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I believe we are all gifted, in one way or another. Our gifts are intended to be a blessing to others and to bless us. There have been occasions when I have witnessed people using their gifts and it has almost taken my breath away. Whether it is a child who has been nurtured in an award-winning musician, or an actor on a West End stage. These people, at the peak of their profession, seem to be able to do the impossible and they make it look easy!

Impressive though these people undoubtedly are, the most impressive are those who use their gifts selflessly, people who are driven by a deep sense of compassion. They do not necessarily receive a high salary or public acclaim. Much of their best work goes unseen. Their reward comes simply from knowing that they have helped someone and in doing so have used their time well. Those are the people that do take my breath away.

Witnessing the work of nurses and care staff, looking after the sick and dying, has been a privilege for me. Some of the most selfless people I have ever met have full attention to a great, who a peak the state of even caring for themselves, has been inspiring. And no less wonderful, the primary school award-winning musician, or an actor with ADHD, who tells their audience at the brink, and yet they start each day offering a clean slate, a new start, endless hope, and forgiveness.

Gregory Boyle describes these compassionate people in his book 'Tattoos on the Heart'. He claims they have Christ-like qualities because they *'choose a oneness in kinship and a willingness to live in other's hearts. Jesus was not a man who was kind to people who were kind to him. He was kind to rights of failure. He touched the leper even before he put round to saying him. He didn't champion the cause of the outcast. He was the outcast... The strategy of Jesus is not centered in taking the right stand on issues, but other standing in the right place – with the outcast and those relegated to the margins."*

I have had the privilege of meeting people who possess some of this Christ-like compassion. They absolutely take my breath away. Perhaps it's time I stopped dreaming of becoming a professional footballer. I think there might be a better way to try and use my gifts!

Andrew.

Gregory BOYLE, Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion. New York, Free Press, 2011. ISBN 978-1-4391-5315-4 page 72

News
All covering with 'Call the Midwife'
Alive Lynnsport launch
Modern Slavery resources
New domestic abuse service

Employment Opportunities
Pandora Project
Health and Social Care

Newsletters
Empowering Communities (includes funding news)
The Clever Initiative

Training
Free courses from CAN

Resources
NHS: Keeping safe while isolating at home

Reports
CUF - Faith in Society

NEWS

Last chance to book a seat

New men's mental health project in King's Lynn

All to Play For is a men's mental health project launching in King's Lynn on Tuesday 25th January at Lynnsport, and will be every Tuesday 1pm-2pm.

New Modern Slavery resources from The Clewer Initiative

Modern Slavery is taking place around us, in our communities, as this new 'Invisible' animation from Clewer highlights.

Resources from Clewer

New domestic abuse service backed by Pandora Project

A new domestic abuse service launches today in Norfolk providing joined up support for those experiencing domestic abuse and helping their journey to freedom.

Norfolk Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NIDAS) will offer free, confidential, and non-judgmental support to those affected, and their children, to help them recover and build a new life free from abuse.

The new service is funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk, Norfolk County Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk and Broadland District Councils, with £5 million being invested over the next five years.

It will be delivered in partnership by Leeway Domestic Violence and Abuse Services, Daisy Programme, Dewell Housing, the Lynn-based Pandora Project and Safe Partnership.

More

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Pandora Project

We currently have some job vacancies for the following roles:

Community Development and Group Recovery Worker F/T

Domestic Abuse Support Worker West Norfolk (female) F/T

Triage Worker F/T

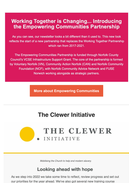
More info:
https://www.pandoraproject.org.uk/job-vacancies/

Kind regards,

Tracy

CEO/Service Manager
www.pandoraproject.org.uk

Help into employment for 16-30 year olds


NEXT GEN YOUNG PEOPLE
the good health
ARE YOU AGED 16-30?
WANT TO WORK IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?
Are Norfolk and Waveney Health and Care Partnership, supported by the Kickstart Hub, are looking for 16 Great Jobs with a Great Employer!
Apprenticeships in Nursing, Midwifery, Allied Health Professions, Healthcare Science, Paramedic Science, Clinical Engineering, Medical Physics, Clinical Informatics, Digital Technology, Business Support, Finance, Estates and Facilities, Hotel Services, Catering, Laundry, Supply Chain, Transport, Security, Communications, Marketing, Human Resources, Organisational Development, Leadership, Quality Improvement, Research, Innovation, Patient Safety, Clinical Governance, Medical Education, Clinical Research, Patient Experience, Patient Engagement, Patient Pathways, Patient Flow, Patient Safety

strengthening and serving communities.

Download the report

LET'S TALK...

I would love to hear from you to discuss any of the following things:

- How you are getting involved in your local community, and any good news stories about the difference this is making
- Events you are running, which welcome the local community
- If you would like me to visit your church, church meeting or group
- Anything you would find useful in future editions of this letter
- Just to say hello!

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Imagine Norfolk Together is a partnership between the Diocese of Norwich and the Church Urban Fund. We support local churches creating stronger communities through social action.

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