

## Press Release 06/2018

*Release date - Immediate*



For more information regarding this press release please contact initially, Terry Street, Publicity Officer [terrystreet@live.com](mailto:terrystreet@live.com) mobile 07785 916060 quote reference **VVPR1806**

### Village Voices Warwick Choir Raised £1,350 for the Helping Hands Community Project.

Community choir, Village Voices Warwick, has raised **£1,350** for the local Helping Hands Community Project, the charity chosen by the singers for 2018.

The funds were raised at a concert presented by the choir, on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Warwick (Northgate) Methodist Church, from sales of tickets and programmes, donations for refreshments and general donations. Manager, Gary Matthews and Support Volunteer Callen from Helping Hands spoke about their work and helped with programmes and refreshments.

For more information please initially contact Terry Street *Publicity Officer for Village Voices*, ☎ 07785916060

The money was presented to Charlotte Temple by Kevin Sumner on behalf of the choir the choir. On receipt of the cheque for £1,350 Charlotte said that she was very grateful to the choir for choosing the Helping Hands Community Project to benefit from this year's concerts. The monies will help fund on-going work in the local community.

#### Notes for Editors

##### 1. Village Voices Warwick

Village Voices is an established mixed voice community choir now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year. The choir rehearse Thursday evenings from 20:00 to 22:00 at Chase Meadow Community Centre Warwick. The Choir has an active schedule which include weddings, singing for residential homes and its own concerts as well as singing at other events and festivals. Future events include:

*Proms in the Park* - Saturday 30 June in Whitnash organised by Adrian Barton, beginning at 5pm

*Last Night of the Mini Proms* - Saturday 15 September in Hampton Lucy Church in aid of Dementia sufferers and their carers

*Warwick District Remembers* - Saturday 10 November at the Spa Centre, Leamington Spa.

Concert on 1 December to raise more funds for Helping Hands Community Project at the Warwick (Northgate) Methodist Church at 7:30pm.

Village Voices Choir has successfully recruited new singers and is developed a much stronger bass section. The new MD Trevor Barr was welcomed in January and he brings a fresh wave of enthusiasm and energy to the choir. There are vacancies for basses and tenors. The Soprano and Alto sections are currently full. There are no auditions.

Life in village voices is not all rehearsals and singing, as they have an active social agenda too, including a lunch club, skittles evening and trips to the cinema and theatres etc. Members of the choir are also available to sing at private functions, from performing at residential homes to weddings and parties or to perform as guest with other choirs.

**Contact** Anne Love, Secretary of Village Voices, ☎ 07484 820650

🌐 [www.villagevoices.co.uk](http://www.villagevoices.co.uk)

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/VillageVoicesWarwick/>

@ [warwick.villagevoices@gmail.com](mailto:warwick.villagevoices@gmail.com)

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## 2. The Helping Hands Community Project



Helping Hands now works in Kenilworth, Leamington Spa, and Warwick, Literally Hundreds of local people have been helped in some way, small or large by the Helping Hands team since it began in 2013, and the project is now a registered charity under the name 'Helping Hands Community Project'.

The COMMUNITY PROJECT is all about local people helping local people in need. We give people the support and opportunities to feel better about themselves, be more active in the community and get back into work.

We run a shop and drop in centre and operate a soup kitchen offering hot food and a listening ear. We like to give a "hand up not just a hand out" through new skills, experience and qualifications.

We recently opened the Gateway Café in Warwick (*see image attached*) where we offer work experience and training to help people get back to work.

Our volunteers for our House 2 Home project support clients with goods from fridges to furniture to recently homed and low-income families

You can contact us in many ways

Our Charity Shop & Drop-in  
The Lighthouse  
Helping Hands Charity Head Office  
12 Gloucester Street,

Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire,  
CV31 1EE  
Tel. 01926 732118

Our Gateway Café  
Wednesday to Friday: 10am - 4pm and Saturdays  
Helping Hands Gateway Cafe  
2-4 Smith Street  
Warwick  
CV34 4HH

Website <https://www.helpinghandscharity.org.uk/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HelpingHandslwk/>

### **3 Funds Raised Previously by the Choir**

Village Voices has raised nearly £12,000 in funds for a variety of causes in recent years, including these examples: -

- Helping Hands Community Project – 2018 (interim figure) - £1350
- Second Warwick Sea Scouts, - 2017 - £1250
- Bloodwise, Heart of England Branch – summer 2017- £1750
- Salvation Army Way Ahead Project - 2016 - £2,000
- Springfield Mind - 2015 - £1500
- SW Heart (South Warwickshire Heart Failure Education and Cardiac Rehabilitation Trust) - 2014 - £2280
- And these charities, Alzheimer's Society, Childhood Eye Cancer Trust, Myton Hospice, Long Itchington Church restoration, Warwickshire Northamptonshire Air Ambulance, Galenos House residents, RNLI.

#### 4 Images

See also these images of the choir and presentation of cheque enclosed with press release.

Image 1 {P1160342}

“Presenting the Cheque”

Left to Right, Gary Matthews, Charlotte Temple (Helping Hands), Kevin Sumner, Anne Love (Village Voices)



Image 2 {P1160343}

“ Service with a smile at the Gateway Café”,

Annabel Jones (support Volunteer- Helping Hands)

