

Help needed to give hope to the homeless

A NEW charity hopes to tackle the problem of homelessness and stop young people having to sleeping rough but it needs help from Bromsgrove folk to do it.

Redditch Nightstop is now up and running thanks to an £80,000 lottery grant, but host families are desperately needed for the young people to stay with.

Sarah Tyrrell

Volunteers will be asked to provide a young homeless person with a meal and a bed for the night.

Charity worker, Sylvia Brown, said: "This project is immensely worthwhile because it provides a breathing space for young people."

"They could be fleeing from violence, splitting up from a partner or may have lost their job. We aim to give them hope and direction by inviting them into the homes of people who care, one night at a time."

"Steps can then be taken to find more permanent accommodation, without the added pressure of sleeping rough."

Homeless people aged 16 to 21-years-old will be able to benefit from the practical help and emotional support provided by the charity.

They will be referred to Nightstop by organisations such as Step Out, Signpost or Social Services.

These young people will then be interviewed and helped to devise an action plan.

Those who wish to reconcile with their families will also be offered a counselling service, organised by church volunteers.



Potential volunteers are being invited to a preparation course at the Ecumenical Centre, Kingfisher Walk, from 7pm to 9pm on Monday, May 12.

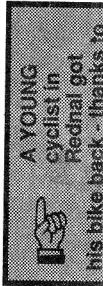
Hosts will receive full training, £5 expenses per night and a 24 hour emergency support service.

Anyone would like more information should call Nightstop co-ordinator, Lisa Waring, on 01527 66036.

● **Helping the homeless - Nightstop workers, Lisa Waring and Sylvia Brown, drum up support for the Redditch Nightstop scheme. (Picture by John Anyon) AP76397**

Pedigree pups make no bones about work

CAREER minded canines in Bromsgrove and Droitwich are being have a positive effect both on your health and that of your colleagues.



Council chamber set to get a whole new look

THE Chippendales could be coming to Droitwich if one Spa councillor has his way.

But sadly girls - not those hunky he-men that come to mind straight away.

Councillors are more interested in seeing a set of fine Chippendale chairs adorning the council chamber.

The suggestion was made when councillors decided to look into the possibility of new curtains for the new look room in St Richard's House.

Councillor Graham Gopsill

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