

Knitted Christmas Angels at United Church Dorchester

In January 2018 I attended a course at Cliff College, and met a lovely fellow circuit administrator, Dorothy Emerson from County Durham. She told me about something her circuit had picked up the previous Christmas as part of their outreach at this special time of year: making and giving knitted Christmas Angels. The idea originated in North Shields and Whitley Bay Methodist Circuit, and thousands of knitted angels have since been made and given away.

The idea is very simple: The Christmas story is filled with angels bringing messages; there are many people in our congregation and community who enjoy knitting, and love to knit for a good cause; and we are always looking for new ways of spreading our message and Christ's love to new people.

So I brought the idea and the knitting pattern back to Dorchester, and Diana Leeming and Janice Young from the Action for Children Fundraising Committee took it up and got it going. Many people knitted angels for us and in 2018 we gave away over 400, with their little messages of Peace attached, to children and others during AFC Carol Singing and Journey to the Stable. We did the same last year, with similar levels of success.

We are planning to do it all again this Christmas, and you can never start too early! If you are a knitter (or know somebody who is) and have some time on your hands please join us in this project. The simple pattern, and further details about the project, can be obtained from <u>Diana Leeming</u>.