



Helping the homeless in our city

Welcome the next Covid 19 Special Edition GCM Newsletter. All the staff and trustees at GCM hope that you are keeping well and making the most of the opportunities we are being given to live our lives in a different rhythm to normal.

The GCM Trustees have taken the decision to furlough Lou, Paula and Elaine at this time. This was a difficult decision but as a small charity we have to look at the longer term view and ensure that we can keep our books balanced without using up our reserves. All of the staff continue to offer their hearts to helping their communities and will be returning to GCM very soon.

Our Administrator Sue continues to keep things ticking over as she works from home whilst I am mainly working from home but also able to pop in and out of the centre.

All of our staff have completed a really interesting online training course based on Rough Sleepers and Mental Health.



One of the key advantages that I have found with the new life structure is that I am now currently 5 months ahead of schedule with reading my Bible in a Year!

This has also been a time where we have been able to spend more time as a family, both my wife and I are currently working at home (she is in the living room and I'm in the dining room - we found out that we are incompatible work colleagues because I always have music on and she never

does). We have also been able to see our two children more frequently, even having lunch together.

Our youngest is 15 and usually gets in from school and goes to his room where we hardly then see him again, whilst our eldest is 18 and off to university in September so we are treasuring this extra time that we are having with her. Plus our garden has never looked so great!

GCM continues to try to respond to the needs of clients as and when we can.

An ever increasing number of clients are being evicted from the emergency hotels in the city and having to find somewhere else to go, we continue to support them in whatever ways we can whether that be by offering help and support or giving tents and general equipment.

We ask that hold the clients in your prayers.



We are grateful to Crisis UK who have given us an emergency grant towards out costs. This bring our donations in April to nearly £18,000. We are truly blessed by the support that has come in during this time.

Finally as well as being on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn we are now also on Tik Tok - please follow us to keep up to date with GCM life!!

Take care,
Kevin

So, we've passed the 40-day mark of lockdown, and I have to say I haven't found it quite as difficult as many others have. The weather has certainly made things far more bearable. It's given me the opportunity to get done some of those jobs I've been meaning to do for quite literally years!!

As you will know the GCM has had to scale down its activities to a bare minimum due to Covid 19. However, as is often the case when doing the Lords work, when one door closes, albeit temporarily another one opens.

For me it's been the opportunity to deliver for the Foodbank in Gloucester. It started out on the first day with just a handful of parcels, but quickly increased to 20+ deliveries. It's been a real privilege to help out, and the gratitude and appreciation with which the gifts have received has been humbling. We take so much for granted. Its also been great to have been able to spend some quality time with my wife Holly, as she has been my navigator extraordinaire during this time as well!

Hopefully GCM will be able to get back to serving again soon, but for the meantime we can all pitch in and do our bit. Whether it be delivering food or preparing it, looking after loved ones, relatives or neighbours, and never underestimate the power of prayer in these testing times.

Ephesians 2: 10, reads... “For we are Gods handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

The Lord has afforded us all opportunities to shine for Him during these unprecedented times and we need to grasp them to further His Kingdom and bear witness to His great love for all people.

May the Lord bless you and keep you all as you read and share this newsletter.

Ade Jones, GCM Trustee



Prayer List

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

- Clients in emergency accommodation and those who have found themselves back on the street;
- Families who we cannot be with;
- 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 GCM Trustees;
- Our Church leaders and thier staff;
- The NHS, Care Workers and Emergency Services who are doing such an incredible job;
- All essential and key workers in schools, shops, the Government and everyone else keeping the country running.

Feed the 5000

Sue continues to support the Feeding the 5000 project as well as carrying out her usual role as our Administrator.

'It was a lovely experience going with my husband, Richard, on the meals deliveries. The people we took them to were so appreciative. They were all people who had been referred so the food was either free or they paid what they could afford'.



MONTHLY TEXT GIVING

We have set up a new 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.

As we are sure you are aware, charities are under pressure at the moment due to Covid19 and the effect it has had on fundraising events but they still have to pay rent, wages and other costs.

Because this donation is done through your phone we hope that you might not even miss the amount that you are giving us :)

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;

“To donate £1 a month text GLOSCM 1”

“To donate £5 a month text GLOSCM 5”

To donate £10 a month text GLOSCM 10” etc



The GCM Hall is currently being used as an overflow store for the Foodbank as they have run out of space for their work.

Elaine and Paula were in last week making Toiletry Packs and then delivering them to clients staying in the emergency accommodation hotels in the city centre.



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 DONATE

£5 will pay for 3 meals

£10 will pay for fresh underwear, clothes, toiletries and a shower

£25 will pay for someone to get off the streets for a night during the winter months

Maybe you could sign up to give a monthly gift.

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Online www.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/gloscitymission

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By Text

To make a 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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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

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