

Sheffield City Council provide the Club with a yearly grant, and offer safeguarding training courses, and a central point for taking referrals for the Club. The Club receives advice, accountancy training and a continuous trickle of volunteers from Voluntary Action Sheffield, whose Lunch Clubs support worker ran a Dementia Awareness Session hosted by Dementia? Welcome! Café.

Why come to Lunch Club?

A few members have been regularly attending for over ten years giving a stability to it. During the last few years other volunteers and members have come and gone, reflecting the turnover of population in this neighbourhood. People come to the Lunch Club because they hear about it by word of mouth, the involvement of a community worker, as part of recovering confidence, to help with conversational English, or as work experience to help in the long slog of looking for employment. The light atmosphere and simple aim to 'make new friends' of the Lunch Club make it a safe and easy space. As one of the volunteers said, it's great 'just being there, thanking God, and seeing the people we know, carrying on'.

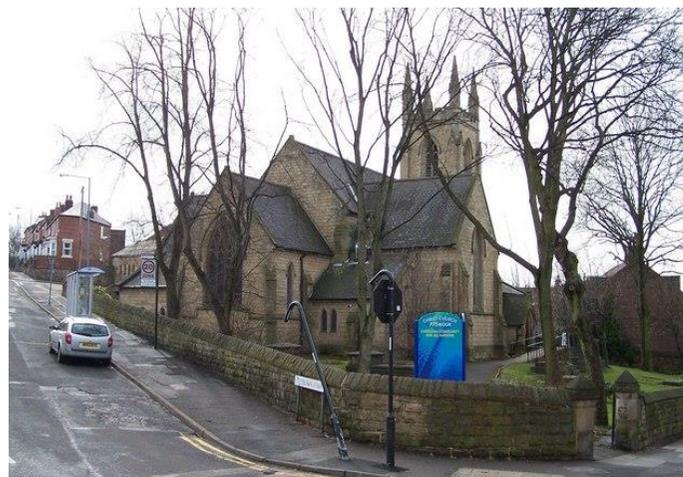
We look forward to seeing you there!

THE LUNCH CLUB AT CHRIST CHURCH PITSMOOR

At the Corner of Pitsmoor Road and
Nottingham Street S3 9AQ

Contact: Nick Edmondson
07725569380

nickedmondson@phonecoop.coop



Getting there and getting in

The Lunch Club takes place in the main part of the clearly visible Church building, and everyone comes in through the main front door. There is a gentle ramp access of about 100 metres from the roadside with no step. The postcode is S3 9AQ. There is always plenty of free parking space on the road. Buses 47, 48 and 87 stop a few more metres up Nottingham Street.

Outline of the Day

On Thursday mornings during the school term, volunteers arrive about 8.45am to start setting up, and there is a communion service at 9.45am.

At 10.30am more visitors arrive and there is tea and coffee and much chat and catching up to do. Others come as the morning goes on, and the minibus collects people from their homes. About 11.30am there is usually an entertaining 'Chairobics' session. The pre-cooked dinners arrive from Pye Bank School at Noon and are served straightaway. Everyone sits down to eat together. When everything is put away, the last person leaves the Church about 2pm.

Menu

The menu follows a weekly pattern of four different two-course meals, but there are options available for people with particular dietary needs.

Cost

Members currently pay £3 for their 2 course meal. People who travel on the Minibus currently pay £1.50, and this covers both of the journeys. We expect to have to raise this payment to £2 in the Spring of 2015.

Booking

There is no need to book in advance, but it is always helpful if we know when members are not able to come.

Numbers

We serve nearly 40 dinners to almost equal numbers of men and women, from a range of cultural backgrounds, and about 10 use the transport offered. There is no paid worker. Volunteers share tasks in a flexible way, serving food, clearing up, washing up, welcoming and listening. Five or six are involved with Kevin in the finances of the Club, a few help Brian and Margaret Vivian with the bus which is provided by the Pitsmoor and Shiregreen Community Transport. Derwent leads the exercise session.

Support

The Club is a Volunteer opportunity open to all, whether or not they attend the Church at other times. It's a good place to build confidence and practice spoken English for some. It is a significant part of the life of Christ Church, and everyone is grateful for help and interest from the Church and congregation. Each year there has been training arranged, in Food Handling, First Aid and so on.