



## A new start on Turlin Moor

Lucy Bolster, her husband Kevin and their family will soon be moving to the area to live and minister in the Turlin Moor community

Lucy, Kevin and their two daughters have loved their years in Sheffield (a quarter of a decade for Lucy and Kevin, who met at University there!). They've loved, lived and worshipped in the multi cultural area of Upperthorpe for the last 20 or so years, with Lucy working as an ordained pioneer minister in the Church of England for the last 4 of those years .



The ministry they have engaged with as family as been intergenerational, musical and cross cultural. They have also experienced the reality of incarnational ministry with a diverse community facing significant social challenges. In trying to be available and obedient to God's call to this area, they have loved giving and receiving hospitality and working for the common good. They have also seen God's transformation through prayer, discipleship and social action. They are excited to be setting off into new adventures in Poole. In discerning their calling here, it was affirming to sense a strong similarity in values between their work in Sheffield and the values of the Reconnect community and are honoured to be welcomed into this dynamic expression of church, hoping to grow a new discipling community on Turlin Moor.

Lucy says "When I first looked round Turlin Moor on a cold wet day, I had a sense of this community at the very edge of the Hamworthy peninsula as being beautiful, complicated and perhaps a little overlooked by other areas of Poole. I believe that this place is much loved and full of hidden gifts to offer. I am expectant that as we listen and learn from the community, we will discover where the Holy Spirit has been at work already

and discern how best to join in."

Please pray for us

- to be able to grow healthy, trusting relationships within our community
- a good school place for Ella
- to establish Godly rhythms in our discernment and engagement with ministry.

## Paul's news about Reconnect

10 years after founding Reconnect Paul has handed on the day to day leadership of the community to a new leadership team.

It was about 18 months ago that I first felt God leading me to transition Reconnect to a new leadership and God has been gently leading us through that process ever since. The new leadership team will be joined by Lucy Bolster from Sheffield soon and continue to shape the development and growth of the community going forward.



I will remain a member of Reconnect and continue to contribute to the community, however my time will now be focussed on helping develop new missional communities in Poole and further afield. PMC now has permission via the new Bishop's Mission Order to work across the whole Deanery and I am now working closely with Rev'd Lucy Holt, the Area Dean, and others to see where we can build on our experience and learning to foster mission in collaboration with other parishes. Our partnership with Tess Nisbet in Hamworthy Parish has been a great model for how this could be done elsewhere.

We are also excited to announce that we are now developing a training tool for missional communi-

ty teams and hope to hear soon if we have been successful in acquiring some funding for the next stage. The tool is based on a set of tablecloths! Teams will gather, with a meal, round these tablecloths each of which will enable learning and strategic conversation.

## Meet the new leaders of Reconnect

Reconnect's new leadership team describe how God is continuing to lead this missional community



Phil & Sue James, Mike & Julie Oates, Nick & Donna Bold and Paul & Hilary Hockley make up the team.

It was in the Autumn last year when we, as a leadership team for Reconnect, began to sense that God may be leading us into a new adventure as a community - shaking the nest & hinting that change may be on the horizon.

Towards the end of the year we felt God was asking us if we were willing to let go of some of our activities in order to make space to listen, that we weren't simply to continue with "the same old same old" as it were. There were no further instructions for now so in obedience we agreed to stop running our small groups for a season, and embraced what Paul coined as a time of "Holy disruption". We had a definite sense of God being on the move and wanting to do new things.

Even so, we were still a bit surprised at the start of January this year, when Paul announced that he felt God was asking him to lay aside the leadership of Reconnect & hand it over to us. We were all in agreement that we needed a new model of leadership to take Reconnect forward - that we lead as a team rather than appoint a single leader.

We agreed that Paul would continue until Easter to give us chance to prepare and transition well.

And so the season of change began. As well as the many practicalities that had to be undertaken, we spent a lot of time listening to God and to each other. We felt that the most important thing was to lay good foundations, & this involved us learning to listen deeply to one another & being prepared to be vulnerable. We take it in turns to facilitate our meetings and use the principles of a Thinking Environment, a model used by Courage to Thrive, which helps us all to operate at our courageous, creative best!

It's not always the easiest way of leading. We are a diverse group of people from different church backgrounds and experiences and we find that decisions take longer when they have to be made as a team rather than by a single leader. However, our diversity means that we have a huge wealth of experience and gifts and we can work with our strengths rather than one person having to do and be everything.

We are still listening, to the whisper of the Holy Spirit, to each other and to our wider community.

This term we have changed our week 4 worship meal to an event called Fresh - taking God and our worship into the great outdoors - whatever the weather - which has been fun.

Over the summer we are inviting members of Reconnect to take part in a listening exercise. We hope this will help us to have a better understanding of what our community needs in order to continue to grow in fulness of life and to be equipped & supported to live out the vision & values of Reconnect. We will use the information to help us make future decisions about Reconnect's pattern of meeting together, and how we form community together in the widest sense.

We invite you to pray for us as a leadership team and for the wider Reconnect community as we continue into this new season of change.

## Update from John & Mim Good



So we have been here 8 months now. How time has flown. It's amazing to think we now have lots of

friends all over Poole and beyond into Bournemouth and rural Dorset. We're grateful to have people to visit, have lunch with, share our hopes and disappointments and sometimes just chew the cud. In Hamworthy we have got to know a few families. Our boys seem to be much better at making friends than we are. Jake has finished nursery now and will join twin sails with Dylan in September. Both boys have got off to a great start here. They miss life and their mates back in Luton but are enjoying the many adventures to be had. They have also enjoyed some of the little community events we have been putting on. They are very excited about a freeze pop giveaway we are doing near their school.

Mim is very much missing her mum. Liz died a couple of months ago and so your prayers would be appreciated as we all continue a new life without her. Mim has thrown herself into her sports therapy work which is going really well and she might even begin to take on more of a training role in the Autumn term. We are

very much looking forward to moving into our new home. We are waiting for the final bits on investment to come together to make the exchange. We would appreciate your prayers to be moved in by the end of Summer.

John is doing well. While he waits to do more of the incarnational work in Hamworthy, he has been prayer walking every Thursday around the area. He has been busy listening to people there and thinks there could be a good opportunity to develop relationships within the watersports community. He is in the initial stages of setting up a watersports library where people can come and borrow basic watersports equipment for a small annual charge.

He's delighted that Poole Missional Communities have offered to support and partner with the project and help get it off the ground. An anonymous donation of £2000 was given recently too which John feels confirms what he is up to. He would love other people to get involved in donating equipment, helping to run it or just to become members. Check it out at [www.watersportslibrary.com](http://www.watersportslibrary.com).

Unity is also a big passion of John's and he is now taken on chairing the local Christian group Love Hamworthy from Paul Bradbury and is vice chair at the Churches Together in Poole meetings.

Thanks for all your prayers and support. We will be in the new house soon and the journey will be in phase 2. Stay tuned! Much love, and if you would like to sign yourself up to our prayer letter, follow the link at [tiny.cc/JohnandMim](http://tiny.cc/JohnandMim)

### Praying for PMC:

- Give thanks and please pray for Lucy & Kevin Bolster as they move to Turlin Moor and look for schools.
- Please pray for the developing vision for PMC
- Pray for the new leadership team for Reconnect as they develop into their role.
- Please pray for John & Mim Good as they continue to grow community in Hamworthy.
- Please pray for more people to hear and respond to God's call to lead in mission in their community.

### Investing in mission

**We are helping develop new ways of being church and doing mission amongst unchurched people. Will you join us?**

If you would like to become a regular supporter email Phil at [admin@poolemc.org.uk](mailto:admin@poolemc.org.uk) or go to [www.poolemc.org.uk/support](http://www.poolemc.org.uk/support)

