

St Vincent's volunteers help people

VOLUNTEERING

By Cassie Irving

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@LeedsNews

THE St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), has hundreds of volunteers helping make a difference to the lives of people in need across Leeds.

St Jude's is an SVP-run furniture warehouse based in Leeds where dozens of volunteers work with paid staff to deliver quality second hand goods to local families in need.

Last year, St Jude's took over 1,300 referrals from the local council's social services and housing departments, as well as

from other charities like Men-cap and Shelter, and from SVP voluntary members in local churches who help relieve poverty in their parishes.

St Jude's volunteers collect, sort through and deliver furniture and household necessities like blankets and cutlery to families, single parents, refugees and homeless people moving into accommodation, as well as St Vincent's community shops which provide affordable goods to local people around Leeds.

Tony Nolan, head of the SVP in West Yorkshire, said: "We currently have more than 30 volunteers at St Jude's, many of whom have been with us for up to ten years."



ST VINCENT'S: volunteers at St Jude's.

Tony says that as grant income has reduced and fundraising has become increasingly challenging. He added: "The volunteers at St Jude's are again playing a key role in keeping our services going. Without the hard work and dedication from our volunteers we simply wouldn't

be able to maintain anywhere near the level of service we provide to those in need."

The SVP provides volunteers at its centres with food on site and food parcels to take home, donated by Costco and Greggs. There is also an annual trip to the coast by coach bring-

ing together volunteers from all the SVP community shops, St Jude's and the St Vincent's Support Centre.

To find out more visit www.svp.org.uk or call 0207 7033030.

ONLINE: For breaking news, visit www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk

IN BRIEF

ENJOY A CUPPA FOR CHARITY

EVENT: The garforth fundraising committee for macmillan cancer support will be holding a coffee morning and summer fair.

It will take place on Saturday, June 18 in the Welfare Hall, Main street Garforth from 10am to noon.

There will be cake stall, tombola, bric a brac, fancy goods and tea and coffee.

HEALTHY HEART WALK IS BACK

TAKE PART: The Leeds Healthy Heart Corporate Walk is back on Friday, July 8.

It will start at Park Square, Leeds city centre from noon to 2pm.

Entry is a £2 donation to Heart Research UK to pay on the day. For details visit heartresearch.org.uk/corporate-walk

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