





Helping the homeless in our city

Well this has been a busy few weeks. I want to start by thanking the Staff Team along with Ade Jones and Pete Bull for all of their hard work and efforts in getting our moves done. It is difficult enough moving from one location to another but we have moved from the George Whitefield Centre into FIVE new locations! We are almost there and just have a few last bits to finish off. We served our last meal out of GWC on Wednesday and prayed thanks for the 5 years at the centre.

REVIVE - This is our Coffee Shop, downstairs is now finished, the last bits were putting in the sound system and installing broadband. The upstairs kitchen is very nearly done. It is now set up for Louise to do all of her cooking out of, not only baking for the coffee shop but also to prepare Wednesday lunches. Also in here is our Outreach Team Base so all of the kit for the teams is upstairs.

RESTORE- We have be converting the old Southgate Office into a place where clients can come on a Tuesday and Thursday for clothes and other essentials.

RETREAT- Our new Admin office is based in Southgate House on Southgate Street. The new contact details are at the bottom of page 6.

REPLENISH- We are grateful that St Mary's Congregational Church have agreed to allow us to use their car park for Wednesday lunches starting on 4th November.

RENEW- Our very latest venue is a storage/warehouse type space that we have been given access to by the Eastgate Shopping Centre. This space will enable us to store and sort donations.

Mo has had to have a bit of engine work done but is due to be back on the road by the start of November.

The real beauty of all of our new locations is their proximity to each other. It makes it very easy for staff to work across the venues to support clients.

We are currently finalising our Christmas plans but we have a couple of exciting projects that we need your support with if possible please:

- We are doing hampers this year in partnership with Gloucester Cathedral's Breakfast Club. Please see the poster on the next page for full details.
- We have set up a brand new project called the Hot Water Bottle Project. We would like to buy 200 hot water bottles so that the Outreach Teams can take them out and give them to clients on the streets. Then the next day they can take out a fresh one and swap it over. Please see the poster on page 2 if you would like information or to help out.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's scaled back virtual Survive the Night and a huge thank you also to everyone who helped us financially to support our moving costs.

I have started adding posters to the newsletter to ask if readers wouldn't mind sharing them with their churches and other people please.

Philippians 4:19 says 'And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus' and He sure has supplied us here at GCM.

Kevin Howie, GCM Manager

THESE EDITIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE PRODUCED DIGITALLY PLEASE SHARE IT WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY/CHURCH/WORK COLLEAGUES ETC





Helping the homeless and vulnerable

GCM HOT WATER BOTTLE EXCHANGE

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE A VIRTUAL HUG TO SOMEONE ON THE STREETS THIS WINTER?

PLEASE HELP US WITH OUR HOT WATER BOTTLE EXCHANGE PROJECT.

WE WANT TO BUY 200 HOT WATER BOTTLES SO THAT OUR OUTREACH TEAMS CAN TAKE THEM OUT TO GIVE TO PEOPLE ON THE STREETS, THEN THE NEXT DAY SWAP IT FOR A FRESH HOT ONE.

Could you offer a financial donation so that we can buy new ones or could you donate a hot water bottle (new ones only please)

Please make donations at www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/hotwaterbottle or please drop in any donations at the Revive Coffee House.











www.gloscitymission.org.uk

CHARITY NUMBER 1115780

Christmas hampers for the homeless and vulnerable.

Please donate any of the following for hampers this winter;
Mince pies, tea/coffee sachets, chocolate, sweets, hot choc, cup a soup, pot noodle.

Christmas Cracker

A Card Toiletries

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

Hats, gloves, scarves

(Please don't make the hampers up)
Donations can be given in at the Cathedral
or Revive Coffee House.

Please bring donations between 5th November and 4th December

If you are looking for a slightly different Christmas pressie for somone then please visit our online shop.

Gloucester

ity

Mission

YOU CAN BUY A WHOLE RANGE OF T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES IN DIFFERENT COLOURS AND SIZES AND ALL PROFITS GO TO OUR WORK

WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK/SHOP

Or pop into Revive to pick up a Walk With Love Limited Edition t-shirt



A Message from the Chair

In 1967 the Beatles participated in a global Television event with "All you need is love (Lennon & McCartney 1967)". For Christians this was a wonderful echo of Jesus words recorded in John's gospel: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13.34-35.

When Jesus was asked about loving God and loving one's neighbour, he told the story of the Good Samaritan. For all Christians, and particularly Christian organisations that undertake outreach work, the question is how they should obey Jesus commandment in their environment.

Since about this time last year GCM's staff and the management board (the Trustees) have been thinking and praying about how to best to continue doing God's work in Gloucester.

Within a few days our link with the George Whitefield Centre will cease although our links with the Foodbank and the NHS service to the homeless and vulnerable will continue. Whilst it may have seemed that our response to the Covid restrictions was to move our operations to more outreach and less centre-based activities, in fact that has been coincidental, as it is a direction we had always intended, though perhaps on a different timescale.

We will be doing some of the centre-based engagements; Alpha, life skills courses etc from Revive shortly. The main changes in our activities, in addition is to taking aid (care, food and clothes) out to where the need is; is to do more to help people towards a self-sustaining lifestyle. The Coffee Shop is one instance of that and we are investigating another possibility at the moment. These initiatives have the unanimous backing of the Trustees.

AGM

In previous years we have held an AGM in November. At present preparations for that are not complete for a variety of reasons so that the date for the AGM cannot yet be confirmed. Once we are ready, we will circulate details of what will probably be an online meeting. Having re-visited our Articles of Association (our "Constitution") and the guidance on AGMs from the Charity Commission, the GCM AGM will be conducted as a business meeting focussed on good stewardship of the finances entrusted to us.

Reverend Nicholas Gleich, Chair GCM

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

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;
- -Families with children struggling to make ends meet especially at this time with the demands of Halloween and Christmas fast approaching.

DONATIONS

Please could donations be brought to Revive or Restore.

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)

WE ARE SORRY BUT WE ARE UNABLE DUVETS, TOWELS, BLANKETS OR PILLOWS

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.

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

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



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



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 is quick, free and easy to and will the quickest way for that person to be offered support.

Our Staff Team

Kevin Howie - Manager kevin@gloscitymission.org.uk Sue Dalton - Administrator admin@gloscitymission.org.uk Paula Keeper - Project Worker (Outreach) paula@gloscitymission.org.uk Louise Mackenzie - Project Worker (Catering) louise@gloscitymission.org.uk Elaine Mather - Project Worker (Restore and Volunteers) elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk Karen Williams - Revive Coffee House Supervisor Jayne Brett - Revive Coffee House Staff

Darren Bennett - Revive Coffee House Staff

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









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