

Shingley Christians Together (SCT)

SCT is a charity supported by a dozen member churches, working together in Shingley for the benefit of all, to share the love of Jesus and bring about positive change. It seeks to: provide opportunities for Christians from different backgrounds to work and grow together, put our Christian values into practice and share them with others, and address poverty, loneliness and other social needs. This is done through: outreach projects and community involvement, friendship and sharing, and partnership with other voluntary or statutory groups.

All activities fully resumed after the pandemic restrictions. The Foodbanks had to respond to greater demands and, in addition to food and drinks, provided support and professional advice. At the end of the year, Mayme Small took over as Shingley CAP Debt Centre manager and will build on the successful work of her predecessor, Thomas Knight. Inn Churches resumed, providing accommodation, food, friendship and warmth to several homeless people. Cuppacare continued to offer low-cost light lunches, cakes and drinks on Fridays at Shingley Baptist Church and the Shingley Market Bible Stall dispensed bibles and offered prayer in all weathers on alternate Mondays. SCT continued to support Ukrainian families in and around Shingley.

In-person services were held on several occasions and were well-attended and the Walk of Witness and Market Square Christmas lights switch-on brought Good News to the people of Shingley. Live@Costa provided a varied programme, including a Christmas Carols evening, raising funds for Christian Aid. As usual, the year was rounded off with the Christmas meal for homeless, vulnerable and lonely people with meals also delivered to homes. The online newsletter, which shares good news, was regularly produced and circulated (available from info@shingleychristianstogether.org.uk).

The work of SCT is reliant on the support and funding from the member churches, including St Peter's, and the work of the many volunteers from most of the churches.

Hugh Firman, SCT Vice Chair