

Where We Are

- Charles & Elizabeth Addoco
Heather Smith
- Will & Lynne Andrews
- Tim & Joy Ayrton
Tony & Ruth Hood
- Kevin & Anita Baldwin
- Jonathan & Heather Brain
- David & Lindsey Brown
Andy & Isobel Hodson (CPI)
Paul & Vanessa Willmott
- Tim & Katrina Cracknell (CPI)
- Colin & Linda Johnson
- Mike & Su Strange (National)
Matt & Claire Merriam (CPI)
- Tim & Charissa Cooke (National)
- Ivor & Angela Cooper
Bob & Rita Telford (National)
- Clive & Fiona Cornish
Mike & Janet Thomas (ETP)
- Gordon & Penny Curley
- Ray & Carol Dadswell
- Phil & Sheila Davies
- Martin & Rachel Erwin
- Stephen & Jean Gillham
Ian & Sally Carr (ETP)
- John & Rachel Hardwick (National)
- Benjamin & Chiara Hersh (ETP)
- James & Naomi Richards (ETP)
- David & Katie Symons
- Robert & Sarah Watson

ETP - Evangelists Training Programme
CPI - Church Planting Initiative

There are also 11 'Seniors' who are over 65.

Tom & Madelene Bathgate	Andy & Miriam Jelfs
Geoff & Isobel Carr	John & Hettie Hall
Roger & Hazel Chilvers	David & Wendy Iliffe
Lionel & Mavis Clargo	John & Jane Martin
Victor Jack	Dennis Pierce
	Dick & Betty Saunders



Young mum shares hope



Wow what an awesome day of outreach! The sun shone (despite a week of heavy rain!), the crowds came and the gospel was shared.

To give you an idea of the kind of area it is - the police were very hesitant during the planning stages as they feared a riot! On the day itself, a youth was going to throw a firework on stage but we thank God he was stopped by a steward! Clearly, this is an area that needs the good news of Jesus.

Over 1,000 people came from the Clifton estate during the day - the vast majority of whom would never go near a church. Before the event, we prayed we would

run out of response bags and guess what? We did! 250 people took bags containing the 'Truth' resource amongst other information. It was also really encouraging that nearly half of the volunteers wearing a 'Make Jesus Known' T-shirt were not yet Christians. One young single mum from the estate who recently gave her life to God was able to share her testimony for the first time with her friends who had volunteered alongside her.

Please pray that God would use the seeds planted to grow full disciples. As I write we are running a follow-up meeting in the local community centre for those



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Thank You

We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to those who give anonymously to Counties. Although we are always delighted to be in regular contact with our supporters, we praise God for those whose giving is undisclosed.

"Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." Matt. 6:4

Gift Aid: the UK government is supporting the evangelistic work of

Counties! Through Gift Aid, it is possible for us to claim the tax back for your gift. If you are a UK tax-payer, please make sure you fill out the Gift Aid information when you give.

On-line: We also give thanks for those who have recently made donations via our 'Donate Now' button on the website www.CountiesUK.org.

2012 Day Conference Saturday 3 March

Programme to include:

- Worship
- Youth & Children's programme
- Bible Teaching & Training from Counties Evangelists
- Special guest - Steve Timmis



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GSUS LIVE

Over 100 kids attended... that's when the problems started

I was recently with the Youth Leader of a church that was responsible for inviting GSUS Live to their area last year. He shared about the follow up initiatives they employed after the event, but also about some of the difficulties they had experienced.

"The youth team put on a big event in their church on the last Friday that GSUS Live was in the area - and over 400 kids from the six different schools came. Over the next few weeks over 100 kids regularly attended the weekly youth meeting and I'm sure we would all be saying 'Amen' to that, unfortunately that's when all the problems started!

The church already had a thriving youth group, mainly comprising kids that had grown up in church, or who had been invited by friends who understood the



protocol of church behaviour. Now they were being exposed to a mass of teenagers that weren't used to sitting still and listening to someone talk about their faith, or singing praises to God or reading the Bible.

With the influx of the new kids, most youth nights were a nightmare, with fights breaking out every week, and at times it was utter chaos.

Emergency team meetings were called, often with input from the senior leaders of the church because they recognised that they had to drastically change the approach. After much heartache, tears, grace and patience, we are now eighteen months down the line and still have fifty plus kids from the original group! But now it's great to see these kids, often from a difficult background, singing their hearts out to a God they know loves them and standing up in front of their peers praying".

GSUS Live Diary

Sept/Oct 2011

- CYO (Braintree, Essex)
- N&W Cardiff Leaders

Nov/Dec 2011

- (Mark 1 Pod being rebuilt)
- Exeter



For a list of schools, or to arrange a visit please visit www.gsuslive.co.uk or call Steve Parry 01633 889 052. GSUS Live is a mobile classroom with a multimedia computer suite designed to guide students through a programme of understanding the Bible's teaching on FEAR, FORGIVENESS and REJECTION.

Come and meet us

4 October "Connecting the grid"
Joint consultation with Training providers & church leaders

Café Counties'
Sunday 9 October at 3:30pm
Alexander Evangelical Church, AL2 1HT
Will Andrews andrews@countiesuk.org

Hampshire Counties Report evening
Monday 17 October 7:45pm
Duncan Road Church, SO31 1BD
T 01489 582395

Counties Essex Support Group
Friday 4 November 8.00pm
Broomfield Road Evangelical CM1 1RY
Stephen Hall T 01245 471019

Science & Belief: The Big Issues, with Professor Russell Stannard
4 November 8.00pm
Hockliffe Street Baptist, LU7 1EZ
T 01525 371 312

Church Planting Consultation
Wednesday 16 November
Birmingham



LIFE Exhibition

Future Venues

26 Sept-4 Oct, Enniskillen, The Stables (N. Ireland)

5-14 Oct, Scrabo Hall, Newtownards

15-22 Oct, Bethany Church, Finaghy, Belfast

25 Oct-2 Nov, Selkirk Street Evangelical (Scotland)

21-28 Nov, St Leonards with Churches Together, Seaford

For further information about the exhibition contact: Martin Buckley
LIFE Exhibition Co-ordinator
30 Haynes Road, WESTBURY, BA13 3HD
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The LIFE Exhibition is a unique, interactive, mobile exhibition, exploring the life of Jesus and his impact in the world today.

Counties exists to present 'Life in all its fullness: locally & nationally' through our full time Evangelists, exhibitions and resources, in Biblically faithful and culturally relevant ways.

Address: Counties 30 Haynes Road, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HD
Telephone: 01373 823 013 Email: office@countiesuk.org www.countiesuk.org

We are glad to be able to make Counties News available free of charge. (It costs approximately £5 per year to produce and distribute six editions) Every additional contribution will help us to present "Life in all its fullness: locally & nationally". Thank you for your valued partnership.



IN THIS ISSUE



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Young mum shares hope

Can God mend 'Broken Britain'?

Hope for youth

He came into Number72, a sad and rather forlorn figure. Despite his teenage years his appearance displayed all the signs that he was carrying a very heavy burden.

As he sat down we encouraged him to talk. Slowly we helped him to unpack the load that he was struggling to deal with, and to share his intense feelings of deep loss, loneliness and anger. Lots of anger. He didn't have the ability to speak about it in nice terms. These were raw deep emotions which had caused him to be alienated from his peers and teachers at school, and the feelings were spilling out.

As we talked, a surprising glimmer of hope appeared. "I've found these words" he said. "They've really helped me. Can I bring them in to show you?"

The next time we met we waited expectantly for the poem or song lyric which we had somehow assumed we were about to hear. He produced from his pocket a rather crumpled little book. As he turned it over I read the title on the front cover. New Testament and Psalms - presented by The Gideons. He turned over the pages with obvious respect. Then he started to read from John 3:15-16. Other verses followed, and then more.

We sat by the sunny window at Number72 and talked for quite a long time about hope and having a future. About the

certainty of knowing God and about being re-born. "That's what I want" he said. What a wonderful joy it was to pray together.

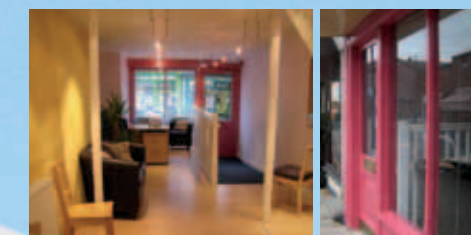
The word RE-CYCLE is often used today to remind us that many things discarded, considered useless, can be brought back and become useful once again, and take on new meaning. In the Scriptures we find some wonderful 'RE' words that can keep hope and encouragement alive in our hearts.

REdeemed: *I am the LORD .. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.* Exodus 6:6 (NIV)

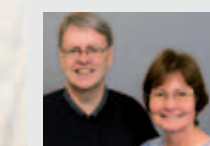
REstored: *I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD.* Jeremiah 30:17 (NIV)

REnewed: *Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.* Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

Please pray for our forthcoming bereavement sessions for teenagers, which begin in local schools in September.



Number72



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Being 'Roadies' for God



Here are some reflections from two young people who worked with Heather Smith this summer at Nottingham Christian Youth Holiday (www.ncyh.co.uk).

"Summer camp presents the opportunity for people aged 17-21 to become a 'Roadie'. It's a Roadie's job to make sure things run smoothly by setting up, serving, or by being friendly.

NCYH summer camp is awesome in so many ways. We have great activities

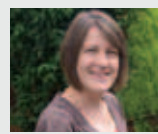
every year including 'manhunt', a themed party, sports and workshops. We're always searching for things at summer camp - whether that's for food in the canteen, or for people in manhunt, or searching for God, you need to be a searcher.

It has been a great privilege to have been a Roadie for the past two years. It helps young people to grow in their faith in God, as no Christian is ever complete, no matter how close to God we think we may be. This is just a little sample of what summer camp is about." Paul Johnson
 "This year was my first year as a Roadie, and I am not ashamed to say it was amazing! This is an in-between role - for those of us too old to be a camper, but too young to be a Leader. So, naturally we get stuck in the middle, with an

expectation to enjoy ourselves (which isn't hard!), and take part in the activities, as well as rolling up our sleeves and mucking in with washing up, and keeping the place clean and tidy.

It sometimes feels like we need to become two different people on camp - someone that campers look up to because we aren't a million years older than them (no offence Leaders), but we also possess a little responsibility.

I'd say to anyone who has the opportunity to be in a similar situation, take it! It's so rewarding to know that you are making a difference to each and every one of their lives. Camp for me is only a week long, but what I take away will last me a lifetime." Shannon Stannett



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Working with Dad



We are very grateful to the Lord for the children the Lord has given us, particularly Debora and Stephen.

It is very encouraging to see these young people embracing the challenges of being the children of an Evangelist. Debora and Stephen occasionally come with me to distribute tracts at the Ilford Town Centre and Seven Kings Train Station.

In almost all the preaching that I have done in various churches within Essex, they have accompanied me. Usually Stephen will play the keyboard while Debora sings and I preach. I have enjoyed their companionship all these years. In most cases, I give them the text, then they

work out the sort of songs that suit the text or the theme for the message. Each time that we have had such an opportunity, they rehearse over the songs for at least an hour.

In addition, Stephen plays a tremendous role in helping to manage the football team. He and I believe this partnership has contributed so much to my ministry as an evangelist.

Recently, we visited a church in Essex where Debora sang. One of the elders informed me how he was filled with tears when Debora was singing. All this goes to the Glory of God.

Their involvement has inspired some of the young people in the churches we have visited and hope it will motivate other young people to share in the Ministry of the Kingdom of God.



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The Factory or the Orchard?

While some of our city streets were experiencing chaos, conflict and lawlessness in recent weeks, out in the countryside, fruit farms and cornfields were slowly and quietly yielding their delightful fruits for our benefit. The extreme contrast reminded me of Paul's words in Galatians 5:

The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage... But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

One commentator suggests that these verses contrast the unpleasant noises and smells of old factories with the delightful peace, fragrance and colours of a fruitful orchard. By God's grace and the power of the gospel, Counties Evangelists are privileged to see ugly and chaotic lives transformed into lives of beauty and fruitfulness. How we long to see this transformation through many more lives and communities.

John Wilkes, CEO-Evangelist

Mending our broken Nation

We live at a time when Christianity is often trivialized. We find it difficult to learn lessons from the past, but there are great men and women waiting to be celebrated.

Many of our former leaders were ordinary people with extraordinary faith and courage. Our Heritage Walks seek to make the past come alive, so we can tread more firmly and confidently.

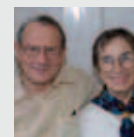
Our two City Christian Heritage Walks recall God's past leaders and inspire us to follow in their steps. Stoke Newington, the location of the first walk (Sundays), was a place where William Booth, Hudson Taylor, Isaac Watts and several others did amazing things for God. We visit these places, rubbing shoulders with the Turks and Afro-Caribbean's who now inhabit streets where these heroes walked in the past. These men and women were quite ordinary Christians. They had extraordinary compassion and perseverance, relying on the promises of God.

Our second Walk (Saturdays) starts at St Paul's Cathedral, standing on the spot where Tyndale's New Testament was burned, or looking at an enlarged page from John Wesley's diary, where he



describes his conversion. Central London is full of such places where we can recollect God's greatness. At the site of Newgate Prison we recall Elizabeth Fry who visited women prisoners, transforming their lives and starting a Prison Reformation across Europe.

Our walks are designed to introduce people to some of these warriors of the Faith. We visit places where they lived and worked; we listen to what they said; we read extracts from their writings. We thank God for the lasting influence they had and the great difference they made in our Nation.



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North-East Counties Weekend "A Vision for Mission"

Saturday 15th October 7-9.00pm

- Regent Chapel Christian Fellowship, NE33HD

Sunday Services 16th October

- David Brown at Edgewell Christian Centre
- Paul Willmott at Coquet Avenue Evangelical Church
- John Wilkes at Regent Chapel Christian Fellowship

More details from Counties Office.

Seniors



Victor Jack
Victor joined Counties over 47 years ago, and in his early years was

involved with tent missions across Suffolk with 400 people regularly attending. In more recent years he has been involved with:

- Men's weekends and evenings, leading Houseparties and preaching engagements.
- Victor was involved in setting up Sizewell Hall in 1975. Since then over 200,000 people have visited for camps, Houseparties and holidays. Victor has now handed over to a new younger team. He organised his last 'Over 50s' group at Sizewell in August after 36 years of running them.
- Garden Tomb (Israel): Victor has been involved for 22 years, and spent time in Israel during March-May this year and will be returning in November. Victor will be handing over as Chairman of the Trustees in 2012.
- Victor spent some time in July/August in north Scotland speaking at 'Keswick in Buckie'.
- The booklet 'Believe & Be Baptised' was written by Victor "in the back of a tent" and is now being used in 80 languages, including having recently been translated into Farsi.



Geoff & Isobel Carr
Geoff & Isobel have recently managed to enjoy a couple of breaks together

and family reunions. They would appreciate prayer for guidance, wisdom and patience as Geoff has been waiting a diagnosis of a health problem since May. Further tests and specialist appointments are due soon. Geoff longs to be able to do more, having 'missed many opportunities for preaching'.

In the mean time, he is having to manage his diary carefully, but is looking forward to restarting more preaching engagements soon. Thank you for your prayers.

BPWMIAAWIP



Very recently a man walked into our Sunday Service with a bulge under each arm, and at the first opportunity I introduce myself. First, he had to remove the ¼ bottle of whisky and nearly

I became a Christian at the age of 18. With many problems from a rough childhood of drugs, drink and a lack of discipline with no dad at home.

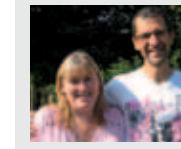
The well known Ray Bevan was holding a meeting at a posh hotel in Newport and my new Christian friends took me along. Unfortunately at that early stage of my Christian walk, I wasn't able to walk past the bar. I sat drinking, but I could see Ray and he kept looking at me.

At the end of his talk he stepped from the makeshift pulpit and walked over to me and raised his hand on to my head, which I quickly knocked away. He lifted his hand again, so I hit him. I became known as 'the man who hit the speaker'! I'm now in full time ministry, and married with children.

empty bottle of Bacardi to the floor. This man has a street cred to keep, but upon hearing our worship felt he had to come in.

Four weeks later he's received Jesus and asked for forgiveness of his sins. He hasn't touched any alcohol since, but struggles with other things in life. He's had a rough life of violence, lack of discipline and no dad at home! He has just become 'a work in progress'.

God is changing lives today as he was twenty years ago, and I often ask people to: **Be Patient With Me I AM A Work In Progress (BPWMIAAWIP).**



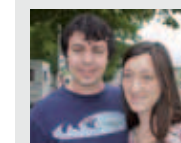
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Refugee camps, Christian camps and camp site camps

Over the past two years I've had the privilege of meeting up with Sam for prayer and Bible study most weeks.

From a young 16 year old Christian man, who had lots of potential he is growing into a mature young leader. Here's a summary Sam gave of some things he's been recently involved with and some of the things God's been teaching him.

"Life with God has had lots of ups and downs. At times I've seen people healed of meningitis in a Thailand free clinic, and at other times I've been lost as to what the purpose of life is. I've loved God, hated Him, feared Him and revered Him. I've preached to hundreds but have discouraged many too."



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I've led Christian unions and helped at others. Sometimes I've been leading four groups a week, sometimes none. I've been to refugee camps, Christian camps and camp site camps. It's never been a perfect road. Sure, I've tried to make it that way, but in the end I've learnt that it's good to just submit to God and trust that He'll take care of you. More importantly than that, it's paramount that you make sure that it's the true God you're serving, because if you think you're serving God but really aren't, you'll be burnt when you find out the truth."

Counties Partners

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