

Fellowship in Someone's Home (FISH) Groups Co-ordinator's Report

Stan Warnes

We have four main FISH groups in the Church, two meet in a home and two on Church premises.

The Groups all study the same material, which is provided by the FISH Group Coordinator after consultation with group leaders.

As well as studying the Bible the groups offer fellowship and occasional meals together. The groups also offer a safe environment to discuss any issues with the knowledge of the confidentiality of the group and its support.

There is also Beginners FISH Group for new Christians and those looking to learn more of the basics of Christianity.

Blue Fish

Val Statt

Blue FISH continues to meet every Tuesday Evening for bible study, prayer and fellowship. At the beginning of the year we looked at the fruit of the Spirit, a 9-part study which itemised the fruits in Galatians 5: 22, 23. After that we studied the book of Acts, seeing God's power in action, we looked at how Jesus changed the lives of the early church – He transformed them and they changed the world! The book of Acts came alive as we read through the studies. This same power can change our lives today, as we studied Acts we understood what the Holy Spirit can do in our lives today and in our world. We sometimes found a song on YouTube, which helped us to understand the study.

We then changed our focus to a series of CDs recorded at Letton Hall, (a Christian retreat centre in Norfolk.) "Peter – Disciple with a Destiny" by Revd Danny Pritchard. These are easy to listen to and provide time to discuss afterwards.

We pray for each other and our Church and the wider world, including current items in the news.

Our time together ends with refreshments and chat and a lot of joy and laughter most of the time. We praise God for our brother Gareth who shows us his faith in our Lord Jesus Christ as he battles with cancer. Praise the Lord for him and his example.

We had our Christmas social evening at one of our host's homes - Moira and Steve, where we ate and enjoyed each other's friendship and a quiz where we of course did not contest any answers!!!

Our last meeting together was to eat popcorn and watch the film called "The Shack," a very thought provoking film, particularly showing forgiveness even in the darkest situations.

Green Fish

Rosie Midson

Green FISH continues to find great richness in studying and praying together, sharing thoughts and discovering new delights from God's word as we meet on a Tuesday at 09.30 in the vestry.

The group itself is not big; we continue to hope that more folk would join us. Regular attendees at Green FISH are David Flatman, Zena Page, Andrew Edwards, Gary Pearce, Jan Terson and Rosemary White. Gwen Harper and Roy Norton are regularly prayed for as non-attending members of the group. Rosie leads most of the studies whilst David and Andrew also do this on occasions. The studies are varied and always scriptural, with insights provided by various authors and also our own discussions

As a close and small group we can comfortably share in prayer together. We endeavour to offer praise as we find ourselves so fortunate compared to many other brethren worldwide. We discuss those issues that we wish to pray about and always seek to bring Darren, or whoever is in the pulpit on Sunday, into our intercessions.

Our year again included stewarding for the Edwards Hall school carol concerts.

We end each meeting with a 'cuppa' in the kitchen and this often gives us a chance to chat with Vicky, our hard working cleaner/caretaker.

Purple Fish

Graham Back

Purple Fish meet regularly on Thursdays at 10am, usually at Graham and Val Back's home, or occasionally at Tony and Linda Rouse's or Stan and Pauline Warnes'.

We enjoy fellowship and refreshments together, and studying God's word and its implications for us as Christians. We also pray for things affecting the members of the group, their families and friends, for the needs of our church and for issues locally, nationally and internationally.

There are 14 of us in the group, and we have an average attendance of about 10.

Red FISH

Allan Cox

Members of Red FISH continue to enjoy our meetings for study on Friday mornings at 10am. The meetings last for an hour and a half with a break for tea half way through.

We have found that our studies sometimes throw some light on modern issues affecting both the church and society as a whole. We have studied Paul's second letter to the Corinthians and recently started a series of studies on the "Wisdom of the N.T" This study is following notes by Tom Wright.

I think that FISH group leaders struggle to find new material and suggest maybe we could get together to discuss this.

For personal reasons our numbers have dropped a bit, so new members are welcome.

Beginner's FISH

Mike Mircic

St. Mark's Gospel remains the cornerstone of study material for those joining this mid-week group. It is especially suitable for new Christians but it is also useful for anyone who wants to investigate the claims of Christianity in more depth.

As such it offers an ideal follow-up group for someone who has recently attended a Christianity Explored Course. On average there have been 5 or 6 of us in the group.