

What's so **WOW** about **W**omen's **W**ork?

My New Year's resolutions included drink less coffee and eat less chocolate! Starting a new job as the Church's women's worker has not helped me keep these resolutions! You may be thinking...

“Why do we need a women's worker? What is she going to be doing?”

Let me start with the foundation that will support everything I do – the Bible. At this point I enlist the help of a loveable green ogre from the children's film 'Shrek'. There's a scene where Shrek is describing what an ogre is like to his companion 'Donkey'. Shrek says an ogre is like an onion, not because it smells but because it has layers. I don't know about ogres but I think this is a great way to describe the Bible! The Bible is made up of layers. Anyone who reads it can learn something but it has so many layers that young or old you never stop learning from it! As you dig beyond the surface layers it becomes more and more amazing.

The apostle John wants everyone who reads his Gospel to be absolutely convinced that Jesus existed and that He was the Son of God.

“But these things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in his name” John 20v31

John has already defined what real life is...

“Now this is eternal life that they may know you the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you sent” John 17v3.

Being in a relationship with God today is what will give us real life now and in eternity. We are constantly being offered things to help us get the most out of life. John says real life can only be experienced when you know the God who made life itself. Every one of the 66 books of the Bible teaches us something about this God, (admittedly, some are easier to read than others!). In my 39 years I am indebted to those who have brought the Bible alive to me. So at the heart of my work with women is a desire and passion to help women to learn to love the Bible and encourage them to read it for themselves. So hopefully you will see this women's worker with her faithful pocket sized Bible always in her pocket! So what am I going to be doing with my 15 hours? Let me briefly share some of my initial aims. Moulton is a busy church so my aim is not to just start up loads of new groups. From January to September I aim to look at and support what we are already doing.

Existing women's ministry... this currently includes Oasis mums and tots, Take a Break, the GAP after school club, Ladies' Fellowship, Activate and Prayer First a vital prayer support to **all** our Church Ministry. These groups do an amazing job and it is exciting to see how God is using them. My initial aim is to meet with leaders to support them and learn about their hopes and dreams for the groups. Also to encourage and unite us through prayer to be supporting each other in all

these different women's groups. Prayer First is a great opportunity to do this! (next Prayer First, February 3rd at 8.30- 9.30am at the church centre)

Getting to know you!

There are a lot of women in the church, praise God! I estimate that if I visit 4 women each week for a whole year (with no holidays!) I might just get to visit most of you. But if it gets to December and I haven't visited, forgive me. Also please don't panic at the thought of a visit. You haven't done anything wrong, I'm not checking up on you and I won't come with a list of jobs that need doing. I would love to hear your joys (first!) then frustrations and what you would include in my job description! Our church family includes all ages of women, which is brilliant. God has something to say about how we can benefit from this. Titus teaches that older women should be role models in life and faith to younger women (Titus 2v3&4). It's a bit scary to see the influence we can be on others without knowing it. My 4 year old daughter Ruthie loves chocolate, cakes and sweets.... I wonder who she gets that from daddy or mummy?! Apart from one lady in the church who is in her 90's we are all older than someone! So MYF teenagers are watched in awe by girls in Junior Church, those in NEXT who have survived University could help those teenagers just about to go. Those celebrating silver wedding anniversaries can teach many valuable lessons to those of us in younger marriages. Titus expects older women to set a godly example and teach what is good. It would be great to think about how we can do this better in Moulton Church. We will be sharing heaven together so we might as well start practising now!

Post September and beyond.....!

Part of my actual job description gives me permission to dream dreams! Possible future dreams include supporting women who go out to work, wives who find themselves alone physically or spiritually, our teenagers preparing for University. Also there are over 100 women in the church but 1000's outside who don't know who Jesus or how much He loves them. When I first read my job description I thought of Tom Cruise in the film "Mission Impossible". How fantastic that the Bible tells us *nothing* is impossible with God! If God could create the Universe with just a word . . . who knows what he can and will do with women in Moulton!

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Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9-3, Friday 9-1 (not paid during school holidays)