
Andrew Phillips

What an unbelievably hectic few weeks we've had at Christians in Schools! First of all there was Unwind 04. Please read the report from two of the girls who went on the holiday overleaf. Everyone had such a good time even though very little sleep was had by most people!

Thanks must go particularly to Lyn Ellis who gave up a week to slave away in the kitchen. Roll on Unwind 05!

As I write we have just had Fusion. This time it was at Cheadle Hulme College (thanks to them for coming up with a venue for us) and starred thebandwithnname, FaithStyle and DJ Dan Hargreaves.

Again, we were blown away with the whole thing and there were some great conversations had by the response team and some new contacts made with young people who we had never seen in school before. Thanks to all those people who contributed to Fusion in terms of time, prayer and financially.

Schools work is slowing down as the end of term approaches. The new Reddish Vale HAM club is going really well on a Friday dinner time and we regularly see 25 young people from year 7 and 8. Both Splat! (Priestnall) and theclubwithnname (Stockport school) continue to progress although numbers have decreased slightly due to it being summer term. Please pray for God to

Monday 4th October, 7:30 pm

Open evening for Stockport Christian Counselling and Christians in Schools at the Town House.

give me bucket loads of wisdom as I plan for the groups in September.

Finally the last couple of weeks of the term have seen me going into four feeder primary schools to do *Its Your Move*, a way of saying hello to the new year 7 pupils and helping them make the move from primary to secondary.

The schools are St. Paul's in Brinnington and North Reddish Junior school (both Reddish feeders), St. Thomas' on Hillgate (Stockport School feeder) and Mersey Vale (Priestnall feeder). Your prayers would be appreciated for continuing contacts this coming term.

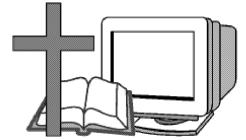
Thanks so much for your support since last September. I've seen God do some massive stuff and it's all down to faithful prayer supporters like you.

Andrew

Points for Prayer

- A successful staff office move.
- Vision and strength for Sue and Andrew at the start of a new school year.
- Increase in funding to help make our VISION a reality.
- Greater awareness by all of us, individuals and churches, of the fantastic opportunities 'Let us work as long as it is day' (John 9:4).
- The boys and girls who have heard the Good News and those who have responded.
- Children contacted through the *It's Your Move* literature.

CHRISTIANS IN SCHOOLS



Newsletter - August 2004

Seeing Vision translated into Reality

Over a year ago we were able to share with you the VISION we have for an effective team approach to include most of Stockport's Secondary Schools, including Poynton and Wilmslow. This Vision groups schools into five clusters. Each cluster will have a worker responsible for it - a minimum of five workers. Last year we appointed Andrew for three days per week. He will be working for four days a week from September and we hope to increase this to full time from January 2005.

However, we have a problem: we do not currently have the income to support even two workers full time, let alone five. Most of the schools are currently open to allow Sue and Andrew to speak at Assemblies, take RE lessons and run clubs, as well as advertise events outside school. We must not take these privileges for granted and we must make the most of the opportunities we have at present.

We are so very grateful for the support given to us over the years. If you currently give financially, would you consider increasing your gift if you are able?

If you are currently not giving regularly to CIST, would you consider this challenge and help us to reach out to more young people, more regularly? Gifts pledged to us by bank standing order are one way that we can plan for growth.

Our support base of individuals is currently from people typically over the age of fifty. If you have children at school, this is a wonderful way that you can ensure that the truth of the Gospel and the Name of Jesus is heard by your children and their friends in our schools. Please help all you can and above all, pray for us.

Philip Clarke

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If you do not receive a personal copy of this Newsletter and would like one, please contact your Church Representative or the Trust Treasurer who maintains our address list.

Sue Mayo

It seems impossible to believe that we're at the end of another school year and that I've now completed two years in the job! It's all just flown past and loads of great things have happened.

Andrew and I have become a real team – we share a sense of humour, a passion for seeing young people saved and soon, we very much hope, we'll share an office! We've had a great time this year getting to know each other and learning to rely on one another for so many things.

You'll see from his report that we've been up to a lot of great joint projects like our work in Avondale, Unwind 04 (thank you to Hazel Grove High for the use of the minibus) and Fusion and we've also kept our 'own' schools' work going. I've been into Kingsway, Cheadle Hulme and Avondale, as well as Secondary Schools across the Borough, teaching RE lessons and taking assemblies.

New ventures in schools have included a new HAM at Kingsway which is very successful and a new and very popular Philosophy Club at Avondale. *The Wizard of Oz* was really good and gave me a chance to meet up with kids I didn't know at Avondale. Thanks for all your prayers.

HAM - Hanging Around Ministry
POG - People of God - the name of the Christian Union at Cheadle Hulme College

I've also loved doing the *It's Your Move* sessions with volunteer Kate Clements

in Avondale feeder schools. We met Year 6's at Adswold and St Matthew's and shared a great time with them. We were able to explode a few myths about what happens on your first day at big school, as well as reminding them that God is in control. We did this alongside Sarah Barnsley, a Year 11 student from POG at Cheadle Hulme College.

It's Your Move

This fabulous 64 page book, published by Scripture Union, helps youngsters in their move from Primary to Secondary School. We were helped in providing these books by generous targeted gifts. Thank you.

Seeing young Christians moving up into a leadership role is one of the most exciting parts of my job and I'll be taking a group of Year 11s up to Keswick again this month to help with the SU children's work there. It's an opportunity for them to try out leadership gifts as well as having a really good laugh together after all the stress of GCSEs. Please pray that it might not be quite as rainy an experience as it was last year!

The Lord has given us so many opportunities to share the gospel with young people in new and exciting ways this year and I'm so grateful to Him. I was especially thrilled that we were able to see young people coming to faith. As well as Sam and Helene, who made a commitment at Unwind 04, another young person gave her life to Christ after Fusion at Cheadle Hulme College. What is so good is that I already have a relationship with her, thanks to the work

Unwind 04

I've done in POG over the last two years. I will be able to follow up by continuing to be involved in the school next year.

For loads of kids, this continuity of adult care is missing from their lives and it's a vital aspect of the work that the Christians in Schools Trust is able to do because of your on-going support. Thank you so much.

Please pray that volunteers will come forward so that the school groups can continue next year.

As I look forward to the next year, I'm excited by so many things!

- Continuing to work with kids we already know and meeting loads of new ones, introducing them to Jesus and, by God's grace, continuing to see young lives turned around.
- Looking forward to meeting more of you at Supporter's Evenings and in your churches.
- Most of all, I'm excited at the prospect of what God's got in store for us in 2004/05—workers, Trust and supporters—as we seek to serve Him in partnership. His faithfulness never ceases to amaze me and I know that he has great plans for the work in schools! Thank you so much for being a part of it.

With warm Christian love,

Sue

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We got picked up from Avondale at 2:30pm to go to Beddgelert in Wales. There were people from Avondale, Cheadle Hulme College, Kingsway and Stockport School. The leaders were Andrew, Sue, Lyn, Sena, Jane and Alex.

During the trip we did lots of activities such as night-time walks, playing on the beach, a trip to the ropeworks - where Helene faced her worst fear of heights! We also went swimming. We enjoyed every activity on the trip.

The Thursday night was the best for Helene and me because we decided to become Christians. We had been thinking about it for a while and really felt it was the right thing to do when we were given the opportunity. Since the holiday we have carried on with God, and we now go to church and cell group.

We can't wait until Unwind 05!

Written by Sam and Helene (two Year 10 pupils from Avondale)

Do come if you can to

Pray for Schools

on Saturday 2nd October 2004

from 10am-11am at

Hazel Grove Baptist Church

Station Street, Hazel Grove