

# PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL TEAM

## REPORT TO THE ST MARY'S CHURCH CONGREGATION

AGM 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018

Team members : Zoe Malyon, Pam Dexter, Alex Humphries, Adam Heeley, Jimmy Young (team leader)

- Jimmy reports no team meetings held in 2017

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### Objectives for 2017/18

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- **Plan 2019 Year of Mission – inc prayer, programme details, booking speakers & venues etc**
  - **Flower festival enhanced with prayer exercises**
  - **Welcome Teas held and Pilgrim Groups recruited/resourced**
  - Not pursued, as diocese have announced 2019 as the “Year of Vocations” instead
  - Planning for Flower Festival to be a larger Festival of Faith every few years
  - 2 Welcome Teas held plus 3 “Pilgrim” Course groups for enquirers & newcomers
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### Objectives for the Year 2018/19

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- **Plan 2019 Year of Mission – inc prayer, programme details, booking speakers & venues etc**
  - **Flower festival enhanced with prayer exercises**
  - **Welcome Teas held and Pilgrim Groups recruited/resourced**
  - Not to be pursued, as diocese have announced 2019 as the “Year of Vocations” instead
  - Consider & present alternative priorities to DCC for taking our evangelism forward
  - Planning for Flower Festival to be a larger Festival of Faith every few years
  - Continue to hold Welcome Teas plus “Pilgrim” Course groups for enquirers & newcomers
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## Comments on other areas that the team oversees

- ***Baptism Visitors***

Many thanks to this team who are “front-line missionaries” on behalf of St. Mary’s, and for which the Vicar would welcome further members. They have helped provide our now established four step Baptism preparation process, including the “First Steps” session run by the clergy.

- ***Horsham Churches Together***

Many thanks to our HCT representatives Becky Lickiss, Maureen Muggleton and Jimmy Young. Brenda Large has also served on the Executive of Horsham Matters, which makes a significant contribution to the ministry of the Church in our town – and which needs our support at the moment, after a poor trading year. With the active contribution and leadership of our members HCT has for a fifth winter seen through to fruition its plans for the Homeless Shelter (of which more details are elsewhere in these reports).

- ***Midweek Church Welcomers***

Warmest thanks to Terry Brinkworth once again for all his sterling work as coordinator, who has done a grand job of looking after the team of faithful volunteers who turn out in all weathers, to add such an important dimension to our welcome ministry at St. Mary’s.

- ***TGI Friday Report 2017/2018***

The last 12 months at TGIF have been fantastic; I hope the following report gives you an insight into what we’ve been getting up to! Matt Lee (St Mary’s Student Youth Worker) has continued to lead the club alongside a fabulous team of volunteers. Matt is indebted to Judi Cox who has worked alongside Matt this year, as he comes into the final year of his training. As a team, we’re beginning to think about what’s next for TGIF.

TGIF continues to be a ‘Faces to Friendships’ club. A club with huge opportunity for Young People to come, and bring their friends in order that we, the leaders and crew can give them all a sense of front line church. A place where they can feel they belong, are loved and cared for. Out of this club, it also enables us to create a space where we can encourage/introduce the idea of exploring Faith, potentially allowing a shift from ‘Friendship to Faith’ for those who come. This is regularly done through invitations to Café Connect, Youth Alpha courses, May Camp and Soul Survivor, as well as weekends away for the club (perhaps) in the future?

In the last year we’ve had a good core group of young people attending TGIF which we are building on each week. It is always a privilege to get to know individuals, build relationships, and support, and enjoy each other’s company. We decided as a team that we would welcome year 6’s to attend TGIF in January 2018 this year, to allow a great group of year 7-9’s bond together before they built relationships with the younger youth who will join them at secondary school in September!

There continues to be regular activities of basketball, sumo wrestling, origami, baking, crafts, blanket volleyball, football, and table games. We also continue to run quizzes, cooking, bingo, karaoke, and Wii, along with many others. Our members are always keen to do trips out - Most recently, we borrowed the Holy Trinity School Minibus and went to Flip Out (Trampoline Park) in Chichester, and they loved it! We also hosted a fundraising

sleep over in the church to support the work of the local YMCA who work alongside homeless young people.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support for this exciting outreach club! Please keep praying! This club continues to be a great opportunity to reach out into the community ourselves, but it also enables our young people to do the same!

Lastly, a huge thank you to the volunteers who give their time and talents to young people through this club – We appreciate every time you've baked cheesy straws, played Ga Ga ball, showed us your moves on Just Dance and invested in the lives of young people.

**Matt Lee, Judi Cox & our amazing Volunteers & Crew February 2018**

