

TOC^H

BUILDING THE COMMON GOOD

NEWSLETTER

www.toch-uk.org.uk

020 8057 4200



MAY 2025 **IN THIS ISSUE:**

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FUNDING SUCCESS IN NEWPORT

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Funded by
UK Government

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured transformational grant funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government's Community Ownership Fund. The grant will fund much-needed renovations at our Toc H Centre in Eveswell, Newport, saving the building from decline, disrepair, and possible closure. Included in the works are essential structural and sustainability improvements, ensuring the space is fit for purpose to meet the needs of the local community.

Following a competitive tender process, we have appointed local firm Siemens Architecture to manage the remodelling works, which we anticipate completing by December 2025.

We're so excited to open our new, modernised space, which will support



Our outdated, neglected building will be transformed into a modern and welcoming space (see below digital projection)

Eveswell residents in need for years to come.

While the works are ongoing, we expect to be able to continue operating the Centre as normal, subject to health and safety considerations.

For more information, please follow <https://www.facebook.com/ToCH.Newport/>



A NEW PARTNERSHIP IN PILLGWENLLY

We are excited to announce a new partnership with Newport charity The Pill Trust. The Pill Trust works in Pillgwenlly, one of the most deprived communities in Wales. Through social action guided by the principles of generosity and justice, The Pill Trust offers vital support to the diverse local community, many of whom experience poverty as part of their daily lives. Their community work and Bags of Hope schemes have already reached hundreds of local families in need.

Toc H will offer The Pill Trust a programme of targeted management, strategic and HR support, enabling the organisation to reach even more people in 2025/26. Our support, combined with The Pill Trust's local expertise and connections, will make a tangible, sustainable difference to the lives of people in Pillgwenlly.

We look forward to sharing more about this partnership in the coming months.



If you'd like to learn more about The Pill Trust, please visit their website at

<https://thepilltrust.com/> or
www.facebook.com/PillTrust



THE PILL TRUST
HAND IN HAND

THANKING OUR BRANCHES AND MEMBERS

A sincere thanks to all at our **Mill Hill and Saltburn** branches for their recent donations to fund renovations at our Weirside bunkhouse.



Their generosity has helped us to install new windows and fire doors, paint emergency exits, and install a defibrillator.

Thanks to the support of these branches, Weirside is now compliant with all Health and Safety regulations, ensuring the building can stay open for the benefit of all who use it.



We would also like to extend a warm 'thank you' to all our members who kindly support us through monthly donations or membership subs. Your regular gifts are truly appreciated and help us look to the future as a charity, supporting those most in need and creating thriving and safe communities.

If you would like to donate, please visit <https://www.toch-uk.org.uk/get-involved> or call 020 8057 4200.



THANK
YOU

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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By Paul Hackwood - Toc H Chief Executive

It is important to reflect on our values from time to time. In an age marked by noise, division and often fierce partisanship, the quiet virtues of friendship, service to others, fair-mindedness and reconciliation are more vital than ever.

- **Friendship**, once thought simple, is now radical. To commit to walking alongside another — in joy, in hardship, across difference — is to resist the loneliness of modern life. True friendship is not transactional but generous; it listens before speaking, gives before taking, and seeks the good of the other, not merely agreement.
- **Service to others** offers us a way out of self-absorption. In a culture that prizes success and personal achievement, choosing to serve — humbly, practically, and without fanfare — reminds us that dignity is found in giving as much as in receiving. We are each other's responsibility.

- **Fair-mindedness** is perhaps one of the rarest virtues today. It asks us to listen to those we disagree with, to suspend judgment long enough to understand. It challenges the echo chambers and rewards of outrage, and instead calls us to gentler, braver thinking — rooted in justice and truth.
- And in all of this, **reconciliation** is both the aim and the work. It means choosing relationship over resentment, and future over grievance. It is not about forgetting wrongs, but about recognising shared humanity in spite of them. In fractured communities and weary hearts, reconciliation does not shout — it beckons, quietly and persistently.

To live this way is not easy. But it is profoundly hopeful. And in our current moment, hope rooted in relationships, in service, and in a deep commitment to peace, might just be what we need most.



TOC H TRUSTEES AT ALL HALLOWS



We're pleased to share these pictures taken at All Hallows on 12th January 2025. Our Trustees Terry Drummond and Robert Barker represented Toc H at the induction and installation of The Rev Nicol Kinrade.



WELCOMING OUR NEW TRUSTEES

We are pleased to welcome Tracy Charnock, Rahoul Naik and Sharen Ravat to our Board of Trustees in 2025. They join our existing Trustees Terry Drummond, Debbie Child, Denise Poole and Peter Gill, creating a 7-strong governance team.

We are excited about the skills, experience and ideas they will bring to Toc H, supporting us to develop our future work as a charity and increase our reach to support more communities in need.



Rahoul Naik

'With over 15 years' experience in community development and three years serving as a charity trustee, I bring a strong commitment to social impact and strategic growth. As a digital marketing expert, I am passionate about helping Toc-H amplify its reach and engagement.'



Sharen Ravat

'Excited to see ToCH grow and develop and be part of this great team! I hope to bring experience from Interfaith work and community relationships...and humour, the best skill of all!'



Rev'd Tracy Charnock

Tracy has ministered in South Shore, Blackpool for over a decade. In an area of extreme poverty and disenfranchisement, she is well-known and trusted by the local community as a source of sensitive, non-judgemental support. Tracy looks forward to helping Toc H grow as a charity and help more of society's most disadvantaged.



From all of us at Toc H- we hope our readers enjoyed a happy and peaceful Easter.



CONTACT TOC H



Visit our website at: www.toch-uk.org.uk



Email us at: info@toch.org.uk



Call us on: 0208 057 4200



Connect with us: www.facebook.com/TocH.International

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Dates for your diary:

Saturday, 11th October 2025- Toc H AGM

Sunday 9th November 2025- Cenotaph- **please contact info@toch.org.uk if you would like to attend**

Please contact us for more information on these events

HOW YOU CAN DONATE

Donating to Toc H has never been easier:

- To set up a regular gift, or offer a one-off donation, please visit our website: <https://www.toch-uk.org.uk/get-involved>
- Raise FREE donations for Toc H when you shop online using Easyfundraising. Find us at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/toc-h/
- If you wish to remember Toc H in your will - Please call our CEO Paul Hackwood on 0208 057 4200

TOC H MEMBERSHIP



Our members commit themselves to an associational life, encouraging participation, friendship and engagement in local communities.

Membership is **FREE** and supports us all to make our neighbourhoods better places to live and flourish.

We offer various simple ways to become a member:

- Sign up online on www.toch-uk.org.uk,
- Contact us on 020 8057 4200 for a membership form
- Scan the QR code on the left and complete our short membership form