

St Luke's Church, Kingstanding – Report re Grant November 2017

First of all may we thank you most sincerely for the grant that you so kindly awarded us in November 2017.

As you will recall from our application, historically we have long been a church that is totally community focussed and much as we have always welcomed groups to use our hall at low cost, we had reached the point where we were no longer complying with current Health and Safety Legislation and therefore unable to provide previous services.

Subsequently we embarked on a major renovation of the hall and we are delighted to say, that with your help and support we are now fully compliant and, that aesthetically too, the hall is now a bright, attractive place in which our church and wider communities can meet.

Apart from being used on an almost daily basis by the church, we are delighted to say that we have now been able to set up and run our own Friendship Group which aims to support those who are anxious, stressed or depressed as a result of loneliness. This group (which is open to anyone) meets every Monday and those who attend benefit from a hot meal and social activities such as bingo, a raffle, good conversation and pastoral support from our wonderful priest, Fr Barry Smart.

The success of the Friendship Group has led to the formation of our Knitting Together Group which also meets in the hall on a weekly basis but on a different day. Again, it is open to all and currently they have an Angel Knitting Project in action! They are knitting several hundred angels that will be gifted to members of the Kingstanding community during the Christmas period via our local shopkeepers. Even more rewarding is the fact that the group has established a link with a similar group from Rugeley whose members are visiting us in our hall in October.

Currently we also have two local Weight Watchers groups meeting in the hall every week.

Parish Lunches are held on a regular basis after Mass on Sundays and again, we welcome anyone from the local community to join us on these and the many other social events we organise. These events are always advertised on our external notice board so the local community can readily see what is on offer.

I am attaching some photos of our beautiful hall so that you are able to see what a lovely place it is in which to meet and also appreciate the pride we take in ensuring it is in pristine condition. As you will see, the ceiling has been lowered and we have both spotlights and general lighting that we can change, depending on the event we are holding.

We do hope you feel the grant you awarded us has been used appropriately and again, we thank you for it.

Barbara Cork
PCC Member

September 2019

