

Community Stars – Fix and repair café

Make do and mend

In January 2016, Tower St Methodist Church ran its first ever monthly Repair Café, inviting people across the community to bring along any object that had seen better days and have it looked at – and if possible, repaired – by their team of expert repairers.



People came in with all manner of items, from clothing to electrical items like sewing machines and CD players. Six repairers kindly gave their talents and time for the day to try and see what they could get fixed.

The café is now a recurring monthly event at Tower St. Repairers enjoy passing on their skills and techniques, and people in the community come along for a chat and a cuppa.

The objects all come with stories, as many are worth much more in sentimental value than monetary. To take just one example, one woman

in her 90s had a pottery rabbit that she had bought for her mother when she was a child. The café is making a huge difference to the community, providing a much-needed service and companionship too.



Not everything can be repaired but people are happy to accept that as they know the repairer tried hard to do so. They all enjoy the challenge and don't like to be defeated!



Jean Holden
Mission & Outreach

Church details

- Tower Street Methodist Church, Exmouth
- Exeter Coast & Country Circuit, Plymouth and Exeter District
- Average congregation: 50

What you'll need

- Premises to host your event
- Help and advice available from the Repair Café
- A Facebook page to invite questions from potential clients
- Refreshments to reward your willing repairers

Repairing by numbers

- 6 repairers on hand at first session
- 12 repairers now giving their time
- Nearly £9,000 raised over 2 years



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