

# news update tes

MAY 2008

supporting evangelism across the uk

Welcome to the latest issue of news update bringing you reports, stories, news and information from TES supported projects across the UK.

## Reaching the World in Chester

During the annual two weeks of Chester Tell-a-Tourist (TaT) a team of 16 contacted over 2,300 tourists from 91 nations and distributed gospels and scripture booklets in 48 languages. **Bridge-Builders** was privileged to partner with a committee representing twelve Chester Churches in organising this outreach with Dave Bennett leading the team.

Thanks to the linguistic abilities of team members tourists heard the gospel in Russian, Spanish, Mandarin,



Cantonese, English and were greeted in German, Japanese, Portuguese and French. One lady says that during the mission she met people from Norway, Taiwan, Wales, USA, Italy, India, France, Turkey, Switzerland, Germany, Mexico, Poland, Thailand, Philippines, Singapore, China, Spain.

A Unitarian family of Hindu background from the West Indies, who listened to one man's testimony, took a John's gospel, and an Albanian lorry driver accepted a gospel in his language.

Another member of the team talked with a man from Libya who was staggered to hear that according to the Bible the charge against Jesus was 'blasphemy'. He had maintained that Jesus never claimed to be God, yet now he realised the Jewish leaders wanted to kill Jesus for precisely this reason.

Another lady, on the team for the fourth time, wanted to meet people from Thailand and Malaysia where she had holidayed.

She met them both on the same afternoon and regarded it as a real answer to prayer.

*real answer to a prayer*

Especially as she was able to have a long chat with the Thai family who were moving to the UK. They were really enthusiastic and happy to receive literature in their own language.

A first-timer on the team from the Liverpool Chinese Gospel Church, shared how it took her out of her comfort zone in a caring and supportive way. She met a group of Chinese people and

sat next to a lady whilst the man with her asked if she was Chinese. There followed a 25 minute conversation about God, Jesus, herself and China.

Team Leader, Dave Bennett, spoke with a Canadian lady who explained that her parents had decided not to take their children to Church and she had grown up knowing nothing of Christian beliefs. Dave challenged her to read the life of Jesus and she accepted a Gospel with tears running down her cheeks. She said, *"I've been thinking I needed to learn about Christianity but did not know where to start."*

*I needed to learn about Christianity*

Another first-timer says: *"One special meeting was on a coffee bar evening. I had a long conversation with two girls, one was Spanish the other Russian. They were very friendly, asked many questions and were interested in talking about religion/faith and what TaT was doing. They accepted tracts and John's gospels in both English and their own languages. I was able to briefly explain the gospel using the diagrams in the back pages the Bridge-Builders Gospel of John. This was a really encouraging meeting for me as it was the first time I was able to explain the gospel, and I thank God for it."*

*I was able to explain the gospel*

One person on the team for the second time said: *"There is an awareness that we don't see the end of the stories of the people we meet, changing people's lives is His work."* A man on the team for the fifth time said, *"I believe I have grown in my faith through TaT,"* and another first-timer said, *"I have learned more about sharing my faith with people and I hope I will be able to*



*God's helped me a lot*

*take that back home with me when I am at work and with my friends."* Another lady on the team for the first time said: *"During the past two weeks, I went from being completely scared out of my mind to actually enjoying it! God's helped me a lot through this time. This has definitely prepared me for university and I do not regret coming here."*



Please continue to pray for those contacted in 2007 and prayerfully consider if you might join the team for 2008. The dates are the 4th to 18th July when Dave Bennett will be leading the team for the 25th time. Full details and application forms can be obtained from the TaT website: [www.tat.org.uk](http://www.tat.org.uk), from Dave at the Bridge-Builders office - email [dave@bridge-builders.net](mailto:dave@bridge-builders.net), or telephone 0151 609 0144

# Christian Sailing Centre

The schools work at the Christian Youth Enterprises Sailing Centre (CYESC) continues to be very busy and exciting with loads of opportunities to share the Gospel. Having taken over from Debbie Frost last September Matt Winfield has been able to keep in contact with all the schools and develop new opportunities. The following is a summary of what has been happening and their hopes and aspirations for the forthcoming season.

**Christmas:** As in previous years a staff team went 'on the road' and presented a Christmas message in 12 primary schools and one secondary school. In total they were in contact with around 4,500 young people, many of whom will be visiting the centre during the summer months.

**Glebelands Mission:** In February this year, in conjunction with Cranleigh Baptist Church, they ran a two-week mission in the school. This involved taking lessons for year 7, 8 and 9 pupils on the Bible, Jesus and His ministry, and Love. Around 450 youngsters heard the Gospel message in various ways including their famous 'Grill a Christian' sessions. Whilst this school is not coming to the centre this year there are strong links with it. Please pray for the church team as they do a lot of follow-up work with the school and also for future opportunities.



**Outdoor Adventure Education:** This is a new avenue for CYESC in that they have trialed a season in local schools running their outdoor curriculum for team-building and relational activities. This allows the team to explain where they are from and why they do what we do. We hope to grow this activity in the coming seasons.

**2008 Season:** During 2008 around 20 different school groups will be welcomed to the centre. Many are 'repeats' but most of the children are new to the centre and staff can get to know



**explain the Gospel** them and, through various ways, explain the Gospel message. A lot of the assembly material has been updated to ensure it is fresh and relevant to the target audience.

**CYESC** are constantly on the lookout for new opportunities to get into other schools both local to the centre and those from further afield. They are conscious of the responsibility they have to proclaim His Name to those with whom they come into contact.

**share the Gospel** Please pray that they might be able to share the Gospel clearly, boldly, truthfully and in relevant ways to all those met throughout the course of the season.

Matt says on behalf of the CYESC team "thank you for your continued support both financially and through prayer for all the schools work we seek to do in His Name".

## Offensive: Cross-Driven Mission 2008

### A project of Big Ideas/Ignite

Dai Hankey who leads this projects write, "On 26th January we opened the doors of Woodville Christian Centre in Cardiff to host the *Offensive: Cross-Driven Mission* course for the third consecutive year. With almost 100 in attendance, a brand-new worship band in residence and a fresh series of teaching material (drawn from the new Cross-Driven Mission book) this year's *Offensive* course got off to the best possible start. Aimed at young people, students and youth leaders, the aim of *Offensive* remains exactly the same as it ever was - raising up a new generation of missionaries who are passionate about Jesus, and both gripped and equipped to spread His amazing Gospel! This year's course has been filmed and was made available to the delegates as a DVD series, along with teaching notes.

At the time of writing the first three sessions (Go, Preach and Pray) have gone remarkably well, and we are excited about the next 6 weeks, during which time we will have covered the final two sessions (Love and Live) and embarked upon a weekend of intense practical mission right across South Wales as part of the IgniteHope outreach event. (Ed. We have since heard that this event went extremely well). Taking part in mission is essentially the sixth (and most exciting) part of the *Offensive* course, and something that we're all really excited about this year!

Furthermore, we will once again be running the course during the New Wine Cymru week as part of the seminar programme for youth, and are in the final stages of planning a series of *Offensive* Roadshows - a tour of three one-day

*Offensive* training events to be held in Newport (South Wales), Swansea (West Wales) and Bangor (North Wales).

**God is at work** All of this, coupled with the potential of having the material published as a book, gives us great cause to be optimistic about the way that God is at work in the rising generation, and makes us immensely humble and grateful to Him for involving us in His mission and giving us such an awesome Gospel to spread in the first place!

May He get all the glory for it!"



# Linx Christian Youth Trust

Linx Christian Youth Trust is based in Torquay, Devon and, as the name implies, is committed to reaching young people with the Gospel in the Torbay area. The grant which TES was able to give was put towards the work of their new Schools Worker, Matt Turner.

Trust Director, Nigel Taylor says,

*"We have placed Matt into Brixham College and Torquay Community College, teaching RE and Citizenship lessons, also setting up CU's in the two schools. Matt has already made many contacts in the schools, and strengthened the link between them and Linx".*

During the autumn term Matt helped to organise and run the visits

of the Counties GSUS Live mobile classroom to both of his schools, plus five others that team members serve. This was very successful and appreciated by all the schools. He is now also overseeing the running of their bi-monthly Christian youth event called 'Oddfish', which is located in different church venues each time. 'Oddfish' is an evening of worship and teaching aimed at church based young people. The evenings are run by young people and overseen by the Trust who find that non-churched young people often come with their Christian friends. As part of their strategy Matt is helping a local Minister run the Island Club, which is a church based youth club in

*an evangelistic spot* the centre of Brixham. At the moment 80 secondary school aged young people attend every week. The majority of these are from the schools Matt serves.

## *teaching RE*



The Club gives Matt the opportunity to bridge the gap between school and church. In the future he will be responsible for an evangelistic spot which will be held at the end of the evening.

Last Summer Matt attended the Trust's week-long residential and the Autumn weekend where he was a very enthusiastic and talented member of the Linx Team. He is an accomplished musician and worship leader and played his part in leading worship on the camps. While the young people were on the camp, they were engaged on a community project. This involved clearing a graveyard of weeds and overgrown grass.

He has arranged this year's March weekend and the Summer week; re-designed the web site, [www.linxyouth.net](http://www.linxyouth.net), and has greatly improved its impact and accessibility, which has been praised by young people.

Nigel says that *"during his time with Linx, Matt has added so much to the team and continued, very faithfully, Linx's service to two schools. The only criticism we have is that some weeks he works too hard!"*



## Building Bridges

Prior to last Christmas Richenda Nuttall, a former teacher, working in conjunction with Lindsay Park Baptist Church and two Roman Catholic Churches, visited 8 schools in the North London area inviting them to take part in a Nativity Exhibition by making various nativity scenes. She was also invited to do assemblies in four of the schools, and in one worked two afternoons with year 2 classes teaching them about the Christmas story. In another school she had the opportunity to spend 1½ days with the reception class creating nativity centred artwork as well as reading them the Christmas story. A third school invited her to do an all-morning workshop with 12 children and a fourth school, who did not take part in the exhibition, asked her to do a

45 minute story telling session on Christmas with each of the three year 3 classes. Four schools eventually contributed to the exhibition following which a local florist's shop

### *true meaning of Christmas*

included two of the children's creations in a window display. Richenda says that *"several people commented how good it was to be reminding people of the true meaning of Christmas"*. After Christmas a questionnaire was sent to all the schools to assess their response. This has resulted in a number of other opportunities. All the schools were keen to take part again this year and two expressed an interest in doing something specific for Easter.

**Schools ministry** to all ages of young people is such an important opening for the communication of the Gospel and for many will be the only time that they hear the truth about what Jesus has done for them.

### *what Jesus has done*

Please pray for Linx, CYESC, Richenda and the other individuals and organisations that TES has been able to support, who work in schools and with young people.

# Sing Christmas

This was the title given to a major Christmas project run by the **Chad Media Trust** in the East Midlands. Broadcast live on BBC Radio Leicester it involved over 100 community venues in villages and towns across Leicestershire and Rutland, and in the city of Leicester too. Pubs, clubs, care home, churches and community centres joined in with the live carol service. A local brewery promoted the event to all its pubs and over 30 joined in.

Project Manager, Jeff Bonser, said *"it was great to be able to contact churches telling them that their local pub wanted to take part"*. Over 80 individual churches or Churches Together groups supported the many venues by helping with the planning and being involved on the night. A local Baptist minister said afterwards: *"Well done in starting and then developing 'Sing Christmas'*

*... an outstanding example of reaching out in the midst of the community, on its*

## *Good News of Jesus Christ*

*territory and on its terms, with the Good News of Jesus Christ."* An Anglican minister with several parishes said she had been praying for an opportunity to work with the local pub when she heard about the project - an answer to prayer. This was the second year of the project and the number of venues joining in was up by over 300%. Churches reported that it had been a great opportunity to take the Good News of Jesus Christ out into their local communities - good contacts were made which are being followed up. Some said it had encouraged them to do more outreach events that were not church-based. So what of the future? Jeff says that the Trust feel there is need to run it locally for one more year before seeking to extend it to other parts of the country.

If you would like to know more visit the website [www.singchristmas.org.uk](http://www.singchristmas.org.uk) which will be launched shortly. TES is pleased to be able to support this project again in 2008.

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## Fellowship of Evangelists

The next day conference will be held on Monday 23rd June commencing at 10am at Freshbrook Evangelical Church, Swindon. The keynote speaker will be Don Double, the well-known international evangelist, who will be sharing from his vast experience in ministry over many years.

If you are an evangelist or you know one in your area, why not join, or encourage them to join, this 'fellowship' which exists to encourage, serve and support, itinerant evangelists in the UK in what is not only a challenging role but often a lonely one too. Details can be obtained from the TES office.

## Brief Updates on other TES Supported Ministries



**Kate John (YFC)** – tells us that the 'Does God have a MySpace?' tour, mentioned in the October issue of news update, is now well underway and will continue for the next few months. Large numbers of young people have been turning up for the events. Kate says *"it has been so exciting to see often totally un-churched young people reflect on their lives, their perspectives of God and their relationship with the world around them"*. In her role supporting local youth workers she has recently been to Rugby, Chelmsford, Leicester, Luton, Nottingham, Cambridge and

### *responded to the Gospel*

Kidderminster, not only to speak but to learn about the different ways people are going about reaching out to un-churched teenagers. Also, following a conference in Llandudno, they organised a celebration for the local churches at which Clive Calver spoke powerfully and around 20 people responded to the Gospel.

**Crisis Centre Ministries (Bristol)** – started in 1984 and working in the St Paul's area of the city, their work is *"bringing God's grace and healing love to people with life disrupting problems"*. TES gave a grant to enable a new evangelistic course entitled 'Sorted' to be properly resourced. By meeting people at their point of need and providing practical help CCM staff have the opportunity to pray with clients and to introduce them to God and the good news he can bring to their lives.

**MJK (Make Jesus Known)** – Tim and Charissa Cooke have recently informed us that through donations received from TES and others they have been able to purchase a brand new trailer stage. It was being custom-built in Austria and should be ready for use anytime now. We hope to bring you more news of this cutting-edge evangelistic work, with pictures, in the next issue.

**"Meet Jesus Here" Ministries UK** – Dave Pritchard and his team were able to purchase 20,000 tracts with the grant TES made last year. When he wrote in February, Dave said *"only a few 1,000 are left now and we have seen 4 people saved in the last few days"*. Apart from their general work Dave and the team specifically work around the University on Thursdays, Friday evenings amongst the 'pubbers and clubbers' in the city, and on Saturdays arrange outreach in the shopping malls and also at the Millennium Stadium when big matches are taking place.

# Congratulations to former TES Evangelists



**Naomi Hill** who, despite her health problems was able to complete the London Marathon (26.2 miles) in 5hrs.11mins.26secs. and here to prove it is a picture of Naomi with her sister. She says *"it was an incredible experience and I absolutely loved it!"*

**David and Jennie Morgan** who became grandparents recently when daughter Janet and husband Peter had their first child, James.

Also **Victor and Barbara Neill** whose son Iain and wife Emma produced twins, Oliver and Isabella, making them Granda and Grannie Neill.



## The Governing Committee

At their meeting in March the Committee were delighted to be able to make grants to a number of diverse and exciting projects across the UK. These included Bath YFC, the Light Project in Chester, the Zephaniah Trust in Yorkshire and to Bridge-Builders toward the production of 50,000 copies of Mark's Gospel for free distribution in the UK. We would hope to bring you more information about these and other projects in the next issue.

The next GC meeting is on Tuesday 22nd July when we will have a number of new grant applications to consider in addition to several projects seeking further support. Whilst thanking you for your continuing prayerful interest and gifts I invite you please to pray specifically for wisdom as the Committee seek God's will, not only concerning grant applications, but also the appointment of new members to the Committee.

## Proclaim Trust

... is a Rochdale based ministry headed up by evangelist, Barry Woodward and his wife Tina. His past life as a drug addict ***communicating the Gospel*** and dealer, experience of prison and subsequent transformation, makes him effective in communicating the Gospel, especially to those with a similar background. Besides his evangelistic ministry Barry has a vision to train others to share their faith and runs Network Days in order to help and train other itinerant evangelists. The last one was held in February when Paul McGee spoke to about 10 evangelists on the subject 'Contemporary Communication'. Afterwards one attendee said *"Paul's talk was the most productive I have ever heard - I learnt so much in such a short space of time"*. Another said *"Paul just oozed everything he spoke about. He helped me recognise what I have been doing naturally and encouraged me to think how to be more purposeful and deliberate about my presentation to maximise the impact"*.

Besides these network days Barry spends time on a one-to-one basis mentoring a number of evangelists. He is also in discussion with Ron Spillards with a view to a joint venture between the 'Network' and the 'Fellowship of Evangelists'.

TES is pleased to have been able to encourage this ministry with a grant and commends it to you for your prayerful support. For further information visit their website [www.proclaimtrust.org](http://www.proclaimtrust.org)



# Word of Life Worcester

Recently registered as a charity 'Word of Life Worcester' is a ministry headed by former Home Evangelism evangelist, Colin Dean.

**Bread of Life for Men** is a group held every Thursday morning with men coming straight off the street to be fed from 'The Word'. One recently exclaimed "God speaks to me through the Bible!" and another "I want to get my life back together; I've found friendship around this table". A long-term alcoholic

**training to be an evangelist** who used to stand just inside the door, then scuttle away, now sits at the table with everybody else. One day he said "I want to say something" and went on to give thanks for the wonderful change he is seeing in his friend Sid, who is now training to be an evangelist and is a key helper in the group.

**Secular Radio:** Every Monday morning a local commercial radio station broadcasts, under the heading 'Blues Breaker', some words of Scripture recorded by the Word of Life team, which reach many thousands of listeners.

**Gypsy Camp Outreach:** At Christmas members of the team visited local gypsy sites; singing carols and giving chocolates to the children along with a Christmas Tree tract. Colin says "The excited children ran to meet us while many of their parents stood at the door of their trailers listening to the Carols". The Lord has granted much fruit over the years from this ministry with one young man who, having responded to the Gospel, is now a pastor of a gypsy church in the Midlands. Another who couldn't read, now leads worship at a gypsy church.

**Scripture Calendar Evangelism:** Colin tells us that "every year he visits a number of villages in Worcestershire with Scripture calendars and has found that freely giving these to people is an amazing means of evangelism". One of his helpers said "It is wonderful to see God working in my village". Many have turned to the Lord through this outreach. Colin also uses them when visiting businesses with one shoe shop manageress asking for five for her staff. For 2009 'Word of Life Worcester' hope to have their own engagement style calendar produced which will have the advantage of local identity.

Colin and his team of volunteers would so value your prayers as they take the 'Word of Life' onto the streets of Worcester and the surrounding areas.

# Reaching the World in Eastbourne

In March, a team led by Counties Evangelist Ray Dadswell, ran a week of outreach based upon the Eastbourne International Cafe. The team comprised six students (4 Scots, 2 Zambians and 1 Frenchman) and one member of staff from Tilsley College, Motherwell, in addition to the permanent helpers at the Cafe. During the day team members made contact with international students on the streets and at the language school gates, speaking about the Christian faith and giving out invitations to the various activities being run in the cafe each evening. The largest evening attendance was on the Friday when a programme of music, video and a talk based on the message of Easter, was provided. Throughout

## *evangelistic opportunities*

the week the team were also involved in other evangelistic opportunities at various clubs and visits to schools in the area. Some also joined the chaplaincy team patrolling Beachy Head.

**real interest in the things of God** Ray reports that, as they had hoped, numbers at the Cafe have increased and there has been growth in the number of students, mainly Koreans, attending the International Church. Those coming to the cafe include Brazilians, Taiwanese and Bulgarians. Several are showing a real interest in the things of God, with at least one new Bible study group having been formed.

Please pray for this multinational work, that many will find Christ, whilst living in the UK away from their home environment.

# Grateful Thanks

The Committee wish to record their grateful thanks to Lady Susan Sainsbury who stood down in March as TES Patron after 10 years loyal support and encouragement. Also to Dr Derek Tidball, who has been a helpful Vice-President for a number of years and is now cutting back on his commitments following his retirement as Principal of the London School of Theology.

## Governing Committee (Trustees):

Leslie Lucas (Chairman)  
Ann Abernethie (Treasurer)  
Malcolm Bridger  
Derek Butters  
David Cunnings  
Raymond James

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