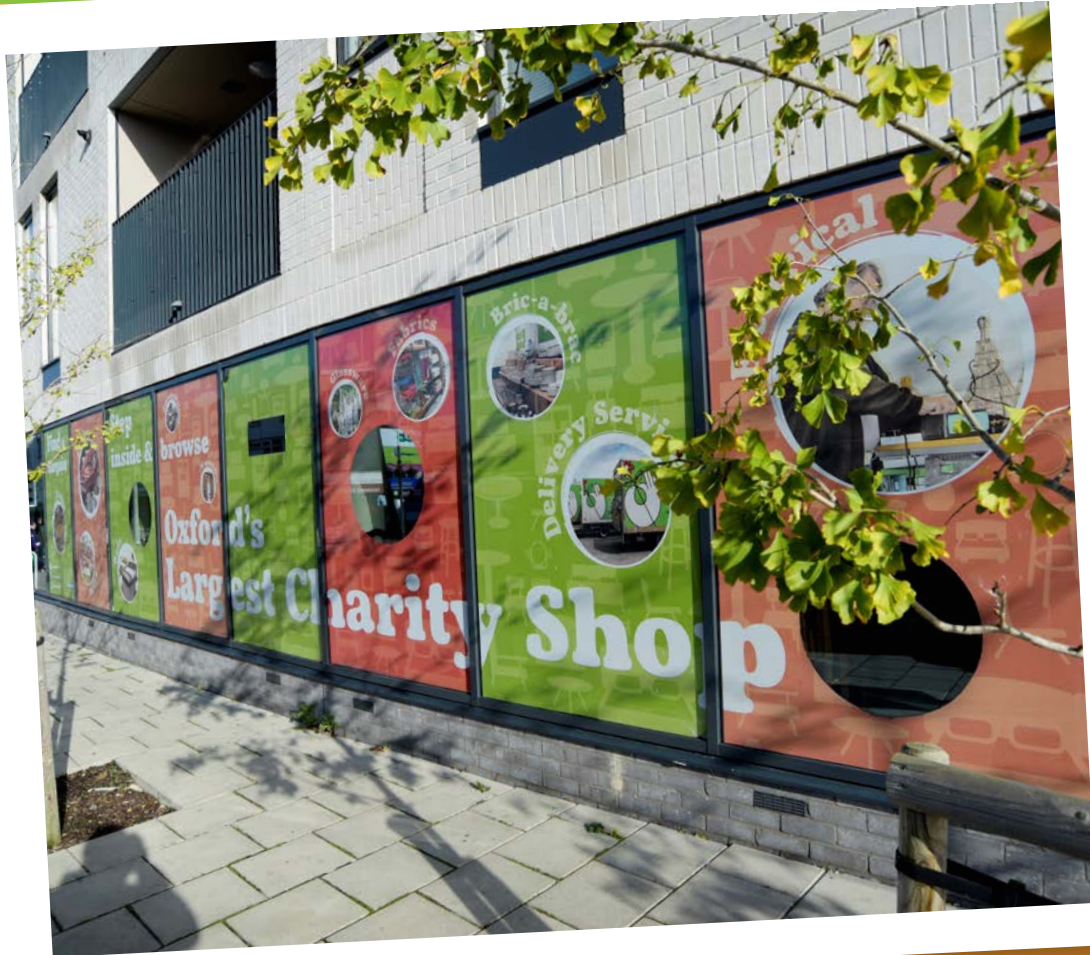


Community Newsletter

Summer 2020



emmaus
Oxford
working together to end homelessness



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The Emmaus Oxford store is open!

We're really pleased to announce that we're now open again! Our opening hours are 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and Sundays 10am to 4pm.

We've introduced extra steps to keep everyone safe, so please follow instructions when you come. We're asking customers to pay by card if possible. Please avoid visiting our charity shop if you or members of your household have been experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you can't visit then do check out our online sales on eBay. All information is correct at time of going to print but please check our website for updates before you travel.

By shopping with us, you're helping our companions to get back to work and move on from homelessness. Thanks in advance for your patience and we hope to see you soon.

working together to end homelessness

Working through lockdown and beyond

Whilst our store was closed, we looked for ways to stay active and useful.

We've been delivering essential household items to people in self-isolation across Oxfordshire. We helped 25 vulnerable households to stay home and stay safe.

We are hoping to partner with other charities to give homeless people moving out of hotels, all the essential furniture they need for a new home. It has been amazing to watch rough sleepers be given somewhere to stay during lockdown. We want to help make this moment one of lasting change. Keep an eye on our website for more details, including how you can help.



Thank you to all our supporters

We have been deeply touched by the support we've received from our local community.

People have given money, goods and time so we can help homeless people to stay safe through the COVID-19 outbreak.

Thank you to the charitable trusts who have given lately. We are immensely grateful to the Lloyds Foundation, Oxfordshire Community Foundation, the National Lottery Community Fund, the Antonio Carluccio Foundation, the CAF Emergency Fund, the Police Property Act Fund, Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust, D J Roberts Charitable Trust, Stanton Ballard Charitable Trust and the Champniss Charitable Trust.

We really appreciate the donations we have received from PayPal Giving Fund, Waitrose Headington, Tesco Bags of Help, Neighbourly and Nationwide, and the ongoing support we get from Emmaus UK.

We'd also like to say a special thank you everyone who has donated to us over the last three months, particularly our Friends of Emmaus Oxford. Making a regular donation to our work has helped us to get through the 50% drop in our income we saw between March and June 2020 whilst our store was closed.

We expect that financially things will continue to be tough. So if you've not signed up, now is a great time! By donating just £10 a month you can become a Friend of Emmaus Oxford. To sign up visit: www.emmaus.org.uk/oxford/support-us/donate



"I'm proud to be part of Emmaus"

Emmaus Oxford is helping Karl turn his life around. He shares his story:

I used to work in construction and warehousing for many years and things were going really well. I had my own flat and I treated myself to occasional nice holidays. Then life started going downhill, with less work available and the bills started to mount up. My relationship broke down and I lost my home.

It was just a snowball that kept on rolling and eventually I got on the wrong side of the law. I was in prison and then ended up living on the streets for two and a half years before I found Emmaus Oxford.

When you're living on the streets you feel like you have the whole world on your shoulders. I often made my own places to sleep, from what I could find.

I started to use a local day centre. With their help, I began to think I might be able to find a way out of my situation, but I didn't really know where to turn. I ended up getting into trouble again, which landed me a few more months in prison. When I got out, my probation officer suggested I apply to join the Emmaus Oxford community, to try and start my life over.

I've been at Emmaus Oxford for over two years now. Emmaus has given me a roof over my head and three meals a day; I've got that

sense of stability I really needed.

I enjoy working in the store and engaging with customers, as well as on the vans to help deliver the furniture they've bought.

I also volunteer to help with the Emmaus Oxford weekly solidarity, where we offer food and essential supplies to local rough sleepers. It does feel good to be able to help people out by handing them some camping equipment, for example, because I've been there myself and know how much it'll mean to them.

Emmaus Oxford is helping me start to think about my future. I've got the chance to learn to drive, and I've been focusing on building up my concentration levels. Ultimately the Support Team are helping me improve my work prospects and think about the type of work I want to do. I'd like to work on improving my IT skills. I've got my certificate in customer care and now I'm working towards level two.

I'm proud to be part of Emmaus and I am very happy to wear the logo on my clothes.

I've had my ups and downs, but now I think my life's on the up, thanks to Emmaus.

Help us change lives

If you would like to help us continue our work supporting ex-homeless people like Karl turn their lives around, you can donate online:
www.emmaus.org.uk/oxford/support-us/donate
Thank you so much.





Our reopened store: donating & buying items

Donating to or buying from our store? Here's what you need to know.

Donating items:

If you have good-quality household goods to donate, please follow the external signs to the back entrance of the store. If an item is large, we offer free collection. You can book your collection on our website or give us a call on 01865 763698.

Delivery service for larger purchases:

We are still running our home delivery service for an additional fee. We won't enter your home but can deliver your item two metres from the front. This service is available for addresses within a 20 mile radius of Oxford.

Support Emmaus Oxford

Donate to us

We depend on donations of good quality second-hand items that we can sell on to support our community. We can collect items from your home or business or you can drop them at our store. Tell us what you have to offer and we'll take care of the rest - call 01865 763698

Shop with us

By shopping with us you're not only likely to pick up a bargain, you'll also be helping to provide a home for people who have experienced homelessness.

Visit our store:

242 Barns Road, Cowley OX4 3RQ
Opening hours: Monday - Saturday
9.30am - 5pm & Sunday 10am - 4pm
Call our store: 01865 763698

Volunteer with us

Volunteer with us
Volunteering with Emmaus can be a great way to gain work experience or just get involved in a vibrant and bustling community. Contact us to sign up and see what volunteering roles we have available.

Get in touch

Call 01865 402073 or visit us at

www.emmaus.org.uk/oxford

Emmaus Oxford, 171 Oxford Road, Cowley OX4 2ES

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Emmaus Oxford is a charity registered in England and Wales (1066618).

