

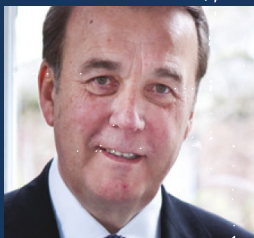
RENEWING HOPE ONE LIFE AT A TIME



BetelUK
Restoring broken lives

Betel UK has helped more than 200,000 homeless and addicted people worldwide

www.betel.uk



“Betel UK is truly an amazing charity, providing a home, a community to belong to and meaningful work for people who have experienced crisis in their lives. Betel homes are places where broken lives are restored. They provide an oasis where people living with despair and ruin can find comfort and love, a place to recover and rebuild, and a place to establish meaningful relationships.”

Sir Peter Vardy
The Vardy Foundation

Betel UK is an independent Christian charity for men and women affected by homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and long-term unemployment. Having opened its first British base in 1996 in Birmingham, Betel now has additional residences in Derbyshire, Nottingham, Manchester, Hexham and Scotland. Together, these host more than 375 men and women, free of charge, in an atmosphere that is completely drug, alcohol and tobacco-free.

Our ethos

Residents soon appreciate that life at Betel, simply put, is a commitment to making positive daily choices. Betel is not a rehabilitation centre or a clinical programme with doctors and counsellors. Rather, many of our residents say life at Betel feels like becoming a new member of an extended family. Goals are achieved by aspiring to the values and pursuits of a new and healthier lifestyle. In the 'advance at your own pace' environment, residents learn character-building principles and life skills. They live them out at home and at work, building strong foundations for a stable future.

Betel's faith-based method has proven itself in the radical transformation of thousands of lives. We reach out to people of all backgrounds, cultures and nationalities, believing that no one is beyond hope or lacks the capacity to change. The only requirement to enter Betel is the individual's sincere desire to change.

Community life

Our method is to model freedom. Betel offers a caring Christian environment where

residents learn to care for and support one another. Betel is a safe, structured, family-like environment where residents develop meaningful relationships in an atmosphere of acceptance and love, which in turn, inspires self-esteem and hope for a new future.

All Betel communities are 'peer motivated'. This means that those who have been in Betel longer care for and mentor newer residents. Having 'been through it', their first-hand experience serves as a powerful model and encouragement to others.

The objective is to help residents rebuild their own lives through community responsibility and shared decision making. As residents' motivation and stability improve with time and experience, they are gradually given more responsibility for supervising household duties and monitoring daily work. Senior community members and leaders live on site and the majority have a history of homelessness, addiction and social exclusion themselves.

Radical financial principles

Betel believes firmly that entrance should be accessible to everyone, regardless of financial means. Entrance is free of charge and we aim to be as self-supporting and



sustainable as possible. The majority of funding for daily operations (up to 90%) is generated through our charitable businesses and workshops. All accounts are readily open to public scrutiny.

Our centres are free to enter, and we receive no government benefits or funding. Our centres have saved the UK government and families an estimated £125 million in reduced rehab fees, social welfare benefits and crime, courts, police, prison and medical costs.

Engaging in meaningful work

Meaningful work is essential to long-term recovery. It helps restore a sense of dignity and purpose to men and women's lives, while reducing the financial burden on both their families and the government. As residents build a strong work ethic in Betel's charitable businesses (including furniture repair & restoration, shop retail sales, cafés, landscaping and gardening, tree surgery, house clearances and removals), they also invest in their own recovery. The aim is that upon leaving Betel, each person will be able to contribute positively to family life and to society.

Achieving long-term change

As members of an extended family, working and living together, residents focus on achieving and sustaining change in three main areas of life:

Physically: by maintaining abstinence from harmful, addictive substances (illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco) and recovering the good health habits of a proper diet and exercise.

Emotionally: by practising self-control and cooperation, gradually recovering a healthy self-image as a positive contributor

to work teams, group recreation and a caring household.

Morally: by acquiring a system of values which helps them to sustain the cumulative benefits of the change they've experienced in Betel, successfully avoiding relapse over the long run.

To enter Betel

All residents may enter Betel voluntarily, but we recommend they stay for at least 12-18 months. Following a telephone interview, we receive men and women quickly, usually within one to five days of making their first

contact. We accept residents of 18 years and older. We receive self-referrals as well as referrals through our good working relationships with probation, police, prisons, courts, social services, drop in centres and churches around the nation.

The only requirement to join us is that the individual be ready to change. The first step is making a phone call to our admissions office for an interview. For a description of daily life in Betel, visit our website:

www.betel.uk



“I fully commend the essential work carried out by Betel. We all strive to live out Gospel values in our lives. Betel achieves them through their work with people who need to be supported and valued. Restoring broken lives is going about God's business. This is why I have no hesitation in supporting and commending the work that Betel does.”

John Sentamu
Archbishop of York

“After 10 years of being homeless and 20 years of drug addiction I had no hope left. Coming to Betel has restored my life and given me a future.”

Mick (left)

Betel International

In 1985, eleven years before opening in Britain, Betel (Spanish for Bethel) received its first destitute men and women off the streets of Madrid. Since that time more than 200,000 homeless, substance abusers and socially disadvantaged people have been helped. Betel residences host more than 2,400 recovering men and women in over 100 cities and in 25 nations. Please see our international website – www.betel.org

To support Betel

Help us restore more broken lives – Betel UK needs your donations of FURNITURE, CLOTHING and BRIC A BRAC.

Please contact the Betel centre nearest you, and be sure to ask for a Gift Aid form if you are a UK taxpayer.

www.betel.uk



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Our RESTORED range of fine furnishings and gifts is now available at:

www.restoredfurniture.co.uk

Betel is a member of WEC International, belongs to the Evangelical Alliance, ISAAC (the International Substance Abuse and Addiction Coalition) and is a member of the Ground Level Church network. Betel UK is a working name of Betel of Britain, a registered charity nos 1081462 & SC045808, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number 3998028. Registered office: Windmill House, Weatheroak Hill, Alvechurch, Birmingham, B48 7EA

