



## Coffee Tots

### Building communities (Coventry)

Opened in November 2010, the '*Coffee Tots*' drop-in cafe has become a popular place where 30 to 45 parents come with their young children each day to relax and meet other parents, as they feel they have nowhere else to go. Mothers' Union members have supported this initiative right from the start with prayers, parenting support, help, advice and encouragement. They also help at the weekly knitting club.



A play area and an arts/craft table encourage parents to interact with their children, which helps the little ones to develop socially and mentally. It also strengthens the bond between parent and child. This approach creates confidence and positive parents who feel well supported and loved, removing them from isolation.



Community based project '*Coffee Tots*' has a Christian ethos aiming to serve and work with parents, families and communities of all and no faiths. It is funded by donations from individuals, foundation trusts and local churches and in 2012 the Archbishop of Canterbury (Rowan Williams) also stopped by for a visit.

For more information visit: [www.coffeetotscoventry.co.uk](http://www.coffeetotscoventry.co.uk)

For general guidelines about setting up and developing outreach initiatives, go to the members' section of the Mothers' Union website [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)