



KINGSTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1HZ; Telephone: (020) 8546 0643; www.kingstonurc.org
Charity no. 1131880

News release

Opening of a Wet Room with a toilet for the disabled

The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Councillor Ian McDonald will be formally opening this new facility at **10am on Tuesday 27th April**. This initiative has been partly funded by the Mayor's charity fund to help the homeless. This fund links with the work of Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness and many other churches in the town.

The main contributors have been: The Tudor Trust (£5,000), Garfield Weston (£1,000), London Catalyst (£3,000), Transport for London (£2,500), Kingston Council (£1,000) and the Mayor's Fund (£4,743). There has also been a bequest for £3,000 and Church members are contributing the balance of about £5,700. In addition, John Lewis has supplied a clothes washing machine, a condenser dryer and towels while Smith & Byford has undertaken their part of the building work at cost. The space for this installation has been created by altering the existing ground floor toilet arrangements at the church.

The Rev. Lesley Charlton, Minister of Kingston United Reformed Church said: "We always try to remember that Jesus loved all people. This is a good example of how the Church has enabled the community to come together to provide a much needed facility in the town"

Derek Winsor, Church secretary said "The Mayor – Councillor McDonald - has done an exemplary job in changing attitudes about the issue of homelessness in Kingston. It is a complex matter and the current economic conditions have not helped. However, the completion of this project is a good example of what can be achieved when there is a problem and local organisations are prepared to work together".

Note: RBK's Communication Unit at the Guildhall is also likely to be issuing a press release

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