing and a small weekly allowance.

The chance to work not only gives Companions a reason to get up every morning, it can also help them learn new skills,

discover hidden talents, build friendships and develop a sense of self-worth and independence.

By helping others we help ourselves

People who live on the streets exist on the very margins of our society. They are largely ignored and often physically or verbally abused. In this atmosphere of fear and deprivation, the overwhelming concern of homeless people is their self-preservation. Every day is literally a fight for survival. One of the ways in which Emmaus helps Companions to re-integrate into wider society is to foster a family atmosphere within each Community where everyone is encouraged to support each other and to show solidarity with those who are less fortunate.




The furniture and household goods that Companions refurbish are sold at minimal cost to help those on a low income. Once an Emmaus Community becomes self-supporting, any profits from its social enterprise are used to support the development of new Communities and other charities. And every year, Companions volunteer around 6200 hours of their time to charitable fundraising or local community projects. For example, in

February this year, Companions at Emmaus Oxford helped to decorate a community centre for disabled children and, in May, Emmaus Gloucestershire organised a sponsored cycle ride in support of asylum seekers.

Being able to feel empathy with others and making a positive contribution to their Community and wider society, enables Companions to restore their own sense of dignity and self-respect.

In the past year, every Companion living and working in an Emmaus Community has saved the taxpayer around £24,473*

* Source: Sharing in Success: An economic evaluation of the Emmaus Community model by Cambridge University



“That’s the ethos of Emmaus – helping yourself and other people. This Community is all our own work.”

Empowering Companions

The fundamental values underpinning every Emmaus Community translate themselves into everyday practice and empower formerly homeless people to make a fresh start. Between July 2010 and June 2011, almost two thirds of Companions were ready to move on positively to the next stage in their lives.

A room of one’s own

Companions have their own key to an en-suite bedroom so they can enjoy the privacy they need, while also benefiting from the support that Community living provides.

One big family

Companions live and work in a family environment. They take turns to cook for each other, they socialise together, and they support one another to succeed. Every Companion is different and receives whatever physical, emotional or practical help they need to rebuild their lives.

Work routines

Regular work routines give structure to the day and allow Companions to use their existing skills for the benefit of the Community, or to learn new skills that build confidence and enable people to move on with the next stage of their lives.

Enterprise and ingenuity

Emmaus Communities have to be adaptable to the needs of their local community. For example, Emmaus Sheffield has built its social enterprise largely on gardening contracts, while Companions from other Communities have been instrumental in developing cafés and even a bike-hire business to help them become self-supporting.

Taking responsibility

Companions take an active part in the running of their own Communities. Some become Responsible Companions or Community Assistants and take more responsibility for the

pastoral care of fellow Companions. Others help to establish new Communities. For example, in the past year, Emmaus Brighton & Hove acted as a mentor to the newly established Emmaus Hastings & Rother, with one of their Companions going to work there fulltime to help get the Community up and running.

Making decisions

Every Companion is given a say in the way their Community is run and some volunteer to become part of the Companion’s Forum where they can air their views to the wider Emmaus Federation.

Encouraging creativity

To help build confidence and self-esteem, Companions are encouraged to explore their own creative projects – from writing a blog or managing their Community’s eBay site, to being responsible for developing an area of their Emmaus shop.

Being part of something big

Emmaus UK is part of Emmaus International, which operates projects worldwide. Each year, Communities contribute to a Solidarity Fund and some of this is used to enable Companions to travel abroad and work on Emmaus International projects that benefit poor or disadvantaged communities around the world. Most recently, Companions from the UK have taken part in work camps in Benin and Bosnia.

Moving on

Emmaus Companions are free to live and work in their Communities for weeks, months or several years. Some make it their permanent home because they feel Emmaus is where they function best. If and when Companions are ready to move on, Emmaus will help them find accommodation and employment. We also offer an exciting career path for Companions who wish to remain with Emmaus, and 12 ex-residents are now working as members of staff.

“Emmaus has shown me that I have an inner strength that I didn’t know I had. I was tough before, but that wasn’t real strength.”

**During 2010,
two thirds of
Companions
moved on
positively
with their
lives**

A moment to pause and feel proud

I have been involved with Emmaus since 1992 when I formally opened the first Community in Landbeach with Lord Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury. Since those early days, not only has the Community itself gone from strength to strength, but the Emmaus Movement across the UK has also grown, with 21 Communities already up and running, and several others very close to opening.

I feel very proud of all that the Movement has achieved. It is an organisation like no other in the way that it restores in people who have been marginalised a sense of their own worth and potential. It is no exaggeration to say that Emmaus changes lives. In the 20 years that Emmaus Cambridge has been open it has helped hundreds of homeless and unemployed people to find new purpose. They have to work at making their Community's social enterprise a success in order to support themselves and each other. They also contribute to other charities and organisations by donating some of their income and time.



Unfortunately, I don't see homelessness and poverty ending any time soon and there is a greater need than ever for an organisation like Emmaus in order to catch those that fall through the net.

Terry Waite

Terry Waite, CBE
President of Emmaus UK



emmaus

From Emmaus Companion to Community Leader

This is Mathieu's story...

I was homeless for about six months, much of which I spent sofa surfing, anxious that I would exhaust the goodwill of friends. I remember feeling I just didn't belong, that I was invisible and life would never change.

I joined Emmaus Cambridge in 1995 when it was still based in caravans in a field! Because Cambridge was the very first Community in the UK, there was no model to follow. We were all striving together to make the Community a success and I wouldn't have missed those early days for anything. The comradeship, the peer support, the feeling that I was doing something worthwhile; it was all really special.

I always knew I wanted to remain with Emmaus and I joined the Brighton Community as a Community Assistant in 2001 because I realised I had the chance to help others change their lives



for the better, just as I'd had the chance a few years previously. I became Community Leader in 2004.

It's given me an incredible sense of achievement. Lots of Companions go on to build new lives after they leave the Community but, like me, some decide to stay with Emmaus so they can continue to help others. They're all success stories as far as I'm concerned.

Emmaus Companions can be former prisoners, drug addicts, alcoholics or simply people who have fallen on hard times. Emmaus gives them the opportunity to make a fresh start, to lead a different life –

one where they help each other and those worse off than themselves. That's why, without doubt, welcoming new Companions into the Community is the best part of the job.



“It's very easy to reach rock bottom, but it's very hard to get back up again. Emmaus has given me the confidence and support to be able to do that.” “Emmaus offers you a home and work. No more signing on the dole. No living off money you haven't earned. It's a chance to start a new life in a new place.” “I'm happy and have started to like myself again. I'm also back in contact with my family and visit them regularly.” “Although there's no particular rush for me to leave Emmaus, I want to move on. I'm ready to get other employment or set myself up in business.”

In the past year, the number of Companions that Emmaus can accommodate has increased to 502.



20 years

of progress at a glance

Emmaus Communities...

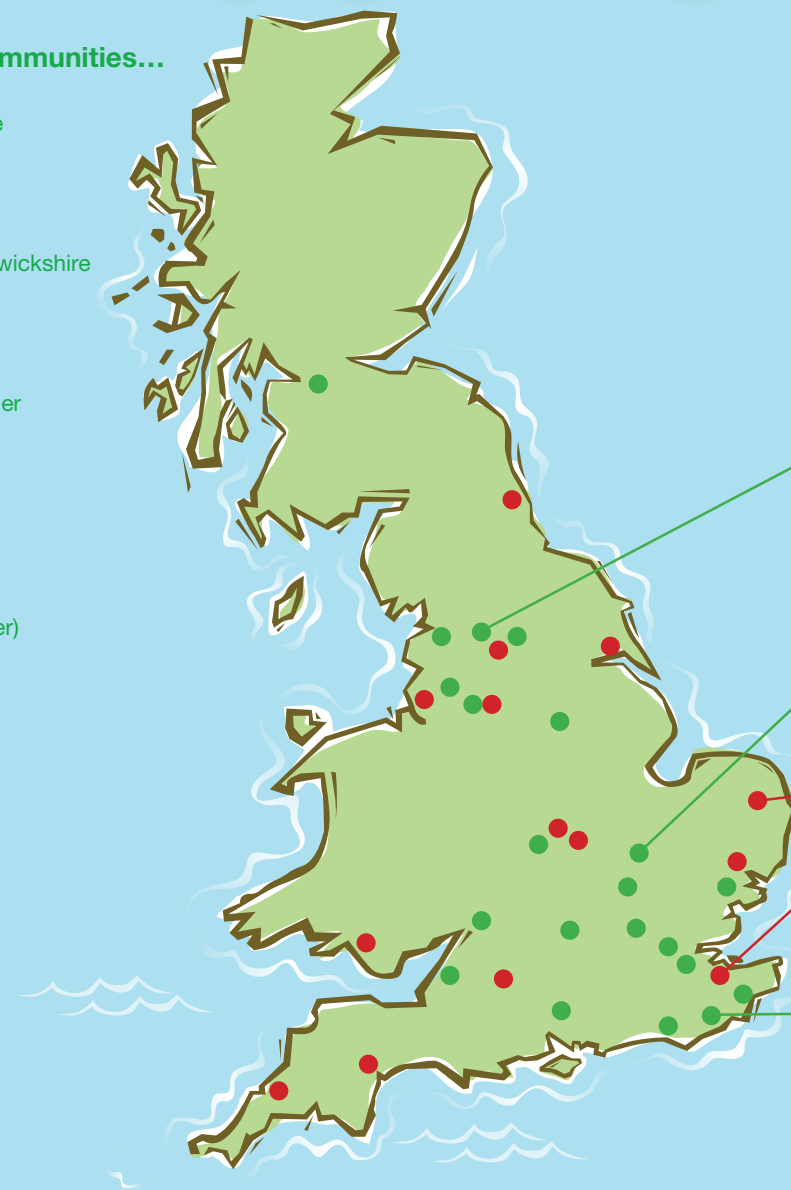
Bolton
Brighton & Hove
Bristol
Burnley
Cambridge
Colchester
Coventry & Warwickshire
Glasgow
Gloucestershire
Greenwich
Hampshire
Hastings & Rother
Leeds
Mossley
Oxford
Preston
Sheffield
South Lambeth
St Albans
St Martins (Dover)
Village Carlton

Emmaus Groups...

Bradford
Bridgend
Cornwall
Exeter
Gateshead
Hull
Ipswich
Leicester
Liverpool
Medway
Norwich
Rugby
Salford
Trowbridge

Key to map

- Emmaus Communities up and running
- Emmaus Groups (Communities in development)



Emmaus Burnley was the 20th Community to open in January 2011

Emmaus Cambridge was the first ever purpose-built Community, opened in 1991

Emmaus Medway and Emmaus Norwich are both aiming to open by 2012

Emmaus Hastings & Rother opened in June 2011, increasing the number of Companion bedrooms to 502

Supporting Emmaus Communities

Emmaus UK works in a different way to many charitable organisations. It is a Federation of member organisations made up of Emmaus Communities and Emmaus Groups (Communities in development). Each member is an independent charity that has elected to be part of the Emmaus family.

The Emmaus Federation provides a number of support services to Communities and Groups through the Federation Office, based in Cambridge. For example, these services might include the provision of marketing and public

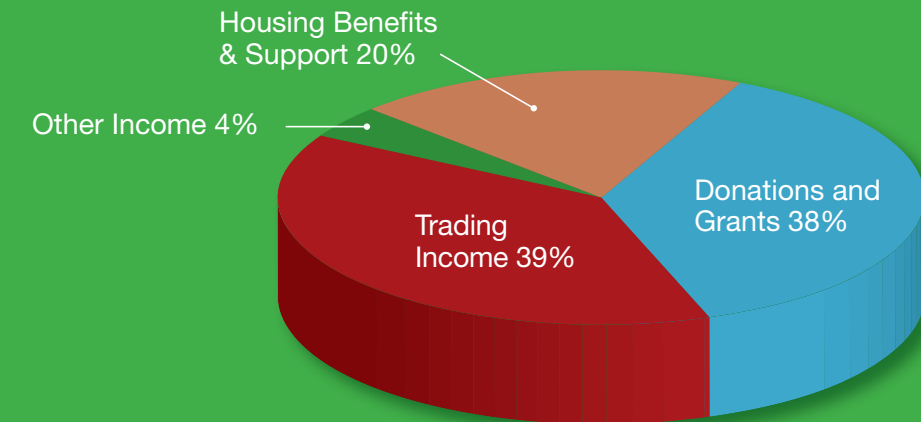
relations support to help our members with fundraising; the sharing of information and good practise; Human Resources support; financial advice and administration of the Solidarity Fund – a fund that awards grants and loans in support of Community activities.

While every Community aims to be financially self-supporting within three years, they all have an ongoing need for support from the Federation Office, which also has to raise funds in order to support around 27 full and part time staff.

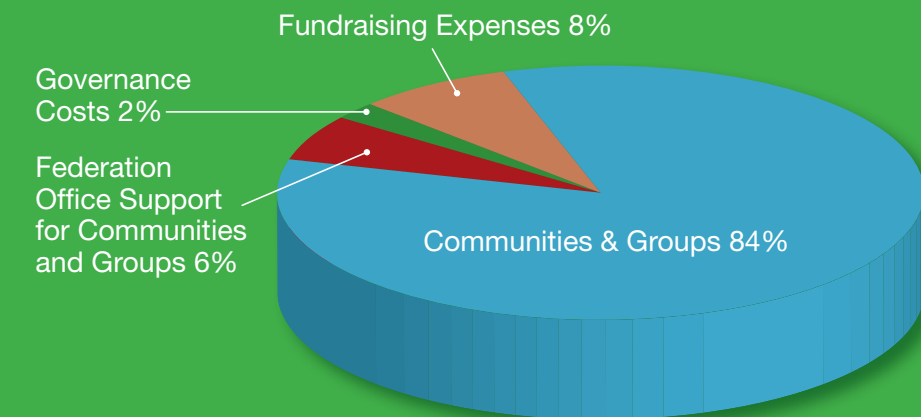
“As an emerging Group, it has been vital for us to know that we have people we can turn to for practical guidance on business planning, publicity and fundraising matters in particular. Life would be very different without the support of the Federation Office.”

Darren, Chair at Emmaus Bradford.

Income across the Federation



Expenditure across the Federation



A year in numbers

2 new Emmaus Communities
open their doors

49 extra bedrooms are
provided by the new
Communities

7 new Emmaus shops open

27 Communities and Groups
celebrate the 20th
Anniversary of Emmaus UK
at the House of Lords

5 runners completed the
London Marathon, raising
£10,000 for Emmaus

40 Companions and staff take
part in the Paris Salon giant
sale, raising £6,300 for Emmaus
International projects

14 Emmaus Groups have been
working to establish new
Communities

5 Emmaus Communities
have allotments and
polytunnels and are growing
their own vegetables

2,500 tonnes of
furniture
and bric-a-
brac didn't
go to landfill because Emmaus
recycled, refurbished and
re-sold them instead

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