

## FEBRUARY 2020 Newsletter

### Sarah's Message

Memories are made of this...

Much of this month's newsletter is a tribute to John Archer. His family had numerous stories to tell of him, but asking folk at church, people struggled to move beyond, 'where Pam was, there was John.' Following my brother's death, I have seen lovely posts about Bruce on a facebook page dedicated to Chorlton (where he lived before moving to care for Mum). Much of what was said there referred to things in his life I did not know. So really, this month, I just want to encourage you to keep sharing the positive stories of your life; we won't consider it 'blowing your own trumpet', rather we will enjoy celebrating the good things God gives you and the good things you do in service to Him. **Rev. Sarah Bingham**

### BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Thank you all who have donated to the Birthday Scheme. A total of £115 has been raised by us for 2019

If anyone is interested in joining please ask me for details.

John Jenkinson

### Mend-It

Mend-It is hosting a Job Club type support on Thursday mornings from 9:30am –11:30am starting Thursday 16th January until further notice

### Mend-It Fundraiser Quiz Night

Friday 7th February 7pm at Green Lane in the hall. **£10** per team each team needs to consist of 6 people max (**£1.60 each**) price includes Fish & Chips supper, raffle, drinks, refreshments will be available.

This tribute is on behalf of Mend-It for our dear brother John Archer.

but I can't speak about John without speaking about Pam, his beautiful wife, because as many of you may know they came as a package deal- it was a great deal, two for the price of one. Even when they signed in at Mend-It they wrote on one line instead of two separate lines. Name: 'Pam and John' .

I got to know John during the two years when he and Pam volunteered at Mend-It, GLBC's community project. They started helping with serving tea and toast on a Thursday morning when we were struggling to find committed volunteers who shared our passion to love God's people by serving and to be Jesus' hands and feet as the Bible instructs.

John felt that they were called to help those in the community who had no place to go, who needed not only food but also companionship. He would say, "somebody needs to do it" and Pam would add "we are happy to help, Thank you for having us", He saw that this was their way to fill a need where many others didn't. He always had a smile and an encouraging word. And embodied the qualities of the Good Samaritan because if we had no milk, sugar, bread, coffee, tea or biscuits, whatever was needed he would quietly bear the cost and never asking for anything in return. In the last weeks of volunteering at Mend-It, what he lacked in hustle he made up for with enthusiasm and a quirky sense of humour. When he spoke of you Pam, his children and grand-children it was always with love and pride.

We are all the more richer for knowing him and deeply saddened by his passing and are truly sorry for your loss. Thank you.

**Former Mend-It Co-ordinator Kayon Blake**