



MANNA HOUSE NEWS

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“NEW DEPARTMENT, NEW OPPORTUNITIES”

Our last newsletter started with a quote from David in Ps 20 v 7 and it seems as though that verse of scripture is going to be our ‘watch word’ for 2010 :- ‘**Some trust in chariots and some in horses but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.**’ We are finding in our daily staff prayer times that we are regularly asking God to supply our needs because our own resources are not adequate. Recently we have received some very definite encouragements. Several people have been in thanking us for the help, advice and direction we have been able to give them, pointing them to an appropriate book or signposting them to places where they have found help, encouragement or fellowship.

THE SHOP - NEW DEPARTMENT

In our last newsletter we stated that we were going to open a nearly new department to expand our reach into the community. Thanks to the generosity of many we managed to get this department opened at the end of February and already it is beginning to attract some new visitors. One enthusiastic new customer described it as a ‘treasure trove’. Turnover is slow at present but we believe it will grow steadily over the next few months. We are thankful to those who have offered to help with this venture either as volunteers in the shop or as collectors. Clearly we will need more collectors (those who would be prepared to accumulate

shop ready garments and other items on our behalf from members of their church) to keep the section stocked and fully working. If necessary, we will arrange to pick up items from the collectors. If you can help please contact Ian Campbell as soon as possible on 01604 622666.

A MATTER FOR PRAYER

The Christian book trade is still finding things very difficult and sadly we hear reports of one or two shops a week having to close through lack of trade. Our desire is to stay open and maintain a strong high street witness in Northampton. In order for that to happen we need the support of the Christian family in the area. Two clear ways to help are when and where possible to use the shop. Secondly is to pray for us. With this in mind, some leaders in the Christian retail industry are asking the Church to engage in prayer for the Trade on **Sunday 28th March 2010**. The Manna House trustees and staff would appreciate it if churches would pray for us and other Christian bookshops on that day. Please pray for the continued mission element of the shop, pray for the contacts made, pray for the health and well-being of the staff and volunteers, pray for footfall to increase, pray for turnover to increase, pray that the high street presence here in Northampton and in other towns and cities across the UK is not lost.

Prayer Pointers

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| > | For the health of the staff and their families. |
| > | More clothes, bric-a-brac and toys for the nearly new section . |
| > | Increased sales of second hand and remainder books via the internet |
| > | That the NBC will renew funding for the whole year. |
| > | That the NCC and PCT commissioners will look favourably on long term funding for the MHCS |
| > | That the nearly new section will bring in new customers and that more Christians will choose to use the shop. |
| > | That our ability to access supplies will continue to improve. |
| > | More ‘collectors’ to help with the nearly new section. |