

SAYT NEWSLETTER

October 2005

The continuing story of 'The Basketball Boys' (and the Girls too) by Jane

Continuing on from our successes with the winning basketball team and setting up a coaching session on a Friday night, we took the next bold step with the group ... inviting them away for a weekend.

Out of those invited we established a smaller group of six: 3 girls and 3 lads who took the brave decision to come with us. The destination: Halls Green activity centre near Sevenoaks Weald.

"Can we go for longer next time – a week!" This was the main comment after the weekend. We took six, but we ended with five – one young man went home early after some stress, conflict and confiscations on the Saturday! That's part of the learning that takes place for all parties particularly when you go away together.

The rest of the weekend was fun and relaxed: we did a BBQ, had a campfire, toasted marshmallows, went swimming, had a games tournament organised by the group, and they discovered that spaghetti bolognese doesn't have to come out of a jar!

Basketball coaching takes place on a Friday night 6-7pm at Wildernesse Sports Centre. We are very grateful to Sevenoaks Lions Club who, represented by Peter Brignell, met with the group and have given them £145 towards coaching costs.



News from Otford ...

In the last newsletter we asked you to pray about the work in Otford as the bad behaviour of a few was making it difficult to work there. It looked as though prayers had been answered - here is the latest news from Judith ...

When we originally planned what we would put in this newsletter I intended to include some good news about improvement in the sessions in Otford. For a couple of weeks this had been the case, we'd had some good conversations about Jesus with the ring leaders and they were asking about my faith ... but since then we have encountered more problems.

Tony (the KCC youth worker) and I met with this group recently to establish some ground rules. Sadly we have had to tell them that unless they start to behave we will be forced to go and work elsewhere. Tony and I would like to split this group and meet with those that are interested, particularly a small group of girls. We have made some enquiries about using a local building during the winter where we would have a more structured approach to our work with sessions on health and beauty.

Editors note: It is much harder to tell you about efforts that seem to have failed. Please get behind Judith and Tony in prayer on a Wednesday night. Pray that they would not be disheartened, that they will have wisdom when dealing with these young people and also pray for this group of teenagers.

How do Judith and Jane spend their time?

Work with churches

Jane and Judith are primarily employed to work with young people outside of the churches, but they also do some work with the churches.

Twice each term youth leaders from churches across the Sevenoaks area meet for coffee, croissants, chat and prayer. It is a great opportunity to get to know other youth workers and support each other. If you are involved in youth work and would like to attend, please get in touch with Jane or Judith. Occasionally this leads to them helping youth groups with new ventures or leading a one-off session.



They are also involved in *Seeds*, an inter-church group who organise cringe-free evangelistic events. They are currently planning a contribution to the Sevenoaks late night shopping evening on 2nd December.

Jane and Judith would love to visit your church to keep you up to date with all the recent news. This could be during a Sunday service or mid-week meeting. If you have not seen them for a while, please do invite them to come and talk to you!



Contact: Jane 07905 963759 Or Judith 07905 963758

Partnership with St Mary's Kemsing

Jane is employed full-time by SAYT, but is seconded for half her time to St Mary's in Kemsing. This works well with her running the youth work there and helping from time to time with the children's work. It is very different from SAYT's detached and schools work although there is overlap as a weekly session of detached work is done in Kemsing, albeit with a different group of young people. For the darker nights they need a third person to help on a Tuesday 5-7pm in Kemsing so that they can use the Youthzone van. If you can help please get in touch with Jane on 07905 963759

Soul Survivor by Judith

In August Jane and I went to Soul Survivor in Somerset with a group of about 70 young people and leaders from

Oxford Methodist,
Vine Baptist,
Vine Evangelical
St Mary's Kemsing.



We had a really positive time away; I enjoyed in particular the opportunity to pray with some of the young people. As most of the young people that we meet on the streets are not Christians we pray *for* them, but as yet have not had the right circumstances to pray *with* them. It was also good to get to know some of the youth leaders and young people from the churches better. So, even when you take into account the manky showers and toilets it was a fantastic week!

Coming Up ...

16 November - Cheese & Wine Reception for church representatives.

18 – 20 November - Jane attends Youth Workers Conference in Eastbourne.

2 December - Sevenoaks late night Christmas shopping - Seeds roving Nativity

Advance Notice ...

Sunday 19 March - 6.30pm - Thanksgiving Service for SAYT at Vine Baptist Church

Prayer Points ...

- Continue to pray for the work in Otford.
- Thank God for the good camps over the summer, particularly Soul Survivor and Halls Green.
- Pray that the new Grey Zebra drugs worker settles in quickly.
- Pray that Judith and Jane have opportunities to pray with the young people they meet on the streets.
- Pray for the young people as they discover who they are and achieve their full potential.



Can you help SAYT?

By praying, by giving,
by volunteering.
Contact Sue on
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info@sayt.org.uk

SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust
Christians working together for Young People

www.sayt.org.uk

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