



TBC's Frontline Missionaries – Volunteer/Charity Roles

Hi my name is Mary Groves. I have been worshipping at TBC for roughly 22 years. At present I happily do some voluntary work within the Church setting. But since retiring from my job as a professional counsellor I have been exploring how to be more effective within our local community.

Roughly two years ago I heard about the charity Phase, which mentors students in The Castle School and the local Sixth Form. They provide comprehensive training for any new Mentor, which I really enjoyed. There are top up courses and meetings where we can share best practice.



Students are referred to Phase and then linked with a Mentor who is felt to be a good fit for them.

They can be struggling with a number of issues, not always related directly with education but more often friends and family life. I am often struck with their willingness to be honest and vulnerable to a complete stranger.

I have to say at this point that I love what I do, and feel its a real privilege to be able to encourage young people at this confusing time in their lives and where so much is expected from them. As I talk to them, I often find myself praying that God will give me the words to meet their needs.

Please pray for:

- students within our local schools, their teachers and support workers.
- the wonderful work of Phase and all those who volunteer in numerous ways to help young people navigate their life choices.

TBC Mission Projects

Attic Cafe has been a huge success this winter season - filled with quizzes, 4-square, karaoke, campfires, and a lot of hot chocolate. It's a safe and fun place for youth to come and spend time with each other and completely relax (unless we're playing dodgeball). It seems each week somebody asks if they can bring a friend along. Believe it or not, I've heard a few whispers that it might even be a weekly highlight for some of them.

My favourite part of the evening is when we sit soft, circling the sofas for a weekly discussion. I'm encouraged to see such strong friendships developing and minimal phone use in our sessions ...unless BeReal strikes.

Recently, we took turns sharing our favourite childhood memory, sparked by my 2 year-old Jesse laughing at me while I pretended to get my arm caught in a door. In that moment, I remembered how much I use to laugh at my Mom doing the exact same thing. I loved listening to the youth share their stories.

Check out the new short promo of a recent Attic and Basement evening on TBC's website: <https://tinyurl.com/msskue29>

Please pray for:

- our youth to develop a God-inspired vision for who they are and who they want to become.
- new youth leaders. Our Attic group is growing, and we need leaders who want to give our youth loads of love and attention.

Local/UK Partners

Nik and Tiff got married in 1997 and until recently lived incarnationally, serving and blessing local young people and their families living on the North Bransholme estate. Bransholme is one of Hull's most isolated estates with extreme poverty and high unemployment. Nik worked as our church youth worker in central Bransholme for nine years but increasingly felt called to support North Bransholme's young people. In 2007 we set up our own youth work charity 'Bridges Hull' to bridge the gaps in the lives of the young people in terms of faith, education, aspirations, life skills and social skills.

Currently we are simply offering youth club's and one to one support.

Bethany our daughter has just turned 18.

We have also fostered local teenagers in our home since 1999 and Alfie aged 18 lives with us.

Prayer Points:

- We are planning for the next academic year of club's and activities.
- Tiffs dad aged 90 lives with us and struggles with dementia.
- Beth is making plans for University primary school teaching.
- Alfie starts year 2 Public services at college.

Project Possible works with local churches and Christian organisations in countries across the world, supporting children's homes, street children, hospitals and clinics, young men with addiction problems, exploited women and much more. They also fund and mentor small groups of men and women who wish to set up their own businesses. (Sparks projects)

Please pray:

- for the Sparks projects below, which were partially funded by the proceeds from the TBC craft fair. They all make it possible for women to become independent and support their families. Please pray for the remaining funding to come in so that their projects can be launched.
- in Uganda the Fair trading Farmers of Soroti are determined to combine their farming and trading knowledge to earn their living and continue sending their children to school.
- in Kinshasa, DR Congo, previously exploited women have learnt sewing skills and are eager to open their own shops.
- in El Alto, Bolivia, previously exploited women are keen to grow their business baking and making bags. They will receive training in marketing their products.

Each week we run 2 outreach youth groups (Basement & Attic) and 2 discipleship groups (Wonder & Waves) for those in year 7-9 and year 10-13. Once a month we also run a 'Worship Night' for all those in year 7-13! This term has been full of fun activities and lots of hot chocolate! We've loved taking the time within our discipleship groups to reflect on various themes from 'The Chosen', spend time hearing from God and journaling together.

Please pray:

- for all the young people who attend our outreach youth groups, pray that they would feel completely loved and accepted in these spaces. Pray for those who are struggling with mental health and difficult home situations that they would feel surrounded by peace and that the youth groups would be a safe space to talk.
- Thank God for all those who serve on our youth teams, pray God's blessing on them as they lead, serve, and encourage the young people, pray for an increased awareness of God's presence and guidance as they lead.
- Thank God for all he is doing within the discipleship groups and for our monthly worship nights, pray that they would continue to be a space in which young people meet with God and grow in faith together.

Healing & Comfort

Please pray for:

- All those affected by the war in Ukraine
- All those known to us who are unwell with Covid
- All those families who have arrived here from the Ukraine as well as the hosts who will support them
- Cher, now at home on dialysis
- Graham Ogborne
- David Phipps
- Caroline Finney
- Ruth Collett
- Wendy Titterton
- Gloria Hammond
- Heather Woodward
- Micky and Roger Flight
- John Shackford
- Helen Harrison

Please note that this prayer list, and any other prayer needs mentioned in Connect are for sharing within this church fellowship. Details of the people mentioned must not be circulated or republished on social media.

If you are concerned about someone who needs care or support, contact Paul Ferguson -

paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk



World Events

Please pray for:

- The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia.
- Those families and individuals struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.
- The recent train tragedy in Greece.

Renewal

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

– Romans 12:2

‘My glory is ever new with me,
And my bow is renewed in my hand.’

– Job 29:20

Allow God’s grace to fill your life this season as we celebrate what He gave us and what He provides us with daily. May this time with friends and family renew your souls and build stronger relationships in Christ.

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