



Helping the homeless in our city

Thank you for picking up this latest edition of our Newsletter.

Regrettably we must start with bad news and announce that, due to current restrictions, we will not be able to run a Winter Shelter this year.

The Trustees have had to make this decision after consultation with the Local Authority and other agencies and, given that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government are still advising that; **'Night shelters have to be closed due to the risk of infection in these communal settings...Government advice continues that all communal night shelters should remain closed at the present time'**, it will not be possible to offer the provision.

This is difficult and frustrating for us as a Mission however we must trust that the Lord has a plan and that He will offer protection to the clients who will need to be provided with alternative support by the council. This council's emergency provision remains in place and they have just received a further £300k funding to support clients.

We have good partnership links with, and will continue to support, the Local Authority and agencies such as P3 by keeping them informed of clients who are unknown to them and by ensuring that we advocate for clients who are in and around Gloucester and not receiving the support they might desperately need.

We will be running our Outreach Teams in the city six days a week from the start of October and this provision will continue all winter as well as Wednesday lunches. There is an Outreach update on page 2.

Please pray that the clients we work with may receive the support that they might need this winter.

We are still pushing ahead with Survive the Night (Virtual Edition) and any money raised will be used for additional resources for the outreach teams over the winter months so that they can reach as many people as possible. Any unspent money will be ring-fenced for next year's shelter. Please sign up for Survive the Night if you haven't already. There is a poster on Page 4, plus a Revive Poster on Page 3 and a StreetLink poster on Page 6.

Revive Coffee House
(in the Eastgate Shopping Centre)
Run by
Gloucester City Mission
Registered Charity 1115780

Revive Coffee House has opened and it has been a great start with long term GCM supporters popping in as well as lots of people who didn't know about our work.

It is a place to come and relax, drink ethically sourced hot drinks, enjoy a cold drink, eat homemade cakes and treats, and find out about our work.

All of our Outreach work now runs out of Revive.

On a Monday and Tuesday we will use the space to run training courses for clients such as basic skills, cookery, crochet club and Alpha Courses.

Outreach Update

We continue to have teams of volunteers out every week day from 10.30-12.30. From the start of October we will also be sending teams out on Saturday mornings.

Teams are able to offer prayer, food, drinks, emergency clothes packs and advice to anyone rough sleeping and are also able to support anyone who is vulnerable.

In August we supported clients on over 500 occasions which means that between June and August we have worked with people directly on the streets over 1750 times. It is looking likely that September's figure will continue to be high as on one day alone we worked with 61 people in the city centre.

Outreach work gives us the opportunity to meet directly with people who are either rough sleeping, sofa surfing or in accommodation. It enables us to build trust of clients who didn't use our services when we ran sessions out of the centre.

It also gives more time to offer prayer to clients who might desperately need it or if they aren't ready for prayer then teams can give out Promises (Bible passages).

Wednesday Lunch - Wednesday lunch is still going well and continues to be a takeaway meal along with emergency toiletry packs, clothes and face masks.

DONATIONS

With the colder weather now upon us please could we appeal for the following items;

Joggers (men and womens)

Hoodies

Trainers (mens and womens)

Waterproof coats (not woollen coats please)

Hot water bottles

Tents (2 man)

Sleeping bags

Rucksacks

**WE ARE SORRY BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO
ACCEPT DONATIONS OF DUVETS,
TOWELS, BLANKETS, PILLOWS AND
CROCKERY**



Many of you supported us last year through our **Winter Shopping List** on Amazon Smile. We have updated our **Winter 2020** list. If you, or a group of you, would like to help out some of our clients please do have a look by clicking below-

Amazon Wish List



It isn't too late to join our Fantasy Football League. If you would like to enter our fun league please visit www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/GCMfantasyfootball Please donate a minimum of £5 per team and leave a message with your donation or email kevin@gloscitymission.org.uk. We will then email you the code to join the league.

Revive Coffee House

Run by
Gloucester City Mission
Registered Charity 1115780
www.gloscitymission.org.uk

Find us in The Eastgate Shopping Centre.
Open Weds to Sat 11 - 3.30



A chalkboard menu with three main sections. The left section is for coffee, featuring a drawing of a latte and the word 'Coffee' in cursive. The middle section is for tea, featuring a circular logo with 'THE Menu' and the word 'TEA' in large block letters. The right section is for hot chocolate and other drinks, featuring a drawing of a hot chocolate mug and the words 'HOT CHOCOLATE Mountain' in cursive. Prices are listed next to each item.

| Item | Price |
|------------------|-------|
| Coffee | |
| £1.50 | |
| FILTER Coffee | |
| REGULAR + DECAFF | |
| TEA | |
| BREAKFAST TEA | |
| EARL GREY | |
| FRUIT TEA | |
| MINT TEA | |
| £1.50 | |
| HOT CHOCOLATE | |
| Mountain | |
| HOT CHOCOLATE | |
| £2 | |
| £2.50 | |
| CANS | |
| WATER | |
| FRUIT JUICE | |
| £1 | |

Ethically sourced hot drinks,
homemade cakes/treats, and
cold drinks.

**WHERE DID
YOU SLEEP
LAST NIGHT?**



NOW IN ITS 5TH YEAR

**'SPECIAL VIRTUAL EDITION
SURVIVE THE NIGHT 2020'
SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER
(WORLD HOMELESS DAY)**

Can you sleep for one night socially distanced in your workplace, church, school, or back garden?

We can't run the usual Survive the Night this year due to Covid 19 but could you still sleep rough somewhere for the night to raise funds for our continued work with those sleeping rough or vulnerable in our city? More and more rough sleepers are out across the city with many hidden away .

**VISIT WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK
OR CONTACT KEVIN@GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK
FOR MORE DETAILS OR FIND US ON**



All money raised from the Survive the Night 2020 will go directly to Gloucester City Mission's projects being run with the homeless and marginalised in Gloucester and next year's Winter Shelter.

Gloucester City Mission is a UK registered charity - 1115780 and a registered company - 5830147

The George Whitefield Centre, 107 Great Western Road, Gloucester GL1 3NF

Prayer List

As well as praying for GCM's clients, volunteers and staff please also hold these groups in your prayers. To add someone to the prayer list please email GCMprayer1@gmail.com

- All at GCM as we continue to respond to, and meet, the challenges that are being faced;
- Clients in emergency hotels and those who have found themselves back on the street;
- Our Outreach teams;
- All those who have lost someone to Covid19;
- Our volunteers and friends who are isolated;
- The Homeless Healthcare Team who continue to look after clients on the frontline;
- The Foodbank for the amazing work they are doing;
- Our Church leaders across the city and Diocese as they make difficult decisions about how they can reopen and offer services to congregations;
- Students in Universities in Gloucester and around the country

PLEASE DONATE

Online www.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/gloscitymission

To make a text donation, text **gloscitymission** followed by the amount you wish to donate to **70085** (ie 'GLOSCITYMISSION 5' to **70085** to donate £5).

This costs £5 plus a std rate msg, you can opt to give any whole amount up to £20.

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Maybe you could sign up to give a monthly gift.

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Please make cheques payable to Gloucester City Mission, we also accept CAF cheques



We are often contacted by churches or individuals who have come across someone rough sleeping in or near their grounds. If this happens please use the Street Link App or website.

It is really quick and easy and alerts the Council and the P3 Outreach team about the person. More often than not the rough sleeper is already known however this isn't always the case. It quick, free and easy to and will the quickest way for that person to be offered support.

Please share this poster with your friends, family, colleagues and church.



Concerned about someone sleeping rough?

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Download the StreetLink app or visit the **website** at **www.streetlink.org.uk** to make an alert and help **connect them to local services** for support

StreetLink
www.streetlink.org.uk

MONTHLY TEXT GIVING

We have a Text Donate Appeal to encourage supporters to give a £1 or even a couple of pounds per month through their mobile phones. This will help us with cash flow and to keep us going in the future.

It is so easy to do, just; Text GLOSCM to 70085 to donate £3 a month
(Texts cost £3 (or the amount you donate) plus two standard rate messages)

If you would like to give another amount per month you can do this as well up to £20

PLEASE COME AND VISIT OUR ONLINE SHOP. YOU CAN BUY A WHOLE RANGE OF T-SHIRTS, HOODIES, PHONE CASES AND BAGS IN DIFFERENT COLOURS AND SIZES AND ALL PROFITS GO TO OUR WORK

WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK/SHOP



Please take a few minutes to have a look at our website
www.gloscitymission.org.uk
 Also follow us on



Find us at The George Whitefield Centre, 107 Great Western Road, Gloucester GL1 3NF

Registered Charity Number 1115780, Company Number 5830147

admin@gloscitymission.org.uk 01452 901922

