



Dear Supporters,

I hope this our latest newsletter finds you well. As newly appointed Head of Mission I thought I'd introduce myself to you, our amazing supporters.

My name is Mike and I have been leading the Brighton Food Bank for nearly 3 years. I was born in Mauritius, but lived in Sussex most of my life. It is here where my wife and I brought up our two adopted children. When we first started taking the children to school, we felt very isolated. We met some lovely ladies from the local church at the school gate, who were so helpful at this time. My wife and I were not Christians, but we started to go to the local church and, during a Christianity Explored Course, it hit me that Jesus died for my sins, rose again, and would one day return. I realised that I did not need to know everything in the Bible, but that I would learn more as I grew as a Christian. I was baptised at Cuckfield Baptist Church at

the age of fifty-one and I am now an active member there. Professionally, I have spent over twenty years in the hotel industry at director level and then set up my own consultancy to coordinate the disposal of hotels. In 2018, two years after becoming a Christian, I applied for the role of Brighton Food Bank Team Leader. I had never worked in a Christian organisation, but it is the best job I have ever had. It is such a privilege to have this opportunity to help people in need, showing them God's love and to pray with my colleagues every day. As the Head of Mission, I want to use the skills I have to lead and provide an environment for staff and volunteers to flourish, work closely with churches and see many saved.

Brighton and Hove City Mission is made up of eleven passionate staff members, fifty wonderful volunteers, and four very supportive trustees, Ian, John, Liz, and Peter. There have been many changes over the last couple of years, so I wanted to introduce you to our amazing staff team.



Staff Social on Zoom

Our Care Homes team...

Bev has a huge drive, a big heart, and loves to see things to the end. She also has a love, and indeed the voice, to burst into song at any time!

Aaron loves befriending, but also has a talent to engage with people through music and video. We have seen a lot of his cat on Zoom this year!

Our Schools team...

Lloyd has a real eagerness to serve and a skill to communicate and engage, especially with young people. This year he has enjoyed making more videos than ever!

Helen has a wonderful willingness to be a team player, but is also happy to take responsibility to lead and get things done. She has discovered a real talent for making Lego stop motion videos!

Our Brighton Food Bank team...

Hannah has a passion to share the gospel and identify outreach opportunities, especially through her church. She always brings a real excitement into our meetings when talking about her family!

Jeri Lee is really sensitive to the needs of our clients and understands how we can make a real difference to their lives through our work. She brings warmth to us all with her glowing smile!

Robbie is flourishing in his journey with the Lord and is a very reliable and passionate team player. Robbie loves to bring (not share) a sandwich to every Zoom meeting!

Mike R is our newest recruit. I can already see his organisational skills and passion for speaking to people about the Lord. I have discovered that he is an amazing illustrator!

Our Head Office team...

Becky is an ideas generator and has a real passion for organising and making sure things are done properly and with thought. She is often seen playing a supportive role in the Schools team videos!

Anna is self motivated and has the ability to really focus in on specific areas until the work is done. She is a competitive individual (as seen at our quiz night)!

I hope this letter has helped you get to know myself and the team a little more.

Before I finish, I would like to share with you one of my favourite Bible verses, a verse that gives us hope for the future. I have been looking back over the last year and can really see how significant this verse is for us all.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29 v 11

God bless,

Mike

