

The General Public who frequent the Cafe are very important to us, especially those who come in with the very purpose of supporting our work. Their buying of meals, snacks and drinks on a regular basis enables us to give a free meal to an offender



when they come out of prison, and also to give them the necessary support as they get back on their feet. As you may have seen on the News, getting back on your feet when you come out of prison is very difficult, with very little help and we are grateful to all our supporters who enable us to do this work.

Kath Holmes, (Prison Chaplaincy, GMCC volunteer befriender)

### February marks the 20 Year anniversary of GMCC

**We are blessed to have so many supporters, volunteers and partners who have helped us throughout the years.**

**We are so grateful to you all, no matter how big or small your contribution and hope this continues for many more years.**

**We would not be able to provide as much support as we do to prisoners and ex offenders in the community without your help.**

**Thank you all**

Contact us at: GMCC Methodist Central Buildings Oldham Street M1 1JQ

Telephone: 0161 236 2462 Email: [chaplain@gmcconline.org](mailto:chaplain@gmcconline.org)

Please make cheques payable to: **GM Prison Prayer**  
and state if you would like to **Gift Aid it**

**Check out our Facebook Page or [www.gmccsupport.org](http://www.gmccsupport.org)**

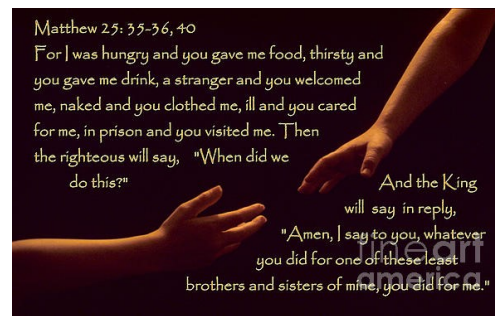
**HMP MANCHESTER; HMP FOREST BANK; HMP BUCKLEY HALL;  
HMP & YOI STYAL; HMP YOI THORN CROSS & HMP HINDLEY**

**GREATER MANCHESTER COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY**

**PRISON PRAYER LETTER, FEBRUARY 2024**

In my last letter for this Newsletter I spoke about the Chaplaincy work which I do in HMP Manchester, (Strangeways); and the way I have had the pleasure of welcoming ex-offenders, and the newly-released, into our Cafe, here at the Methodist Central Hall in Manchester.

Our contacts, however, are not restricted to the Manchester Area, or even to Manchester Prisons.



We were approached recently by a gentleman whose son was in a prison in another part of the country but would be returning to the Manchester area on weekend-release, (prior to his actual release). At the request of this man we contacted his son and set up a correspondence with him:

the result being that when he was released for a period of time, and came up to Manchester to visit his Dad, we were able to welcome him into the Cafe, befriend him, exchange addresses and are now in contact with him in preparation for his impending release.

Another contact recently made by myself, (within the prison of Strangeways ), is a man who is due to be released very shortly, and, again, I am able to re-assure him of the welcome, help and support that is awaiting him as soon as he leaves that place and shows up here at the Cafe.

Up to now most of our work has been with male persons, however, we are hoping to make and foster connections with female prisons in the area: thereby being able to offer the same welcoming facilities to women on their release. Up to now the only women we have helped have arrived here fortuitously, or are friends/family of male clients.

However, for the past year, we have held a Fortnightly Ladies Group, and included other ladies from the General Public who frequent the café.

We have held sessions in Drama, Knitting, Painting, Craft, Beauty and Vocal Skills ,with always a drink and a chat.

## FEBRUARY 2024

- 1 Pray for P whose dad has died, that the Lord offers comfort at this difficult time.
- 2 A was released in January and was a chapel regular. Pray that he continues on his faith journey now he is out.
- 3 Pray that the Lord guides us here at GMCC to find a replacement chaplain and continue in his great work.
- 4 A, has visited us here at GMCC on a few occasions on day release, pray for him and our volunteers who have welcomed and helped him and pray for God's guidance for the future.
- 5 Pray for Anna as she moves on, may God give her guidance and clarity for her future.
- 6 May God protect and keep safe A, whose son has been killed in the Philippines.
- 7 Pray for S, a GMCC Client who is now volunteering in the community, pray that he finds fulfilment carrying out the work of the Lord.
- 8 Pray for the Methodist team at Central Hall, who partner with us for many groups and events, may this relationship grow and flourish
- 9 Send A courage and wisdom as he wants to be more involved in his son's life.
- 10 Keep S in your prayers, who has been causing upset to others recently. May the Lord show him to love thy neighbour and return peace and harmony.
- 11 C is due at court this month, please pray for a favourable outcome.
- 12 Please keep J in your thoughts who is undergoing an operation today, pray for strength and healing.
- 13 Pray for the trustees of GMCC, may their faith enable them to guide GMCC.
- 14 A is waiting for a bed at a secure hospital, pray that the right space and treatment is made available to bring him back to health.

## FEBRUARY 2024

- 15 Keep L in your thoughts and prayers who has found out that his uncle has killed his grandad.
- 16 Keep P in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to write and share with our letter writing volunteer here at GMCC from prison.
- 17 Please offer hope for A who is due to be released in March and does not see any hope for the future.
- 18 Thank the Lord that P has returned the GMCC, keep him safe and may he continue to come and share the word of the Lord.
- 19 Pray that R engages more during groups and sessions here at GMCC.
- 20 Pray for health and strength to P and his mum who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- 21 E, our volunteer as she strives to increase the participants of a new group, pray that all can enjoy the benefits of community.
- 22 M feels there is no point in living at the moment, pray for enlightenment and that he can find a sense of purpose with the help of our Lord.
- 23 Keep A and M in your thoughts, may they continue spreading the word of the Lord, and be blessed with good health.
- 24 Pray for healing and comfort for J, who has just be diagnosed with a serious illness.
- 25 Thank the Lord for 20 years of GMCC and pray that our work continues for many more years to come
- 26 A, a GMCC client who has been receiving help with applying for grants to aid mobility, pray that he is now more comfortable in his day to day life.
- 27 Pray for peace of mind and comfort for F who feels under threat here and that nowhere is safe.
- 28 S and L have moved on from Manchester to a new jail, pray that they are safe and find new friendships.
- 29 Finally pray for K, the writer of this months editorial and our prison link worker, may her prison work be fruitful.