OCTOBER 2019 | VOL. 33



Helping the homeless and vulnerable in our city

Manager's report

Since our last newsletter I am pleased to announce our newest and youngest volunteer Sophia Ann Kinghorn has arrived, kitted out and ready to help! Thanks for all the prayers, well wishes

and cards. Everyone is doing well although I am sure my wife would like some more sleep! It has been very exciting to have been involved in the development of an event to mark world homeless day on October 10th with Gloucester Rugby Community Charity team. Having high profile partners always helps to shine more light on an issue, so big thanks to them for working with us. The event itself is split into 3 parts, a school's workshop in the morning from 10 till 12 looking at causes of homelessness and challenging



stereotypes as well as getting young people to think about choices and life routes through an interactive game. The second part of the day is a marketplace networking event aimed at providers and staff who work on the front line with those who are homeless or vulnerable and people with mental health issues. There will be stands and plenty of information floating around and a chance for organisations to hear about the great work that goes on in Gloucester. The third part of the day is a sleep out in the Shed at Kingsholm stadium. Spaces can be booked through the Gloucester Rugby website under events for £10 and the challenge is the raise £100, no worries if

you don't you will still be allowed in!

It is with sadness that one of our volunteers Penny Ward, passed away recently, please be praying for Colin and the family at this time. Also with sadness to report that Dennis Shaw (Dynamo Dennis) has also passed away, again please be praying for Dennis's family.

Dennis and Penny have been amazing servants to Jesus and GCM and they will be missed. It is hard for our volunteers when

those we have been working and volunteering alongside pass away, there are some great bonds forged in the service of Jesus and the importance of prayer is incredible. I spoke recently at a church about improving our serve, this had nothing to do with Rafa Nadal, but more to do with how we serve others and how we are called to be the light of Christ.

How our Christian witness shines in a dark world, we have opportunities to serve wherever we are, at school, at work, in church at home out with friends. I firmly believe that the mission gives that chance for your light to shine.

There are so many opportunities and we are pleased to say we now have a part time volunteer coordinator so if you are interested in volunteering please drop her an email at elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk

Dave Kinghorn

GCM AGM
THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
7.30pm
at the GEORGE WHITEFIELD
CENTRE
All welcome

Our Staff Team continues to grow:Dave Kinghorn - Centre Manager
Sue Dalton - Administrator
Paula Keeper - Project Worker
Louise MacKenzie - Project Worker
Elaine Mather - Volunteer Coordinator
Kevin Howie - Fundraising Coordinator

To contact a member of staff please email 'firstname'@gloscitymission.org.uk or admin@gloscitymission.org.uk

If you use Amazon for your shopping (especially Christmas Shopping) then you can support us directly by registering for free with Smile Amazon - www.smile.amazon.co.uk We will receive a donation for everything that you spend



The Alpha course is running well so far with some of the clients attending. This is a great opportunity for us to spread the gospel and offer hope and love to the group. Many thanks to the staff and volunteers who are running the course. Please pray for the participants and the team.

Hopefully you have seen us out and about over You may spot Ade Jones driving around in his the past few months. We had an excellent spot at this year's Gloucester Day again and were able to seek shelter in our new gazebo.

We are grateful to Asda Gloucester for our new links that have enabled us to have a couple of collection days so far and another one scheduled for November.

We have been selected as the Eastgate Shopping Centre's Charity of the Year which is allowing us to share information through this prime location in the city centre and will enable us to have a very prominent presence there over the Christmas Period - watch this space!!

souped up van which has had a slight makeover. If you see him please beep or wave at him.











This year's Survive the Night Event is slightly different to previous years. We have been encouraging companies, schools, churches and organisations to get people to sleep out for the night of 10th October (World Homeless Day)

We have also partnered with Gloucester Rugby to LAST NIGHT? run Try Out the Night in the Shed on the same night. If you can't make that night please let us know if you would like to organise a sleep out as a fundraiser for us.

To mark World Homeless Day and World Mental Health Day we have also organised a Schools Event at Kingsholm Stadium and a networking event for local charities and organisations working with the homeless and vulnerable to have a platform to show people what their work is about. This free event will run from 2-4.30, please pop in to the stadium if you are interested.



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









Huge congratulations to Kev Mannion from Gloucester Rugby Academy. We nominated him for the Local Business Charity Award for the work he has been leading with us over the past few years and we were delighted to attend the Awards Night with him where it was announced that he was this year's winner.



STREET VETS

For the past 6 months we have partnered with the Street Vets. Every Friday morning Tim and his team come to the centre for a weekly drop in clinic for our pet owners. Together with treating any health problems, the team are able to provide the pets with food, vaccinations, flea & worm preventions, leads, coats and of course lots of attention and cuddles! Streevet Gloucester also outreaches with weekend evenings with Project Beacon.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Each year we run a Christmas carol concert for our street friends where we also distribute Christmas hampers. If you would like to help GCM with its Christmas hamper project you can put together your own hamper based on the following suggestions or donate individual items:

- Strong plastic carrier bag
- Food/drink: mince pies, cake, chocolates, sweets, small jar of coffee, drinking chocolate, packet soup, small packet of sugar, Pot Noodles
- Toiletries: soap, flannel, deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream, razors
- Clothing: gloves, scarf, hat, socks
- A Christmas cracker
- Suitable Christian literature
- A Christmas card from yourself / house group / Church

No nuts please, also no tangerines/oranges due to the difficulty in distributing them while still fresh.

This year our 'Street' Carol Service will be held on December 18th at 11am.

We would appreciate any contributions toward the hampers by Friday the 13th of December at the very latest please.

SPONSOR A BED APPEAL

Keep an eye out for information about this year's Sponsor a Bed Appeal for the Winter Shelter. Last year this raised over £11,000.

Please sponsor a bed for a night for £25. Full details will be publicised at the start of November Do you have any antiques; collectibles; old coins; silver/gold items or musical instruments that you would be willing to donate or sell. Ebay and Facebook are great sites to sell things on for charities. Please contact kevin@gloscitymission.org.uk for more info.

TEAM GCM SKYDIVERS





Ade Jones, Beth Allen-Jones, Ellie Taitt and Chase Ridler did a charity sky dive to raise money for us and raised an amazing £4000. Thank you so much to them all for doing it.

Ade said - ' It was a fantastic experience. I lost count of the number of times that I said 'Awesome' on the way down. Everyone was really supportive. I wasn't really nervous in the week leading up to the jump or even during the training as it was something that I had always wanted to do. As we sat on the side of the plane the instructor asked me to look up at his camera and then we were away. It was such an amazing experience that my wife Holly encouraged me to book to jump again!'

Thank you to everyone who sponsored the team and to those who were praying for them

If you would like to do something to help with our fundraising please get in touch. We have places in next year's London 10K if anyone is keen to take part.

Donations Needed

We could really do with help with donations of the following items;

Small tents
Sleeping Bags
Raincoats
Rucksacks
Body wash
Joggers - S, M, L
Mens' Boxer shorts
Ladies briefs
Shaving gel
Mens' & Ladies' Spray
Deodorant
Trainers
Hats, gloves, scarves
Jumpers/Hoodies

Please could donations be dropped off at The George Whitefield Centre, Great Western Rd. GL1 3NF We are open M-F 9 - 4.30



www.gloscitymission.org.uk
Find us at The George Whitefield Centre, 107 Great Western Road,
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