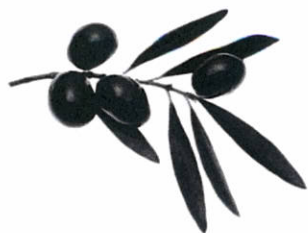


# THE OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING SERVICE



14 St Clement Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 9HH

Telephone: 01962 842858

e-mail: [secretary@theolivebranch.org.uk](mailto:secretary@theolivebranch.org.uk)  
[www.theolivebranch.org.uk](http://www.theolivebranch.org.uk)

Mr B Gibbs  
Tichborne Parish Council  
15 The Heath  
Denmead  
WATERLOOVILLE  
PO7 6JT

9 February 2017

Dear Mr Gibbs

I am writing to introduce The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service. We are a local charity based in Winchester, celebrating our 20th Anniversary this year. Our purpose is to provide counselling for individuals and couples who are 18 and over, in Winchester and the surrounding area.

Our services are offered to the whole community regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, issue or ability to contribute financially. The Olive Branch is highly recommended by GP surgeries in the area.

Many of our clients are experiencing mental health concerns such as anxiety, depression, trauma and a range of relationship issues which may include bereavement, separation and domestic violence. Whilst some are able to make a reasonable donation towards our running costs; the average donation is £11.00 per session, others are on low income or benefits and cannot afford anything other than a small nominal contribution.

With our support the majority of our clients are better able to manage their day to day lives. For some of our clients, counselling can literally be life-saving.

Every year we need to raise an additional £15,000 through fundraising to ensure this service remains. It costs around £20.00 per counselling session to cover our overheads. The counsellors for this work are all volunteers.

Our clients come from Winchester and all the surrounding areas. With 1 in 4 people in the UK living with mental health issues it is very likely that people from your parish have been clients of The Olive Branch at sometime within the last 20 years.

I hope I have raised the awareness of this local charity and that you may consider a closer relationship with The Olive Branch by supporting us with a one off donation or an annual commitment. We would be delighted to talk to you about The Olive Branch if you wish to make contact with us. I am enclosing a leaflet about our service.

Thank you

And I hope to hear from you

Helen McMahon

Helen McMahon

Chair Executive Committee  
The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service