

# **St Mary's Church**

## **Proposed charities for 2019**

Here are the proposed charities for 2019 with an outline of their aims and objectives.

\* = this charity has not previously been supported.

### **Leprosy Mission – January**

The Leprosy Mission is an international Christian charity and serves 305 million people in 30 countries. It diagnoses, treats and offers specialist care, including reconstructive surgery, to leprosy patients. Leprosy is one of the World's most stigmatised diseases and sees families robbed of their job opportunities, education and marriage prospects and are often shunned by their families. There are more than 200,000 new cases of leprosy diagnosed each year. The Leprosy Mission works closely in Asian and African countries. In South Sudan there is a large leprosy colony of 3,000 people and they are helped in areas of health, self care, livelihood support including agriculture and education.

(Christian; Medical/Disabled; Third World)

### **Leukaemia Busters – February**

Leukaemia Busters is a leukaemia research charity based in Southampton. It aims to conduct research into and develop new, improved and safer treatments for leukaemia. Its objective is to develop new novel antibody-based treatments for children and adults with incurable forms of leukaemia and other blood related conditions. Through research and development it produces new antibody drugs and holds clinical trials in patients to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of newly emerging drugs. It costs £700 a day to fund their laboratory in Southampton.

(Medical: Children; Youth; Adults; Local)

### **\*Myotonic Dystrophy Fight Fund - March (Mothering Sunday)**

This Fund was set up by a group of families affected by the muscle wasting condition 'Congenital Myotonic Dystrophy'. A family in Sarisbury Green is one of the families affected by this. The congenital form of Muscular Dystrophy is a rarer and more severe form of the condition and the aim of the fund is to raise money strictly for research into treatments for this congenital form. Muscle-wasting conditions are very rare, affecting over 1 in every 1,000 people. Congenital M.D. is a genetic condition which presents itself in early childhood and is a multi-systemic neuromuscular disorder under the umbrella of Muscular Dystrophy.

(Children; Local; Medical)

### **Childline -April (Easter)**

Childline was established in 1986 by Esther Rantzen and is there to help anyone up to age of 19 in the UK with any issues they are going through. In 2006 they joined NSPCC to open their services to more young people. Childline is free, confidential and available anytime day or night. They have trained councillors who are mostly volunteers, and there are 12 Centres around the UK. Childline deals with any issue which causes stress or concern. The common issues include child abuse, bullying, mental illness, parental separation or divorce, pregnancy, substance misuse, neglect, school and college issues and psychological abuse.

(Children; Young people; Social)

### **\*CARE - May**

CARE International operates in more than 90 countries around the world and runs poverty fighting programmes; provides life-saving aid in 79 poor and developing countries; helps to achieve social justice; supports refugees and helps woman and girls to overcome inequality. It was set up in the USA in 1945 to send 'CARE' packages

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to Europe recovering from WW2. CARE provides humanitarian assistance in disasters and helps people rebuild their lives afterwards. It has provided life saving assistance and support during the Indonesian earthquake and Tsunami, Myanmar refugee crisis and Yemen and Syrian crisis. It also implements 370 Projects in Education, Health, Agriculture, Water/Sanitation and hygiene around the world.  
(Worldwide; Developing Countries)

### **Christian Blind Mission– June**

CBM is an International Christian disability and development organisation and helps 30 million people in more than 60 countries worldwide to prevent blindness and restore sight. They train specialist doctors and health care workers and carry out sight restoring surgeries, and treat eye conditions such as cataracts, glaucoma and Trachoma. Trachoma is widespread in poor countries like Ethiopia and many children are infected; if untreated it can lead to blindness. CBM also trains and supports disabled people to help them get work or start their own business. It provides education for boys and girls with disabilities to go to school and complete their education. 9 out of 10 children with disabilities do not go to school.  
(Christian; Medical/Disabled; Worldwide)

### **Mission to Seafarers – July (Sea Sunday)**

This voluntary society within the Anglican Church is concerned with the well being of seafarers of all races and creeds in more than 50 countries around the world. Its chaplains, lay staff and volunteers provide a welcome and friendship in over 200 ports and provide help and support to the 1.5 million men and women who can face danger such as piracy, shipwreck and abandonment. It helps seafarers in need, encourages them in their faith, and visits them if they are left in hospital when their ship sails. It provides Drop-in Seafarers Centres and links with parish clergy to extend support to families and offers help and advice in cases of injustice or hardship. It is entirely funded by voluntary donations.  
(Christian; Seafarers)

### **\*Samaritans Purse – August**

Samaritans Purse is a Christian, international relief and development charity that provides support and emergency relief around the world. It meets the physical needs of victims of war, famine, natural disasters and disease. It aims to demonstrate God's love regardless of race, creed, gender or religion and works through local churches. Part of Global Samaritans Purse is 'Operation Christmas Child' which 1,000s of Churches, schools and business in the UK are involved in. Since 2009 they have responded to 112 disasters around the world. Their DC 10 plane can transport tons of emergency supplies and 30 personnel to disasters within 24 hours. It also provides UK disaster relief.  
(Christian; Worldwide)

### **\*The Silver Line - September**

The Silver Line is a free, confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people over the age of 55, and is open 24 hours a day 365 days a year. It was founded by Esther Rantzen and launched in 2013. They have a specially trained helpline team which includes over 3,000 volunteer Silver Line Friends who make regular weekly friendship calls to older people. Their Silver Connect Team provide more intensive support and advice and helps people with local services like housing and health issues, to finding a lunch club or help with financial concerns.  
(Elderly; Social)

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### **Tear Fund - October (Harvest)**

Tear Fund is a Christian charity whose aim is to help people in their greatest need. They work in poor communities, areas of conflict and natural disasters and provide emergency support in times of crisis. They work alongside local churches and other locally based organisations in over 50 countries. With the changing climate, especially in Africa, Tear Fund and their partners have introduced an alternative method of farming by protecting and preserving soil and retaining moisture which increases yields and can produce food that doesn't require using expensive chemicals or machinery. During drought in East and Southern Africa, Tear Fund has provided clean water, sanitation and hygiene services, food assistance and cash grants. They also help communities become more resilient when facing future crises.

(Christian; Third World)

### **Poppy Appeal – November (Remembrance Day)**

The first Poppy Day was held on 11 November 1921 and has continued annually ever since. The British Legion's purpose is to give practical help in time of need to all who served in the Forces, and their widows and dependents. With all the recent conflicts, there is an increasing need to help all members of the Armed Forces today as well as ex-service personnel and their dependents.

(Community; Social; Medical/Disabled)

### **The Society of St James – December**

The Society of St James in Southampton was set up 40 years ago to help provide accommodation and support for homeless people. It manages over 25 projects and helps over 2,500 people with diverse and complex issues surrounding homelessness, including substance abuse and mental health problems. Its services include supported housing for homeless people, drug and alcohol recovery services throughout Hampshire, and it provides tailored accommodation for older people who are homeless and are chronic heavy drinkers. It has a specialist residential home. It runs an employment and training project called 'Jamie's Computers' where computers are refurbished and recycled and has a recycle bike workshop that offers training opportunities. 'Cafe in the Park' is its latest venture in Portsmouth to provide training opportunities to local people with histories of homelessness and substance abuse.

(Homeless; Social; Local)