



# Unity News

Hastings and St Leonards Church  
Summer 2012

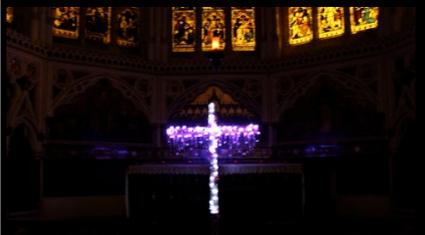
## Night Church

Night Church continues to open monthly at Holy Trinity Church across the clubbing hours.

On occasion over 80 people have talked at the door or come in and many expressed appreciation for what is offered.

There are various roles necessary during Night Church including welcoming, catering, talking with guests as they wish, praying during the open hours. To continue and, we hope, expand this ministry we need more volunteers.

If this might appeal to you please contact Beryl Lovett on 07804 137654



## Hastings Foodbank

Did you know that there are currently more than 5,500 children living in poverty in Hastings & St Leonards? Today, in our town, there are families struggling to put food on the table, parents choosing to skip meals so that their children can eat, and others forced to decide between paying the bills and buying food.

The Hastings Foodbank opened towards the end of April and, within its first five weeks, provided more than 300kg of food for 27 adults and nine children who would have otherwise gone hungry.

Front line services, such as Family Outreach Services, the Council's Housing Department, Care for the Carers, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Hope Kitchen and others, give vouchers to local people who have fallen into crisis. These vouchers are exchanged for three days food at the Foodbank, currently operating from the Hastings Centre, opposite the Conquest Hospital, two days a week.

The project was set up by Kings Church and so far also involves members of St Helens Church and the Quakers. It is part of the Trussell Trust's nation-wide Foodbank Network.

Paul Mann, senior leader at Kings, said, "We believe in a God who cares deeply for people in need. Jesus not only taught people about God, but he also met their needs – when people were hungry, he fed them; when they were sick, he healed them; when they were rejected, he accepted them. We believe that we have a responsibility to do likewise, showing people God's love for them in practical ways. We hope the Hastings Foodbank will help many, many local people who find themselves in a crisis."

For more information about the Hastings Foodbank, visit the website: [www.hastings.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.hastings.foodbank.org.uk). Or contact us via email: [info@hastings.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@hastings.foodbank.org.uk); mobile: 07970 810008; or landline: 01424 755990 (Kings Church).

## Hastings and the Olympic Torch

On 17th July several Churches will be open along the torch route and there will be many events in combination with the St Leonards Festival. Christians are helping in many ways with refreshments, messy church, music, Mencap Special Olympic soft bowls and assisting as street marshals. Street Pastors will be out in both the afternoon and evening. Watch out for more details of the town-wide programme.



# The Snowflake Winter Night Shelter

**“You were a stranger and you welcomed me” Matthew 25**

This coming winter Christian communities in Hastings and St Leonards will join those in 45 other towns in England to provide shelter for the increasing number of persons rendered homeless as a consequence of the current recession. The Snowflake Trust, in association with members of Church Together in Hastings and St Leonards, is steadily making progress with the arrangements for the Snowflake Winter Night Shelter commencing in December this year.



Three Churches have committed their halls to provide the shelter on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday nights and negotiations are well advanced with other Christian communities to cover the other four nights of the week. Interest from across the entire local Christian community in regard to being volunteers assisting the running of the Snowflake Winter Night Shelter is growing. The Church Urban Fund has awarded £4,000 towards the cost of running the Shelter and an appeal has been launched to raise the balance of £20,000 needed.

For more information contact Christopher Maxwell-Stewart on 01424 422306



On 24th May over a breakfast at the White Rock Hotel, Steve Tipping told us a story of a young married man whose life was completely overshadowed by debt. Though he had a home, wife and child he lost all hope and attempted suicide, unsuccessfully, as this was Steve's own story. He is now national development manager for Christians Against Poverty (CAP) and came to tell us how we might establish a CAP centre in Hastings.

There is already a centre in Bexhill, at Sidley Baptist Church, but they are swamped by numbers of people requesting help, including Hastings residents. CAP runs a highly commended debt counselling service from its headquarters in Bradford. What is needed locally are Christians in Hastings and St Leonards who will undergo training to meet with clients as “Befrienders” and pass on, via the centre

manager, details to the centre in Bradford where all the financial matters are handled. You do not need to be a financial wizard! Mike Coe, vicar of St Matthew's Church, Silverhill has agreed to take us on to the next stage of enquiry on Tuesday 3rd July. If you would like to know more about the new ministry please come to this meeting, which does not commit you to joining in, it is to inform you as to what would be involved.

Tuesday July 3rd: 7.45 pm at St. Matthew's Church Centre, London Road, St Leonards on Sea TN37 6PD. If you are reading this after July 3, don't panic, contact Mike Coe on 01424 425863



Richard and Beryl Woolhouse lead a prayer group interceding for the persecuted Church meeting once a month." We support suffering brothers and sisters through prayer informed by audiotape and other media from Open Doors.

If you would like to join such a group please contact Richard and Beryl. 01424 719653 or email [randbwoolhouse@metronet.co.uk](mailto:randbwoolhouse@metronet.co.uk)

To find out more about Open Doors visit their website [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org)

# Christian Schools Workers Hastings

CSWH are low on funds and may have to reduce the sessions they can cover in our schools. 57 people involved in the G300 appeal are donating £647 per month. A great help but room for 243 more for Gideon's army!

Contact Roger Mitchell on 01424 422299 [avvk28@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:avvk28@dsl.pipex.com)



## Two Bishops on LOAF May Day Walk

Amongst the 130 people who took part in this year's May Day walk were Bishop Ken Barham, an Assistant Bishop of Chichester, and his guest Bishop Nathan Amooti, newly appointed Bishop of Cyangugu in Rwanda. Between them, they had sponsorship of nearly £1,000 towards reopening a medical clinic in Cyangugu to serve the 700,000 people in the diocese. Whilst in the area, Bishop Nathan had talks with Hastings-based Christian charity PRIME Partnerships in International Medical Education about assistance in teaching his clergy about mental health issues to enable them to provide care for the many people still suffering severe psychological trauma from the genocide.

Money raised by those taking part in the walk to help a variety of locally based development charities is likely to well exceed last year's figure of £10,000. Thank you to all who took part and all who sponsored them.



## Three Day 100km Walk Benefits the World's Poor

As a trial venture, for three days at the beginning of May, 24 intrepid walkers took part in the Canterbury to St Leonards 100km LOAF Challenge, 14 of them completing the 100km (63miles) raising thousands of pounds for development programmes such as helping set up Street Pastors in the Caribbean and equipping the health clinic in twin town Hastings in Sierra Leone to enable safer deliveries and better child care. Centrepoint Church in Ashford and Rye Baptist Church provided overnight accommodation. The walkers who took part voted the walk a great success and it is planned to repeat it next year when more walkers will be able to take part. Anyone wishing to register a (non-binding) interest in the walk next year over the first May Bank Holiday please email [info@loafproject.co.uk](mailto:info@loafproject.co.uk)

## First Sunday Walks

We will be continuing the regular monthly walks taking advantage of the longer days of mid summer to go a little further afield and with slightly longer walks – but we can adjust the speed to suit the whole family

### **Brede High Woods, Sunday July 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 2.30 pm**

Meet on the village green at Sedlescombe for a 4 mile walk through Brede High Woods and around Powdermills Reservoir.

### **Flowers along the Rother – and views of a castle, Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 2 pm**

Meet at the car park of Bodiam Castle for a walk of between 4 and 5 miles. A great opportunity for a picnic as well.

### **Views from the Country Park, Sunday September 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 2.30 pm**

Meet at Fairlight Country Park Car Park by the Information Office to walk through woods and to viewpoints along the cliffs. 2 mile and 3.5 mile options.

# Hastings Youth Event

**Sunday 8th July, 7pm**  
**Meet at Wellington Square Church**

**7.00pm - 8.15pm Main Event Outdoors (weather permitting)**

**Drinks & food afterwards until 9pm. Stay if you can, go when you need to.**

Hastings Youth Event is a monthly event run by local Churches to serve the Young People of Hastings and St. Leonards. For more details call Caroline on 01424 421029 or email: [thehastingsyouthevent@gmail.com](mailto:thehastingsyouthevent@gmail.com)



## Ellel Glyndley Manor

Here at Ellel Glyndley Manor we have come to understand that God delights in bringing restoration to peoples! lives. We welcome people from every tongue, tribe and denomination, to take time away to seek God and receive the healing, deliverance and abundant blessing that He has planned for them.

Over the years we have been amazed to see God grow Ellel Ministries from one UK centre to 25 centres throughout the world, each has its own character & flavour modelled by the Creator for a specific place purpose, and time.

The particular scriptures on which our mission is founded are Isaiah 61: 1-7, Luke 9:11, Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 4:12 & 2 Tim 2:2

There are opportunities for personal Restoration, training to help minister to others, or simply time to go deeper with God. At Glyndley we specifically offer Healing Retreats with personal ministry, short topic based courses; a modular school, and several different Restoration Weeks. A variety of other courses from single days to 6 month terms are available at our other UK centres.

For further information and course details go to: [www.ellelministries.org](http://www.ellelministries.org) alternatively you can call us on: 01323 440440 to request a 2012 Handbook.

Our reception and bookshop are also open between 9am - 5pm seven days a week, except for lunchtimes (12.00 - 1.30pm). We sell a variety of Christian books and greeting cards, so please feel free to visit and peruse.

Hastings and St Leonards Church Together

[www.hastingschurches.org.uk](http://www.hastingschurches.org.uk)

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Secretary: Marian Povey [marianpovey@sky.com](mailto:marianpovey@sky.com) or 07754 122507