

## **South Hams CAP Centre 2016 News**



It's now 18 months since I became Centre Manager of the South Hams Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre, and so I'm writing to update you on all that's happened.

First of all, a big thank you for all your support and involvement during the last year. We're so grateful to everyone who has prayed and given of their time and money. And we give thanks to God for all that He's done in the lives of so many. Thank you to our Partner Churches, Totnes United Free Church, Kingsbridge Family Church, Dartmouth Baptist Church and South Hams Christian Fellowship, for your ongoing commitment to CAP. Thank you to the churches and groups who continue to bless us with generous gifts especially Yealmpton Community Methodist Church and St Mary's Totnes Team Ministry. And thank you to the many individuals who have given to the work of the South Hams CAP Centre. Your generosity has enabled us to reach out to many people with the love of Jesus.

Here are a few interesting statistics. During 2015 our Debt Coaches, Pat Reynolds and Fraser Nute, visited 42 CAP clients in their homes. Of those, 30 clients signed up to a CAP Plan and commenced their journey out of debt. 5 people became Christians and have joined local churches – very good news! And a growing number are becoming debt free. Those CAP visits would not have been possible without the help of local Befrienders. You have helped us build relationships with our clients and continue to provide support and friendship: this is such an important role.

CAP Money Courses have taken place in Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, Ivybridge, Yealmpton and Totnes, led by our trained CAP Money Coaches. They are Phil and Lynn Watson, Roger Tyler, Gerry Matthewman and Reg Rew. CAP Money is a great way of helping people to budget and manage their finances.

During the last year we've been able to welcome a number of CAP clients to our Alpha Courses and special church services and several attended the CAP Discovery Break at Heatree Adventure Centre on Dartmoor – the holiday of a lifetime!

At Christmas we again prepared and distributed 25 hampers which were gratefully received. And we've continued to bless many of our client families with a shopping expedition, enabling them to restock their cupboards. Many thanks to Chris and Nicky Murray of Pennywell Farm for family vouchers to Pennywell; and to Luscombe Drinks for cases of apple juice!

Finally, here's some news about our CAP volunteer staff. Gerry Matthewman, Debt Coach, and Sue Aston, Community Links Co-ordinator, both retired in 2015, having served CAP faithfully since we opened in the South Hams. Pat Reynolds, Debt Coach, is due to retire on 29 February 2016. We want to acknowledge the tremendous contribution she has made to CAP: her enthusiasm and determination have enabled many people to become debt free and make a new start in life. We will miss you enormously Pat! I continue to receive excellent support from Alex Barnett, our South Hams Centre Administrator, John Reynolds, our Treasurer, and Rebecca Sadler our Church PA.

We now want to recruit one or two more Debt Coaches to work alongside me, covering the South Hams. Full training and support is provided by Christians Against Poverty. If you would like to know more do get in touch!

Please continue to pray for CAP, individually and in your churches. And if you are able to come to our monthly Prayer Evening in Totnes, do give me a call and I'll give you details. We meet next on Monday 25 January.

With love,

Fraser

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