

## Tewkesbury Churches Together Annual Report 2017-2018

This report gives reference to how much Gods has poured out His blessing on all the many things which Tewkesbury Churches have been involved with over this last year.

Tewkesbury Churches Forum is made up of representatives from Churches across the Tewkesbury district who meet 4 times a year to discuss and plan for the town wide activities for the year ahead.

Some of the many activities that T.C.T are involved in, include:

**The good Friday march of witness**, the organising was put in place by mike Waldron and taken over by myself with the help of Sam Eedle who organised the stewards. The march was very well attended and after processing through town ended with an open-air service on Abbey lawn and conducted by Rev Ed Sauven from tewkesbury Abbey. Refreshments were served afterwards in the parish hall by the hospitality team from the Abbey.

**Tewkesbury Food Bank** continues to do an amazing work in our town. As well as food parcels, fresh fruit and veg is available through Woody's and Meat vouchers through Kevin Mace butchers. Fundraising is continuing and there are dates for running the tea room in Aug and Sept. The food bank is also providing refreshments for a concert in July, which will also raise money for the food bank.

**Tewkesbury Refugee Support group** is continuing its support for many different organisations as well as our own family in Tewkesbury. Support is also being given to samara's Aid. People in motion who take consignments of aid, Refuge Egypt. The group is also looking for another suitable property in Tewkesbury to house another refugee family.

**The Hope team** continues its work in the schools and providing holiday activities. They have organised a Christmas competition and an Easter competition in the local schools. Plans are well underway for this year's Kidzway holiday club.

**The Christian presence at the medieval Festival** was very well received this year, we are very grateful to Rev Wendy Ruffle for organising this. There were many families in the craft tent and many stopped for refreshment and prayer. Rev Ed Sauven ran the "Jesus Deck" which was also very well received.

**The Switching on of the Christmas lights:** The fun activities afternoon was hosted by the Methodist Church, this was very well attended there was carol singing, craft and presentations by the open the Book team.

In January there was **the Week of Prayer for Christian unity**, this was organised by the Ministers from our Churches and involved different prayer events throughout the week.

(Women's) **World day of Prayer** was interrupted this year due to snow but eventually took place once the snow had gone.

I am sure you will be amazed at just how much has happened in this last 12 months. God has been at work in our town and His blessings are evident for all to see. None of which would happen if it were not for the many volunteers from across our churches.

We have also said goodbye to our Secretary Anna Venables and have wished her well in the future. After a few months we have happily welcomed Stacey Green to forum as our new secretary. Stacey comes to us from Tewkesbury Baptist church.

Thank you to every member of forum for you continued hard work and commitment to our town and to serving our churches together.

"And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all. And may He so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints"  
(1 Thessalonians 3: 12-13)

It is a privilege to serve as Chair of this Forum and I look forward to this year ahead.

In His service,

Sara Napper

Forum Chair.