



Youth Work Update



Supporting **your** work with young people

Greetings

I've now got back about a third of the 'youthwork surveys' and as a result this UPDATE may be coming directly to you rather than via the incumbent. I'm really pleased to be gaining a clearer picture of what is happening across the Diocese (thanks so much) and have encountered some really encouraging youth work as a result. For example:

1. A rural group started by a 12yr old and her 15 yr old brother
2. Youth Alpha that's being run in a café
3. A small group for teens that started from a holiday club.
4. A Youth Church
5. A series of day trips where teens encounter/experience faith & community

The diversity is amazing but in common all these pieces of work have in common a desire to work with/make a difference for young people and help them to encounter a living faith.

The Magazine 'Young People Now' carried the following quote recently:

*"There is no disputing the fact that the Christian youth sector is highly valuable. Not only does it employ about 6,500 youth workers but it works with an estimated 1 million young people a week and invests £100 million in cash or kind, according to Churches together in England" *figures provided by CTE*

It was encouraging to see the week by week ministry through the church to young people recognised..... it's a great ministry that YOU/we have! So here's the update with a few things that I hope you'll find useful.

StUFF that's HappENiNG!

A **Rockmass** is at St Mary's Church Thatcham on Nov 20th.

VERTIGO 2 Will be in Oxford on Feb 4th 2006

If you like your Christian events loud, scary and exciting then look out for **Alton Towers '06**. Once again youth groups will be converging on the theme Park for the mad rides and a HUGE Christian concert in the evening. 20th May 2006



"A Child in our Midst" Mar 11th. Although this event is focused on children it will include work with 'Tweenagers'

YELLOW BRACES '06 will be (subject to confirmation) 7-9th July.

More details on the web site or call and I will post you the information.

I've been given some money to encourage youth work in the Diocese and I'm making some small grants (up to £200) available to support 'new stuff' If you've got a new project starting or are taking your youth group away for the first time (and need additional resources) then be in touch!



I've also seem to have far too many copies of "What every volunteer youth worker should know" so e-mail me your address and entitle the e-mail: Can I have a book please? and I'll send you one (while stocks last)



Ian Macdonald
Diocesan Church House
North Hinksey
OX2 0NB
01865 208 253

www.oxford.anglican.org/youth

Blog site = www.youthblog.org

youthofficer@oxford.anglican.org



Training Diary

Training Event: November 24th, Slough.

*All age worship
Reaching the un-churched
Handling difficult behaviour
working with special children.*

7.30-9.30pm Cost £5.00

Details from wayned@scriptureunion.org.uk

Romance Academy: Training that is happening as a result of the "No sex please we're teenagers" TV programme. The dates and venues are:

*Conference A London 10th December 2005 9.30am - 4.30pm
Conference B Birmingham 14th January 2006 9.30am - 4.30pm
Conference C Newcastle 11th February 2006 9.30am - 4.30pm*

www.romanceacademy.org/leaders



FUSION: An Australian Youth and Community organisation who have been doing some work in this country are holding a training day on Nov 26th. They do some HIGHLY successful youth and community work based around research, day trips and coffee bars. They are also extremely good at helping Churches to re-engage with community using open festival work. Details on this page.

SOULNET: 3rd-5th Feb 2006 at Centre Parcs (Elveden Forest). Organised by Soul Survivor as a youth worker/leader conference with an emphasis on retreat time with God. Popular and lively conference for youth leaders plus the fun of centre parcs. www.soulsurvivor.com/uk

Youth Work Essentials

Training geared to your needs. The Diocese have a team of trainers who can come to you!

Tweenagers: How do we respond to and work with 9-13 year olds. Why are Marketing and Advertising companies so interested in this age group. What do we need to do differently to recognise the way this age range has changed? If you'd like to host an evening let me know

Training at Church House in Oxford

How to tackle Sex with your youth group

8th Feb: Booking form available. This session is available to come to other parts of the Diocese.

Young Leader Training: At Yellow Braces in 2006 we'll be repeating our training for young leaders. Please be in touch if you have anyone who is interested.

Engage: There is a course running in Oxford on 7th Jan, 1st April and 10th June 2006. This course is ideal www.centreforyouthministry.ac.uk

VERTIGO: An interdenominational event to encourage and enable young people to live their faith in their church & in their communities. The first event saw around 400 young people attending and the feedback has been great.

The second Vertigo is on Feb 4th

www.vertigo-ox.com



CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid have a gap year student named Richard Boden. His brief is to develop work with youth groups and students.

He is available to run sessions with groups across the Diocese – on any aspect of global issues or Christian Aid's work.

01865 246 818

www.christianaid.org.uk



FUSION

National Expo and Training Day

10am—4pm Sat 26th Nov:
Thame Barn Centre

Pre-booking required: 01865 876 939



There is a rather cool Residential Centre in Herefordshire. It's called **Woolhope Cockshoot** and it's a great venue for youth-weekends.



It sleeps 22 and is self catering. It's £7pppn or £7.5pppn in school holidays. Let me know if you'd like more details

www.oxford.anglican.org/youth
www.youthblog.org