



SUMMER NEWSLETTER UPDATE



2024



Dear All, Welcome to our 2024 Summer Newsletter and update from Oasis.

Within our Summer Newsletter you will find information on all the areas of our work in the communities in which we serve in Horsham and Crawley and surrounding villages.

An Update from the Centre Manager ☺

As usual, since our last newsletter, at the end of last year, there have been lots of things happening within Oasis. Some updates are.....

- ❖ *We have just had a great fundraising evening - "The Quiz of Quizzes" night held at Brighton Road Baptist Church, who very kindly enabled us to have free use of their main hall to host the event. It was a great evening that was enjoyed by all those who came and took part and also those who supported in other ways. The total raised was £602, which contributes to helping us continue to deliver our free services in the Horsham and Crawley areas and the villages that surround these areas. We would like to say a big thank you to all.*



- ❖ We are planning another fundraising event in Horsham later this year on 9th November. Do keep looking at our website, FB (Meta) page and Instagram page for more details in due course.
- ❖ As a charity we are completely reliant on the support of local churches & individuals to finance our work; your gifts are always much appreciated! We are always looking for further help in raising finances to be able to continue to do the work we do. Can we encourage you to think about fundraising for Oasis, however small? Please do contact me if you have some ideas or want to run an event.



- ❖ We have once again updated our Leaflets to reflect the current services we are able to offer and these have been distributed with the help of our volunteers to pharmacies, GP practices/medical centres and local churches. If you would like one (or some) of our leaflets, do please contact us on info@theoasis.org.uk
- ❖ This year we have been blessed by a fantastic social media volunteer, Vicky, who has been very pro-active in posting various notices, vacancies, events etc on our FB (Meta) page and Instagram. It has been great to have Vicky on board as part of our Team. 🙏
- ❖ **Do continue to tell others about us and what we do** 📣
- ❖ HCT (Horsham Churches Together) also post various notices for Oasis on their regular newsletter and we update our website as and when appropriate.

Please see more detailed updates on different areas of our work below

Unplanned/Crisis Pregnancy at Oasis

Since our last Newsletter, we have had to make some changes in regard to the Practitioner Support work that we previously offered. This has meant that sadly, for now, we are no longer able to offer support sessions for post abortion clients.

We do currently offer remote Practitioner support for Crisis Pregnancy/Unplanned Pregnancy situations and we have a fantastic, experienced Support Practitioner who is contracted to do this work for Oasis. Our website and new fliers/leaflets reflect our current services.

Unplanned Pregnancy / Crisis Pregnancy?

Not sure where to go for help and support?



The Oasis

The Oasis Crisis Pregnancy Centre can help provide remote confidential support for clients who are pregnant and want to consider their options and share their thoughts and feelings in a non-judgemental environment.

This can be provided using Zoom or by telephone, remotely, enabling you to be able to access our **FREE** service more easily to fit in with your daily / evening routine.

Please call 01403 272 723 (24-hour answerphone)
 ** Please do leave a message to enable us to call you back **
Or email: info@theoasis.org.uk

Education Programme - from the Schools Team



We are a small team of enthusiastic Schools presenters and assistants, and we love going into schools to talk to teenagers. We tell them about the development of the foetus over the 40 weeks of pregnancy, sharing amazing facts which really

surprise them (and sometimes the teachers!). For example, at 5 weeks the foetus has a beating heart and by week 9 brain waves are detected. We also talk about the abortion laws. Then we show the class a film about a teenage couple facing an unplanned pregnancy, and we ask the class to discuss the options for someone facing an unintended pregnancy. Our aim is to engage the students and really make them think. Their comments and their reactions certainly tell us we have done that.

We believe that God uses this work to help teenagers appreciate how precious life is, and the miracle of pregnancy and birth.

Most schools follow on with further lessons which build on our presentation.



The Head of PSHE at a local school wrote

"The presentations from the Oasis Crisis Pregnancy Centre are so valuable to enriching the PSHE curriculum. The activities are engaging and so informative. Our students learn so much and always ask lots of questions to the Oasis volunteers, which they expertly answer. In subsequent PSHE lessons, students are then able to use the knowledge gained from these sessions to have informed discussions. The sessions offer young people practical information for their adult lives".

In the current school year, since September 2023, we have visited four schools, three in Horsham and one in Crawley. We have spoken to about 800 students in total. We would like to visit more schools but we do need more volunteers.

If you would like to join our team we would love to have you! You don't have to be a presenter; most people join the team as an assistant, handing out sheets and running the PowerPoint. If you are interested in finding out more, do contact us and we can arrange for you to observe a lesson and see what's involved.

Join our Schools Team



We are looking for Volunteers to join, could this be you?



Our Schools Team goes into several Senior Schools at different times in the year to deliver a lesson to Year 10 pupils, as part of our Education Programme.

For further information please email –
info@theoasis.org.uk



Baby Clothing and Equipment - From the Store Team at the Charis Centre in Crawley

Store location: The Charis Centre, West Green Drive, Crawley RH11 7EL

E-mail: Store@TheOasis.org.uk

Tel: - 07927 659529



The Baby Clothing and Equipment Store continues in its ministry of providing clothing and equipment to families who are unable to afford these items for their babies. In addition to our weekly Thursday afternoon sessions, we have been opening once a month on a Monday morning since the beginning of this year to

serve the Happy Baby group which meets at the Charis Centre. The mothers who attend this group are refugees and asylum seekers, some of whom have left everything in search of a safer life for their families. These sessions are very busy, requiring us to have three volunteers on duty instead of the usual two. We liaise with Sussex Aid for Refugees, Refugees Welcome Crawley and Ten Little Toes Baby Bank in order to avoid any duplication.



We are grateful for the volunteers who give of their time to help at the Store, and for the generous donors who give us clothing and equipment which they no longer need so that those less fortunate can benefit.

In January of this year we had a stall at a Volunteers Fair at the Hawth Theatre in Crawley, organised by Crawley Community Action. Although our participation did not result in any new volunteers for our team, the stall generated a lot of interest, and provided a great opportunity for us to network with other voluntary organisations in the town.



As we cater mainly for children up to age 2, our work is cyclical in nature, as children do not remain babies for long! Having said that, the benefits of the services we provide can be long lasting. We were recently contacted by a client who we helped four years ago, when she had nothing for the baby she was expecting imminently. Now in a better position herself, she was looking for clothing and equipment for a colleague with an unplanned pregnancy, and we were delighted to be able to provide the items her colleague needed. She said, "I had so much help from you when I was in need, that I would not be able to live with my conscience if I failed to do all I can to help my colleague in similar circumstances". Stories like this one illustrate just how rewarding our work can be.

If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, we would love to hear from you! Email:- store@theoasis.org.uk or call: 07927 659529



Baby Clothing and Equipment Store
The Charis Centre, Crawley, RH11 7EL

Do you have a spare two hours a month to be able to volunteer at our baby store?

Our Store is situated within the Charis Centre in Crawley and is currently open every Thursday between 1pm – 3pm allowing clients to collect the items they need.

We have now begun to be able to open one Monday morning each month.

We hope to build on opening more Mondays once we have built up a volunteer team to enable us to do so.

Please call the Store for opening times, call or email if you would be interested in volunteering once a month for a couple of hours.

From the Treasurer

Dear All

Oasis' year end is 31.3.24 and we have now completed our finance records ready for our annual Independent Examination! It looks like we will finish the financial year with a small deficit of £500 and a good balance in the bank. The regular donations we receive are less than our monthly outgoings, but God is faithful & once again He has provided what we needed!

A BIG thank you to all the local churches & supporters who regularly give financially to Oasis! We couldn't manage without your generosity!

If you would like to donate to our work, please email me at info@theoasis.org.uk for more information or check out our GoFundMe link on our website! If you would like to see the completed accounts in due course, please get in touch!



The Oasis Trustees

This year we will be saying a sad goodbye to one of our Trustees, Steve Dyer, at the end of September 2024. Steve has served on the Oasis Board of Trustees for 6 years and has shared his experience in the medical sector, as a GP, which has been so helpful. He has brought careful thought and input to all aspects of Oasis, including being a member of the Schools Team. He will be sorely missed by many of our volunteers. We want to say a BIG Thank You and wish you many happy, healthy years ahead, Steve!

So, now we are looking for new Trustees to join Oasis. The role is varied and interesting. We are all volunteers who use our different skills, gained by experience and training in professional, business or similar careers. The work involves attending meetings three or four times a year. We are collectively responsible for overseeing the aims of the Charity and to ensure it meets its legal obligations. The Trustees work with and support a small Management Team, chaired by our Centre Manager.

We are a Christian Charity that serves the public. All Trustees and most of our volunteers are committed Christians and our faith underpins everything we do. We are keen to find one or two committed individuals to strengthen our Board and help take Oasis forward for the next generation.



Finally, but not lastly, the Oasis Team would like to say a huge thank you to all those who volunteer for Oasis. Your work as a volunteer is very much appreciated.



**TO ALL OUR OASIS
VOLUNTEERS**

In case you have any thoughts or questions on volunteering for Oasis, after reading this newsletter, here is a reminder of some of the great positives that come from volunteering.....



If any of the above volunteer posts interest you, please do not hesitate to contact us, all our details are on our website, see details below or look for our posts on FB (Meta) and Instagram.

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Tel: 01403 272723

info@theoasis.org.uk

<http://www.theoasis.org.uk>

Charity number 1193428

If you wish to support Oasis, please make a donation here:

<https://gofund.me/ee230086>

