



NEWSLETTER

Success Story.....Selina

(Last edition highlighted the testimony of John. The following is the story of saving grace for his wife Selina.)

My name is Selina, 5 years ago I was a heroin addict, and then I went to Hope House and allowed Jesus to transform my life. I did not come from a broken home, my parents and upbringing was Christian, but I was broken just the same. I had a knowledge of God and 'gave my heart to the Lord' when I was a child but my path between then and now has been full of twists and turns – many of them due to my own wrong choices. People always talk about searching for something, for meaning and purpose or love, and it's so true that we look in all the wrong places.

I never felt at peace or content in who I was, it was like I knew there should be more to life and more to me but never really

dared to believe it, I was looking to outward signs of worth and achievement which of course led to lots of disappointments as I was let down by others and by myself. There were various times and situations when I turned again to God and He was always there. Although I could wish I had realised sooner that Jesus was the answer to all I was looking for, I would have missed out on so many opportunities to experience His faithfulness and power. I am now a support worker to adults with learning disabilities where the Lord equips me daily to meet their varied needs with His compassion. I praise God for Teen Challenge and all those involved with the ministry, not only for my own freedom but



that of my wonderful husband and our precious friends whom we've met along its path.

Benaiah – 'God Has Built' – New unit opened

A new rented Facility opened in August in North East Scotland for mothers with babies. 'Benaiah' will be a residential centre initially catering for up to five residents who live in Aberdeenshire. The Local Authority is excited about this development since it recognises the need for it in their area. A new Acting manager Monica has been appointed. Monica has worked for many years with Teen Challenge in Scotland. Please pray for her that the Lord will continue to provide all the resources needed for this important new venture.



Housing benefit update

In previous newsletters we have informed you that Housing Benefit payments for our residents in the South Wales projects was withdrawn by the Local Authority in April 2008. The Board of Directors have taken legal advice and after careful consideration have decided not to appeal the decision of the Local Authority. Please pray for the Board as it leads the ministry through these difficulties.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



Most people will agree that there is something different about Christmas! Whilst it has been exploited for commercial gain and attacked for being too Christian no one has succeeded in destroying its uniqueness or silencing its message! Indeed the drive to put Christ back into Christmas becomes stronger each year.

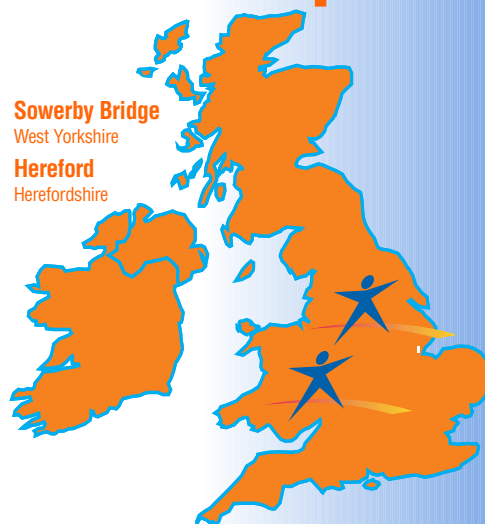
At the end of a year that has seen so much sorrow and suffering, conflict and confusion, heartaches and hardships, the message of Christmas needs to be heard more than ever before. The angelic message of peace on earth and goodwill to all men is still relevant to and needed by our communities today. This Christmas there will probably be no angels who will announce it but God still wants the world to hear it!

Undoubtedly Christmas is a time of both great pleasure and great pain. It is the special time to rejoice that God gave His

Son Jesus to bring salvation to a lost and dying world, to bring His peace and forgiveness into our troubled hearts and minds. But in the midst of all our festivities please remember those whose pain will be magnified at this time – the lonely, the bereaved, the homeless, the addicted and all other hurting people. Please pray that the special message of Christmas will bring healing and hope into their lives and if possible try to be God's angel and do something to make a difference to at least one such person.

This year our centres around the UK will bring cheer and love to over 150 young people who probably never thought they could enjoy Christmas without drugs or drink. Teen Challenge is a very big and special family and we send you our love and want to thank you for being a part of it. We wish you God's peace and blessings and a very happy Christmas.

New outreach centres open!



Sowerby Bridge
West Yorkshire

Hereford
Herefordshire

Since our last newsletter two new outreach centres have been launched. We are excited by these developments at Sowerby Bridge in Yorkshire and at Hereford. Please pray for the workers in these new projects as they begin to build relationships with hurting young people on their streets.

Graduation & 25th Anniversary service



October saw the 25 year celebration of Teen Challenge residential ministry during the Graduation service at Swansea City Temple. The guest speaker for the service was Steven Derbyshire from City Gates Church in Ilford, Essex and the programme included the showing of a special commemorative DVD depicting some of the history of Teen Challenge in the UK from 1984 to date. There was also special recognition awards given to acknowledge individuals who have given 'long and outstanding service'. **A special DVD of the service is being produced which should be available at a cost of £12.00 (Inc P&P) from the National office from December 2009.**

Celebrating 25 years of Residential ministry

Teen challenge Leeds (pictured) is established in 5 communities around Leeds and is taking 'church' to the streets. This is just one of the permanent evangelistic Teen Challenge centres which have been planted during the last twenty-five years – these have hundreds of trained workers who engage with troubled and hurting young people each week.



Teen Challenge Outreach Trailer Burmantofts Leeds

Workers Conference at Hayes Centre



Guest speaker, Mike Zello

Section of Delegates attending the Staff Conference

A record number of delegates attended the recent Teen Challenge Annual workers conference held over 13-15 November. Around 200 people were present from various parts of the U.K. The guest speaker was Mike Zello from Teen Challenge USA. We were encouraged by his teaching and it was a great time of refreshing for all who were present.

God Answers Prayer

The appeal in our last newsletter on behalf of one of our former graduates for a vehicle was miraculously answered! Thank you to everyone who responded – we were much encouraged by your response.



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ARE YOU GIFT AIDING YOUR GIVING TO TEEN CHALLENGE?

Thanks to those who responded to our last appeal and increased or gift aided their regular contributions.

We are still experiencing a decrease in donations and would ask those of you that are able to prayerfully consider increasing your support to us. It may surprise many of our supporters that only 50% of our monthly donors use Gift Aid to increase their giving. If we can raise that to 75% it would increase our income by around £45,000 per year. A Gift Aid form is enclosed which we ask you to consider completing if you are a UK tax payer and you pay tax of at least the amount you are giving to Teen Challenge. An envelope is also enclosed for its return. Thank you.

Have your details changed?

Please keep us up to date with your change of name or address. By doing this, you can help us to save money by reducing the returns from each newsletter and enabling us to keep our records in order for gift aid.

If you have email access you can help us reduce postage costs by receiving your newsletter in electronic format. You can notify us of your change or request your newsletter by email either in writing to us, by ringing the National office or emailing kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk

On-line giving

We announced in the last newsletter the new provision for making an 'on-line donation' via Pay Pal with your debit or credit card. There has been some response to this new facility since its introduction, for which we are so grateful. To make a debit or credit card donation just go onto the Teen Challenge web site at www.teenchallenge.org.uk.





RECYCLE • RECYCLE • RECYCLE • RECYCLE

Waste not, want not.... So the adage goes, but want is everywhere to be seen. The lives of many thousands of our nation's young people are spiralling out of control, trapped in addictions. At the same time, every year, thousands of tonnes of old clothing and electronic waste are sent by Christians to landfill or incinerators at great cost to the council tax payer and the environment. At best they are often given to secular charities and even commercial companies when Christian causes are desperately in need of support. Well, what if the waste could be avoided and the want defeated too?

Clothing & Textiles

Right now a great opportunity has arisen for us to process and sell on old clothing and invest the income generated into providing new lives from old. For more information contact 'The New Lives Project' on 01269 842718 (ext 8310)



Mobile phones and Empty printer cartridges

With recycling now part of our everyday life, we at Teen Challenge want to be part of that. We have linked up with a company who recycles old mobile phones and ink cartridges. If you would like to help us raise funds whilst at the same time reducing the amount of electronic waste consigned to landfill, you can arrange free collection of your old mobile phones and/or empty printer cartridges. Details of what can be included can be found on our website. If you click on the link '**Please recycle me**' you can request an envelope for free posting.



Thank you

Your financial and prayer support is greatly appreciated and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you and wish you a very blessed and happy Christmas and New Year from all at Teen Challenge UK.



Gospel Cards This Christmas



Please purchase cards from Gospel cards who give commission on your purchases to assist the ministry of Teen Challenge. Please log on to www.GospelCardsEtc.com or call **01656 647551** for a catalogue

Teen Challenge UK

National Office

31 Llandeilo Road, Cross Hands,
Llanelli, Carmarthenshire,
SA14 6NA.

Tel: 01269 844168

Fax: 01269 834705

email: info@teenchallenge.org.uk

www.teenchallenge.org.uk

