



Trent
Compassion

**Our vision,
mission
and impact**

2025

Vision and mission

Trent Compassion is a Christian charity that is part of Trent Vineyard, a biblical, growing and diverse church with a heart to serve and love the city of Nottingham.

Our vision

At Trent Vineyard we believe that God is compassionate and invites us to extend His compassion to others. As Trent Compassion we long to see a city where there is no injustice or poverty, where everyone has a home, a place to belong and is valued for who they are. We want that to become a reality and want to be part of making it happen.

Our mission

As Trent Compassion our mission is to serve the city: to love, serve and walk alongside individuals in need in Nottingham as God leads, where there is the greatest need, for the long term.

Trent Compassion's mission

To serve the city: to love, serve and walk alongside individuals in need in Nottingham as God leads, where there is the greatest need, for the long term.





Trent Compassion

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to
walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6 v.8

A church that serves the City

A church that loves,
serves and walks
alongside individuals in
need in Nottingham:
as God leads, where
there is greatest need,
for the long term



The Kingdom of God

That Nottingham
would be a place
where there is no
injustice, poverty
or isolation

Crisis

We support people at point of crisis:

The Arches: Trent Compassion is the home of The Arches, which provides essential furniture, household items and child/baby equipment to people in need. The Arches takes referrals for people being rehoused in emergency situations and moving into empty housing – such as refugees, ex-offenders or people fleeing domestic violence. When people come to The Arches we aim to provide items to meet their essential needs such as beds and bedding, somewhere to sit, cooking and household items.

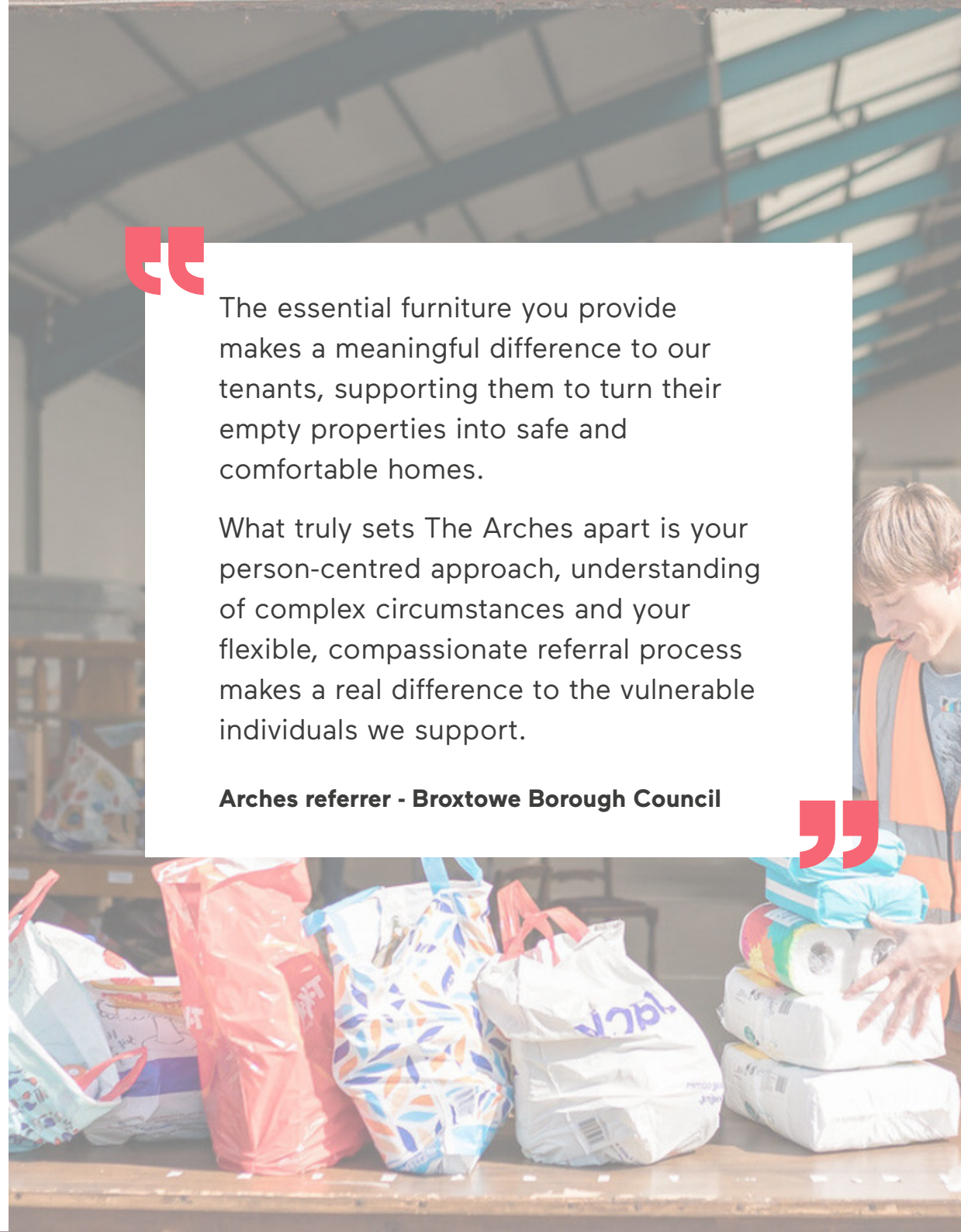
Street Outreach: We provide support to street homeless people in Nottingham, with weekly Soup Runs to give out hot drinks and snacks. A big part of what we do is spending time chatting with people and getting to know them, offering them prayer and information on local support. We support other organisations helping people who are homeless, such as Emmanuel House and hosting winter night shelters when the temperature falls below freezing.



The essential furniture you provide makes a meaningful difference to our tenants, supporting them to turn their empty properties into safe and comfortable homes.

What truly sets The Arches apart is your person-centred approach, understanding of complex circumstances and your flexible, compassionate referral process makes a real difference to the vulnerable individuals we support.

Arches referrer - Broxtowe Borough Council



Community

We support people in community:

We know that the biggest change happens in people's lives is when they are in long term community. A big part of how we bring people together is through volunteering, as well as other groups in Nottingham.

Prisons: Currently we support men and women in prison in Nottinghamshire, offering weekly services and sharing gifts provided by church members such as at Easter. Where possible we aim to support prisoners on release into our housing and employment support.

Refugees: We support a community of refugees who come together through football, with around 50-60 people taking part in weekly training and matches and building community together.

Coffee Club: We support a Coffee Club to bring people together who are often experiencing isolation or facing life circumstances that are impacting their mental health.

Fostering and Adoption: We support a community of carers who are fostering or adopting children in Nottingham, providing mutual support and connection as well as sharing experiences and practical advice.



“

Just a lovely team to be part of, very easy to slot into and feel like I'm of value to a greater cause.

Being part of a community, and using some of my skills and experience.

It gives me opportunity to interact with people from various walks of life.

Volunteers' experience of volunteering at Trent Compassion

”

All our ministries are delivered by a community of around 240 volunteers, who serve together on teams across the week.

Change

We work towards long-term change:

Our Step Forward support services help people to manage their finances and support them into education, work and training.

Step Forward Money Advice offers free, confidential debt advice and money management support. SFMA is affiliated to the national debt charity [Community Money Advice](#).

Step Forward Housing, in partnership with [Hope into Action](#), provides supported accommodation for people who have experienced homelessness - providing a home, one-to-one support and a connection into a community of support at Trent Compassion through befriending and volunteering.

Step Forward Employability provides long-term support to a core programme group, including those in Step Forward Housing, in their journey towards employment. This includes life skills, employment training, mentoring and volunteering. We also provide employability workshops for other partners within the city.

Trent Justice: We work in partnership with others across the city to tackle injustice and support social change in Nottingham, through [Citizens UK](#).



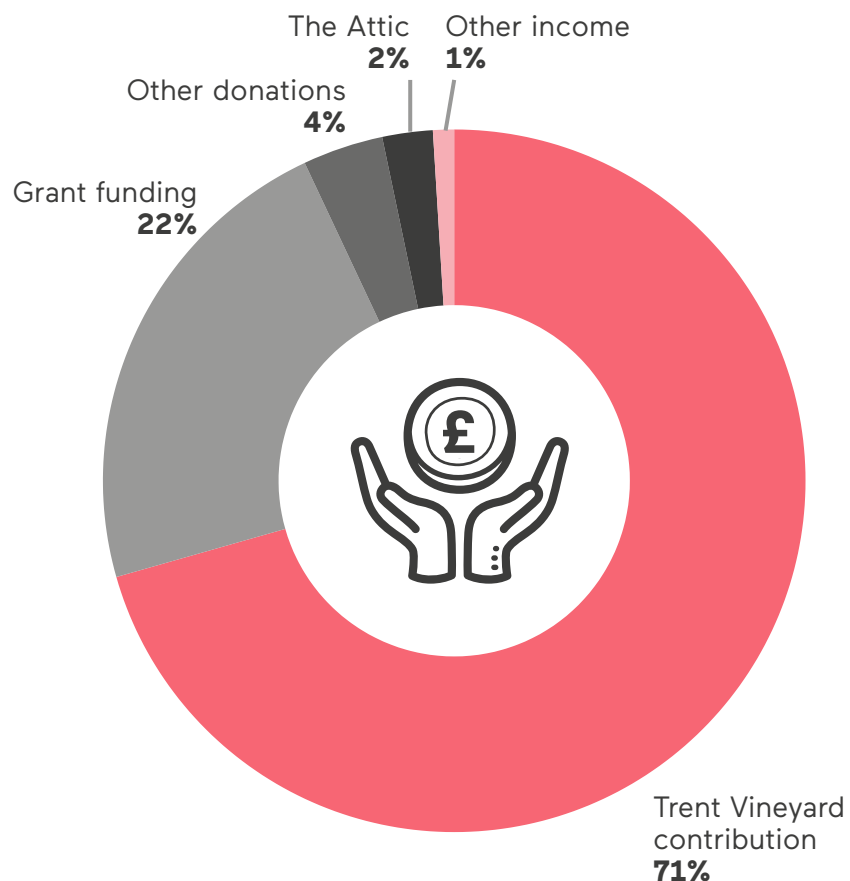
I can't thank you enough -
I was in a bad situation with my debt,
as well as my mental health.
You never judge me on my situation,
you helped me so much. You listened
to everything I said through my tears.
I will be forever grateful to you all.
Thank you.

Step Forward Money Advice client feedback



Our resources

Funding



Financial year July 2024 - June 2025

Volunteer time



660

volunteer hours
each month



435

engagements with
people served by
Trent Compassion
each month

The Attic

The Attic Shop raises additional funds to support the work of Trent Compassion, selling vintage and mid-century furniture, homewares and pre-loved clothes.

We have a range of cards and prints designed by members of our community. We also run creative workshops and upholster and upcycle furniture to sell.

Crisis impact

2025

The Arches



Soup Run



Love Christmas



Impact spotlight

Crisis spotlight: Love Christmas 2025

For Love Christmas, Trent Vineyard church members come together to support and bless those in need in Nottingham. This year the focus was on blessing families, particularly families expecting or with new babies. Love Christmas 2025 supported:

- A toy store where families could come in to choose and wrap presents for their children
- New-born baby packages, gifted to new or expecting parents via specialist midwives working with vulnerable parents
- A Christmas party and gifts for refugees and families living in temporary accommodation

Church members, individually or together with their Small Groups, donated 840 toys and 700 baby items. For example, one church group gathered donations together and were able to buy 10 double buggies - an item that The Arches is often in need of.

In the weeks before Christmas 121 families came to choose and wrap gifts for their children, with 325 toys given. Over 200 gifts were distributed to children of refugee families, vulnerable young adults and children in local schools in deprived areas of Nottingham. Local midwives supported giving out new baby packs to 20 families in need.



The Arches have been invaluable support in providing essential equipment for families expecting a new baby. The items that have been given to the women I have referred have helped to meet basic needs. Moses baskets support safe sleeping practices, which reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Newborn baby clothes provide warmth. Baby travel systems enable parents to take their babies to appointments, and more broadly facilitate leaving the house – benefiting both physical and mental health of the parents. I have particularly seen the benefit in the recent double buggies that have been provided, so families with a newborn and a toddler are more able to leave their accommodation to do day-to-day chores and activities.

In providing the items, The Arches is also relieving stress on parents who are destitute, or on a very limited income, who have a constant worry about how they will provide for their family. I believe in helping families with this equipment, The Arches is contributing to greater individual and public health.

Specialist midwife for vulnerable migrants



Community impact

2025

Volunteers



240

volunteers
across our
teams

Volunteers come **2-3 times** per month
and give **8 hours** of their time on average



Most
important
to our
volunteers:

**Feeling I am helping or serving
people who are in need**

"The feeling of being part of a team who are hard-working and where all are geared toward providing the best help possible out to people who need it."

Prisons



120

people in
prison
supported
each month



1,136

prisoners
received
Easter eggs

Groups



50-60

people each
week join
refugee
football



12

Fostering/
adoption
carers meet
each month



25-30

people meet
together at
Coffee Club

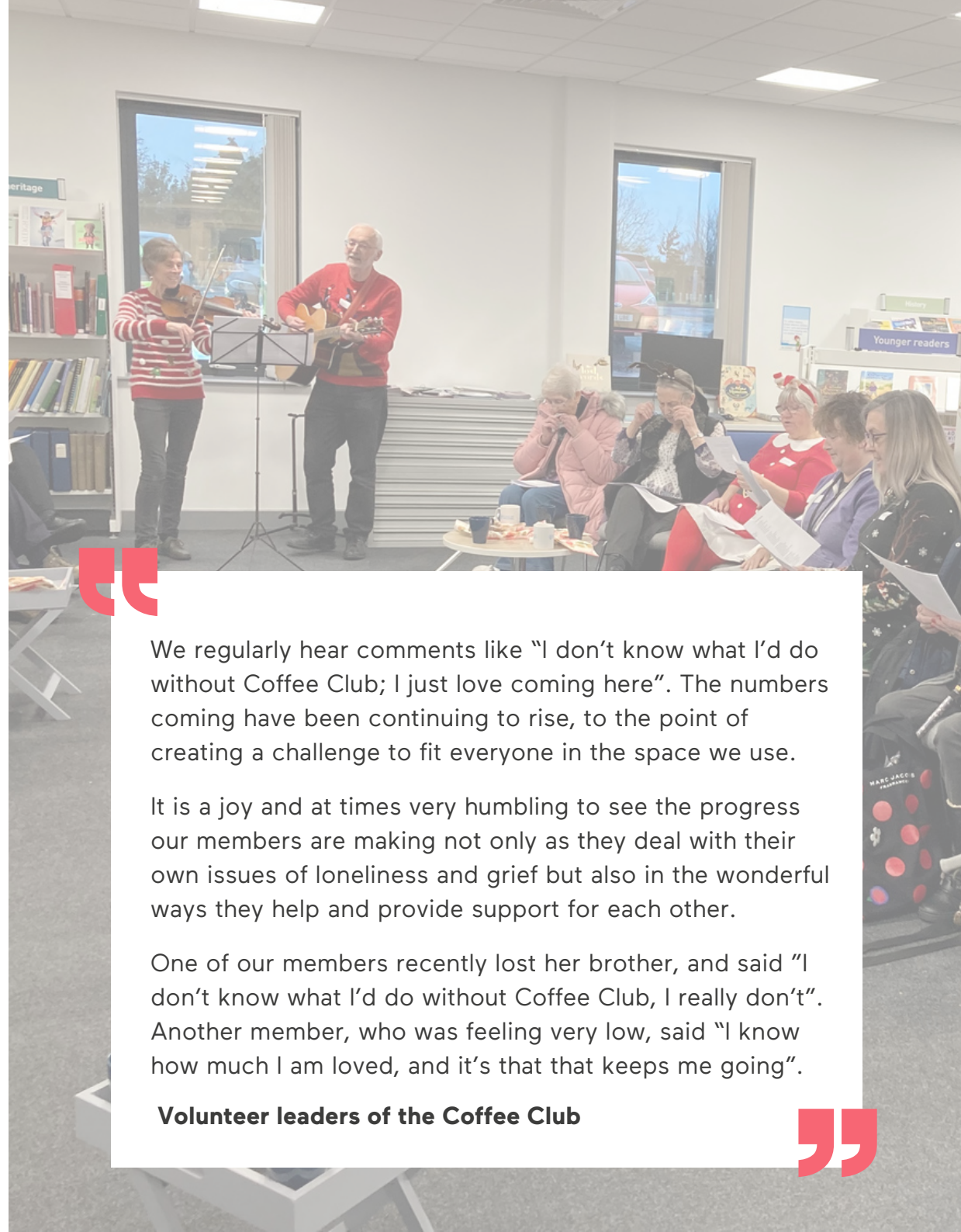
Impact spotlight

Community spotlight: Coffee Club

The Coffee Club offers a welcoming space for local people who may be facing loneliness, bereavement or social isolation. A team of volunteers, supported by Trent Compassion, have been running the Coffee Club since 2018. They meet every fortnight in a local library, hosting around 25-30 people each time.

Supporting people to form a community has always been the goal for the Coffee Club. The impact of the Coffee Club on the local community was recognised this year, with the leaders receiving the 'Volunteer of the Year' award at the Rushcliffe Awards.

Since this summer the team have been encouraging members to meet up socially in between formal Coffee Club sessions. From a start of 5 or 6 attending, now there are up to 15 or so meeting for tea or coffee at the library, in between regular meetings. In addition they have also organised themselves to get together for a shared lunch each Friday at the local pub - something as individuals they were uncomfortable doing, but together around 14 or so are now taking part.



We regularly hear comments like “I don’t know what I’d do without Coffee Club; I just love coming here”. The numbers coming have been continuing to rise, to the point of creating a challenge to fit everyone in the space we use.

It is a joy and at times very humbling to see the progress our members are making not only as they deal with their own issues of loneliness and grief but also in the wonderful ways they help and provide support for each other.

One of our members recently lost her brother, and said “I don’t know what I’d do without Coffee Club, I really don’t”. Another member, who was feeling very low, said “I know how much I am loved, and it’s that that keeps me going”.

Volunteer leaders of the Coffee Club

Change impact

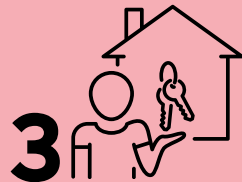
2025

Step Forward Housing



12

people living
in our
supported
houses



3

moved on into
long-term home

Step Forward Employability



6

people in two-year
employability and
life skills
programme



250

attendances at employability workshops

Step Forward Money Advice



155

new debt
advice
clients



average
debt per
person

£12,500

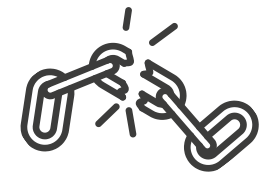
14

months of debt
advice support
(average)



55

people
supported
to become
debt-free



£1m in debt
cleared

Impact spotlight

Long-term change spotlight: Simon's story

"The first time I came into Trent Compassion, I didn't know many people, so it was intimidating - but so welcoming, I'll never forget that. I started coming as a volunteer, as part of the Step Forward Housing programme of support. I was in my own moment of crisis - I'd just come out of rehab, I was living in a Trent Vineyard house, and I was thinking 'what do I do now?' One Sunday in church, I was prompted to think 'I could work here!' I took a job in the church's Facilities team, as well as continuing to volunteer in The Arches. People started saying hello to me, then stopping by to chat - and they became real friends that I could talk to about work stuff, about personal stuff. I had constant support, friendships.

For the first year here I felt like I was still in a mist, working through a lot of things in my life. Then at some point I realised that I was really looking forward to coming into The Arches each week. I could see that I could use a lot of the skills and experience from jobs I'd had in the past. And it gave me a really good idea of just what Compassion does for people - you see what it means to them, when they go off with a car full of furniture and items, as soon as you see the happiness on their face."



Now I have a job as The Arches Warehouse Supervisor, I'm using my experience to oversee the process of getting the right furniture and household items out to people who come to The Arches and overseeing a team of volunteers who support this.

My own experience gives me more empathy when I see people coming into The Arches. One day we had a guy who came in who'd come off the tram with nothing but a small suitcase to collect items for his empty house - the first home he'd had in six years. We filled him up with everything we could pack in and gave him another big suitcase full of household items. I kept thinking 'that could have been me'.

Also the volunteers that help are often on the Step Forward programme that I was on, and on their own their own journey - and I'm willing, wanting to help them. And it's a learning journey for me still. I'm 2½ years sober after drinking for 20 years. But now I'm doing things like speaking to groups or on the stage at Church, which is a massive thing for me to do - but now I have that confidence, without needing to have a drink.

This team - it's made up of compassionate people and it's great being part of it. It feels like home.

Simon - Trent Compassion Warehouse Supervisor



We hope that you have enjoyed reading about the impact Trent Compassion has had over 2025.

It's hard to capture on the page all that we would like to show, because behind every statistic and story are people - all of whom we believe are made in the image of God and deserve to be treated with dignity, respect and kindness.

Throughout everything we do, it's our desire to continue to be open handed, flexible and committed for the long term. As you'll be aware, it feels as if we are operating in increasingly uncertain times - but no matter how the needs, context and outworking change, the vision and mission remain the same: to demonstrate God's compassion and serve the city.

Trent Compassion includes every person who has contributed time, energy, prayer and finance to caring for and serving individuals in our city. We couldn't do what we do without the many volunteers who are the backbone of our work, finance from Trent Vineyard and funders' support. We are also thankful to each member of the huge network of care and support we are part of in Nottingham - we are privileged to be one piece of that jigsaw.

Hannah Buck Head of Trent Compassion
Cathy Gretton Chair of Trustees

For more information, contact
info@trentcompassion.org
www.trentcompassion.org

Our thanks

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