

Christian Arts Group 2019 – Belinda Shaw (Life Church)

The Christian Arts group has been in existence for more than four years now and in that time it has gone from strength to strength. The number and variety of workshops have grown to include not only drawing/painting, pottery and glass fused work but has now expanded with the introduction of different types of textiles work and sculpture.

The Arts group has over the past two years been involved in running a once a term Art Worship meeting at Life church taking some of the Art and Craft activities into the church body to enable them to discover the creativity that God has placed within them. These have created a time of fellowship, fun and uplifting.

2019 also saw the first serious art exhibition of some of the Christian Arts group and friends (other local artists), at the Garden room at the Physic Garden in Petersfield. This was a great success with lots of interested visitors including some of the organisers from PACs.

2020 will see not only the summer exhibition at the Physic Garden but also a winter exhibition. We are hoping to attract many more visitors and who knows add to our number.

The Art/Craft people who attend the workshops come for a variety of reasons and find a welcome, a real sense of peace and an atmosphere of Creativity. They have been able to learn new skills, develop and expand existing ones and meet with God. We often have a short time of pray if there is a need. God called us to be Creative beings that is why He breathed His Creative Spirit into us. And He continues to bless this ministry.

Please do visit our website – Christian-art.net to find out more.

Report for P.A.C.T. AGM

Christmas Day Lunch 2019

Finances

Expenses

Phone top up	£10
Hall hire	£100
Hall deposit	£100 (refundable)
food	<u>£453.71</u>
total	£663.71

Income

donation south harting URC	£200
donation anon	£50
donation (can't make out handwriting)	<u>£7</u>
total	£257

Totals

income	£257
expenses (not including deposit)	<u>£563.71</u>
overspent by	£306.71

Donations from guests on the day for Kings Arms young carers £85.50

Other donations

Table decorations – penny Callaghan
table coverings – salvation Army
Loan of projector – Linda Read
Transport (various)
Minibus (one way) – Paid for by Mark and Rhona Allin
soft drinks – various churches
Mince pies – various churches
large cakes – premier foods
crackers – from donated ones from previous years
serviettes – K. Wigley
gift boxes – Petersfield post
gift bags – K. Wigley
gift bag contents – from various (some of which purchased from donated gift vouchers from money barn
Barns and Mackarness and Lunt solicitors)
decorations – various
trees – Green team interiors
photography- Michael Claydon
take away containers for lunch deliveries – from gift vouchers donated by money barn
Gift for Soshana who entertained guests – from gift vouchers donated by money barn
frozen roast potatoes - Tesco
Christmas puddings – anon donation

On the day dinners were delivered to the Ambulance station for all who were working Christmas day. One dinner was taken out to a gentleman that was working alone on Christmas day. 56 guests dined with us and myself and 33 other volunteers helped to make the day run smoothly (some volunteers ate with us) at the very end a family (organised through St Lawrence RC church) came in and helped with the tidy up, which was by far the quickest and easiest in the years I have been co-ordinating. Any gifts and food left over was taken to Portsmouth to be given to homeless people on the evening of Christmas day.

There was a double page spread in the Petersfield post, (sadly not all the information they gave was correct, I shall be asking them to print a correction)

Sadly due to many reasons I (Katie Wigley) shall be stepping down from the Christmas Day Lunch and as such a replacement co-ordinator shall need to be sourced. We also need other committee members from more churches it is not a major commitment, 1 meeting in July and then one a month from September to December, it is vital we have a representative from each church to communicate with the churches as to how the congregations may help support us in making the day a success!

As it stands the first Meeting of this year is provisionally booked for 17.30 on the 17th July 2020, we would hope to have the new committee in place for this meeting.

PACT FOOD BANK - 2019

1. Overview

A busy year which has seen increases in all areas of our volunteer work; more referrals, more donations, more fresh food vouchers and more visits to schools and churches explaining our reason for being and our need for more donations.

We have received both food and funding from an increasing number of residents, too many to mention individually but the number of schools has also increased this year – Bedales including Dunannie, Froxfield, Herne, Petersfield Infants, Ditcham Park (Christmas tree made of cans) and Buriton Primary.

Pact Churches continue to collect food donations on regular basis and in addition we have received funding from St Peters, St Mary's Buriton, St Laurence (Youth) and West Meon PCC. In particular this year a joint effort from Froxfield Primary School and the PACT Church with their Reverse Advent Calendar initiative which received such a tremendous response has made a significant difference to our stocks.

We have recently increased the value of the Fresh Food vouchers for families from £5.00 to £10.00 for the Fruit & Vegetables and Bread and Cheese & Eggs and will continue this during 2020. Also during 2020 will be investigating further the use of the new storage unit recently installed at the rear of the Salvation Army Hall which we believe requires insulating and, of course, shelving. These items, whether if one or both are required, will be at our expense so will not impact further upon the Salvation Army.

We thank all those who have given their time and made donations of both food & toiletries and funding that enable us to continue to support those in need in our neighbourhood and we look forward to continuing this vital work in the community during 2020.

2. Finance

Bank account as at 5th December 2019	£9,329.18
Cash in Hand as at 28th December 2019	£ 289.57

Major Donations – to 5th December 2019

Petersfield Lions	£ 500.00
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Fund (HIWCF)	£1,000.00
Petersfield & Sheet Residents in Need (PASRIN)	£ 850.00
PACT Churches	£1,082.21
Regular Monthly Donations	£ 812.50

Major Expenditure to 28th December 2019

Bryant Bros - Fresh Fruit & Vegetables	£ 965.00	+ 30%
Clownes – Bread, Cheese & Eggs	£ 920.00	+ 12%

Total Referrals to 30 November 2019	279	+ 58%
Number of Adults Supported	426	+ 56%
Number of Children Supported	172	+ 65%
Total number of Adults & Children	598	+ 59%

3. Management Committee as at 31 December 2019

Chair	Marion Voller – Terry Doubleday from October
Treasurer	Terry Doubleday
Secretary	Sue Jupp
Volunteer Rotas	David Barton
Stock	Audrey Hollingbery
Referral Agencies	Marion Voller – Elaine Knox from October
Donation Sites	Danielle Balmforth
Training	Vanessa Dowse
Support	Colin Tilley

4. Volunteers

There are currently 56 Volunteers on the Shift Rota who give their time in 2 hour sessions at the Petersfield Methodist Church on Monday and Wednesday mornings between 10:00 and 12:00 noon to sort, label and stack the food donations and make up the various size food bags for distribution. Also, on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 09:30 and 11:30 at the Salvation Army Hall to distribute the food bags to those in need.

PACT HOLIDAY CLUB 2019

PACT Holiday Club tried a different approach this year, running on four Fridays at St. Peter's Church.

Each Friday we started with Praise and Worship in St. Peter's Church, with music from our excellent band and a brief talk by a leader of one of the local churches. These sessions are so valuable as they give the children songs to sing (many with actions) and a lesson at a child-friendly level.

Children aged 8 and under then went (with their parents or carers) to St. Peter's Hall for a morning of arts and crafts, snacks and playtime. The arts and crafts are themed to support the daily message.

Juniors, aged 9-11, went with separate leaders and tried a variety of activities, including the very popular tours of the bell tower, crocheting, games and arts and crafts projects.

The price was greatly reduced from previous years for these mornings, only £1 per day for younger children and £2 per day for the older ones.

Attendance was much lower than in previous years, for a variety of reasons. However, the people who attended it enjoyed it very much.

As always, it is only due to the generosity of volunteers that we have been able to put on this provision. We gratefully thank the 31 volunteers and the ministers who gave graciously of their time and talents to allow Holiday Club to happen this year.

So now the question is, does Holiday Club continue? If it does, should it be in the new format or something larger? In either case, a leadership team needs to be formed to share the workload before, during and after the week. Please let me know what you think and if you can offer to volunteer some of your time and talent to make this happen again – email me at pactholidayclub@outlook.com

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Home-Start Butser report 2019

Last year we celebrated our 20th year, a special anniversary, but having **now turned 21** it feels just as important, and equally a cause for celebration.

And what a year it has been with probably more change than the scheme has experienced since we first began. We have **four incredible new members of staff** with huge capacity and commitment far beyond their part time hours, I feel truly blessed.

Amazing - **we now have a bank of 75 volunteers**, our largest number ever with a high retention rate. The volunteers continue to be the most valuable resource we have, this year we ran two Preparation Courses and within days all the volunteers were matched with local families. We have just completed our autumn course with 11 fantastic volunteers.

Our 5-year goal is to increase the **number of families we support by 20**, last year we increased the number of families we supported by **14% from 76 to 87**. If we carry on at this rate we will have exceeded our 5 year target in 2 years.

One of the greatest challenges we now face is to continue to attract the resources to do this. It feels more vital than ever before.

Last year we were very successful in attracting funds through the **Big Give Christmas Challenge Match Campaign - over £23,000** to support families struggling with mental health issues, and how needed that funding is. This year we have reached our target of £24,000 to enable us to continue our work supporting local families.

Day after day we are helping an increasing number of parents with complex mental health issues some so extreme that tragically lives are at risk bringing inevitable consequences for the children.

Neither the **staff or volunteers are mental health professionals** but what they offer in terms of consistent, non-judgemental love and care is vital to the journey back to wellness. By working in partnership with agencies we can do so much more, but often there just doesn't to be the capacity.

We are thrilled to have added to our range of support a **ten week Parenting Course** which ran from October to December. Our goal is to help parents to understand many of the challenges of parenting in a positive, non-judgmental setting, strengthening parents' capacity and ability to give their children the best possible start in life.

The number of young parents we support has increased and with gentle encouragement we have attracted some of them to attend the **Family Groups** offering the opportunity to meet other parents and gain confidence. A particular favourite was a 4-week Baby

Massage course that helped both parent and child to relax. We look forward to putting on other courses such as **Makaton signing for babies**.

Our school readiness project Ready Steady Learn, is now embedded within the scheme with 3 year funding from Children in Need to support a new post. Throughout the summer a **6 week course ran in the Clanfield Memorial Hall**.

Let's not forget that **the trustees are also volunteers** and are **hidden heroes**, overseeing the running and governance of the scheme with such a range of talents it is no wonder that we continue to go from strength to strength.

As ever I would like to thank all of you that make Home-Start Butser what it is, helping to support our local families with young children, ensuring **a healthier, happier, community for all**.

Report for PACT AGM

15th January 2020



It has been a full and busy year for IMC and we continue to be hugely grateful to all our supporters and the particular support and close relationship we have with churches in Petersfield.

We have continued furthering the aims of the charity which are to raise funds to send to IMiC – the foundation in Colombia that carries out direct work with vulnerable children and families. The workers in Colombia provide holistic support to children and families by helping financially, with nutrition, education, parenting, emotional help, and sharing the gospel.

Here in the UK, we try to keep the monthly transfers at a stable amount to enable the Colombian team to budget and plan. Thanks to administrative support provided by the Life Church Office, overheads are minimal and around 95% of donations go directly out to Colombia. As well as the essential regular donations, we rely on one off events and other fundraising. July saw the annual “fun day” in Rams Walk which would not be possible without the faithful volunteers most of which are from Life Church Petersfield, so huge thanks to them. Other events included a fabulous BBQ generously hosted by Robin & Lesina Ashfield in Steep for the 3rd year running (September), a Latin dance evening in Bristol, and a Christmas shopping event in the Winchester area. Regular schemes such as jam selling and card selling have continued to raise funds and we are extremely grateful to those individuals and their customers!

2019 also saw the relaunch of our new website, which was in much need of a revamp. Please do check it out (www.inministrytochildren.org)

In Colombia, the two feeding programmes or “community dining rooms” in Fusagaluga (near Bogotá), and the project in central Bogotá continues to thrive providing a safe place for children experiencing poverty and difficult family circumstances to come daily after school for a hot meal, help with studies and spiritual and emotional support. IMiC workers come alongside families at greatest need to support them materially, financially, emotionally and spiritually. Outreach events such as parenting workshops, dental clinics and camps at La Granja Peniel farm take place regularly. The essential support from IMiC workers enables families to stay together and survive.

IMiC has also continued to work in the La Guajira region, in the north of the country on the coast, which is a newer area of work for us, starting around 4 years ago. The indigenous Wayuu people who live there suffer extreme poverty and chronic malnutrition. Off the government radar, they lack even basic services and severe drought in recent years has left them desperate. Focusing on a particular settlement called El Brasil, IMiC has been providing food parcels and last year work was completed on a new school building (the previous one was destroyed in the civil war). IMiC raised funds for this primarily through a partnership with Essex based roofing company A2O. It has been so fabulous to see photos of the children smiling in their brand new school room when previously they were using a very basic shelter which was not fit for purpose – see our website for before and after photos.

Thank you all for your faithful support of IMC. Please pray for us that we will have God at the centre of all we do, that as the board we will have wisdom and discernment, and that God will provide the opportunities, individuals and funds to enable the work to continue in accordance with His will.

Laura Hauer

On behalf of the board of trustees

King's Arms report

As we embark on our twentieth year of service to young people and their parents in this area of Hampshire, thank you is not enough! To the hundreds of volunteers, to the staff and in particular to the wider community, you have all shown such generosity and have ensured this amazing project will continue to affect our town.

Alongside our work in local schools and at our home in the Courtyard building in the Festival Hall car park we have been approached by our friends in Alton to bring a King's Arms project into their community. We were asked to present our vision to the Town Council and traced the development of the King's Arms from its conception. They were very impressed and urged us to help them set up their own project. They recognised the quality of youth work in the Petersfield area and the astonishing community ownership and involvement. Much more will be reported as this new venture develops.

In Petersfield we have been concerned for some time to locate and secure a permanent home for KA. I am so grateful for volunteer experts who have stepped in with their professional expertise to move this forward. With our current lease set to expire in August 2020 we need to urgently address this issue. If you are able to view our accounts, you will see we have been given a huge fund in order to realise this dream for our own home. These gifts, which have been given in trust by visionary people, have enabled us to pursue a suitable home for the project. Staff and Trustees are amazed at this level of trust and passion, which ensures continued investment in young people in this town.

I have been involved in youth work since I was 17 when, with others, I set up and ran a small club which in turn helped me so much through my teenage years. I qualified as a teacher and as a youth worker in 1974, but I have never been involved in or witnessed such a comprehensive, enthusiastic and remarkable youth work as the one I have the privilege to be part of now. Maybe you could raise a few pounds, give a few hours, talk about KA to others, recommend friends to check us out or serve on the trustees, we would appreciate it. Your involvement will ensure we can continue to work towards changed outcomes for hundreds or even thousands of young people. The ripple effect will also touch parents, grandparents and whole families and this entire community.

Please go to our website to volunteer, make a donation or find out more.

John Callaghan

Knit and Knatter 2019 – Belinda Shaw (Life Church)

I took over the helm at the Knit and Knatter group over a year ago from Sandra Coombes who had successfully established and run the group for several years, attracting a good number of like minded ladies who regularly participated in the knitting of items of knitwear for a variety of local charities. This enterprising group used their skills to bless others.

Knit and Knatter has continued to thrive and though the numbers of charities knitted for has because fewer, it still attracts many ladies who come along for the fellowship and chat over a cup of coffee and biscuits. On an average evening we can have as many as sixteen even on a cold winter's night.

We have strong links with SEND prison whose knitters contribute all manner of knitted and crocheted items for distribution. This year we have been able to send knitted blankets to Africa and to refugee organisations, knitted heart shaped cushions to Cancer Care, small knitted toys and clothes to the Prem baby unit at QA and crocheted blankets to the RSPCA.

WE continue to meet once a month at the Leisure centre on Herne Farm from 7pm. The first session this year is on Wednesday 15th January. Please come and visit us and don't forget your knitting.



Petersfield Christian Men's Group

The men of Life Church have been meeting together each month since September 2017. From October 2018 we have invited men from all the local churches to join us and have therefore renamed the group: Petersfield Christian Men's Group.

The aims of the meetings are to develop friendship, fellowship, trust and to encouragement each other.

We currently meet at **7:00 pm** in **The Salvation Army Hall** on the **second Monday of the month** and after a takeaway meal (Fish or Pie and Chips, Curry, Chinese or Pizza) we have been blessed by a range of speakers who have brought messages of encouragement and calls to action.

In the summer months we operate a different programme:

- **June:** a meal in a restaurant in Petersfield followed by a Prayer Walk around the town
- **July:** for the last two years we have done the cooking for the King's Arms barbecue at Queen Elizabeth Country Park
- **August:** we take our ladies out for a meal

The cost of the meal, which includes a fruit drink and fresh fruit, is £10.00 - payable in cash on the night.

We aim to finish by about 9:00 pm.

To find out more (including food choices for the next meeting!) please take a look at our web site: **www.lcpmg.org.uk** where you will find a summary of the meetings that we've had so far, our plans for the future and current news.

If you would like to join us please send an email with your choice of food for the next meeting to John Studd at: **John@Studd-mail.org**.

Steering Committee: Jonathan Walker - John Ide - John Studd

Messy Church in Petersfield 2019 report

With Emma training we weren't at all sure that we would manage to run any Messy Church sessions during 2019.

But we managed to run 2 sessions – we had a 3rd planned but decided that it was too near the end of the summer school term which is always so busy for the children and their families.

Not huge numbers but the families who did come in February and April were certainly those who needed time to catch up with others during the busy holiday periods.

We will be starting back in April 2020 and held a Messy Christingle on Sunday 12th January.

We hope to maintain much the same pattern, but we do need to recruit some new cooks and kitchen crew!



Annual Report for the PACT Web Site 2019

The PACT web site was launched at Pentecost in 2009 and has notified people of future events and provided reports of past events.

With the Internet able to provide an enormous amount of storage the web site has grown bigger and bigger – currently on file there are:

- 739 web pages
- 468 images (logos, banners etc)
- 668 Faith Comment articles
- 429 PDF (Portable Document Format) files
- 2,306 Photographs

Much of this is no longer of current interest and I am currently undertaking a tidy up process, which will slim down the active web site whilst leaving older material still available in archives.

A key feature of the web site has been the Email Group - visitors to the site are invited to join one or more of the 40 email groups featured on the site. Then, whenever an event is planned, or when there is something to report on an event that has taken place, you will receive an email which contains a link to that event or report.

Recent legislation, notably the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has severely limited the number of emails sent out to the email groups. I am, however, hoping that more people will subscribe to emails, which will enable me to keep more people informed of activities planned or taken place.