



Spring 2010

The Bromley's

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter, once again we want to keep you up to date with a paper show and tell of what has been going on.

Like many of you life just seems to get busier, as I sat preparing a talk today I one again realised how much I rush from one talk to the next, one meeting to the next and can be guilty of failing to savour the moment, to be really present. I hope this Easter you get time to be present with God. I hope you enjoy the news update. I am including a story from our International work that I oversee. Judy Lloyd, who is currently in Brazil setting up some placements for next year does an amazing job of running this ministry.



Denise



It seems that Denise spends most of her day talking at the computer. Phrases like, "this things is so slow", "I've lost connection" and

"this stupid computer", seem to roll off her tongue repeatedly throughout the day. I don't have the heart to tell her it is not voice activated! All I would like to say is she is exceptionally busy at work, looking after the Local Ministries around the country, supporting them with their child protection issues and helping them understand the various changes taking place at the moment.

News from Kyle (The Gambia)

'I have been working in a school teaching religious education.. it has been amazing but also challenging to try and convey concepts of God with such a language barrier. But God has been faithful and I have been able to really engage with the students here. I have also been helping Sylvester (ND of the Gambia YFC) deliver leadership training every Saturday to different prefects in the schools and also university students which is crazy.. hope they don't realise I haven't been to university yet! I also taught a morals class every Wednesday in a girls school and we have been covering lessons on trust and making them fall off tables into our arms which is great fun! In the midst of all this, I have met some amazing people – PhD doctors of Theology who are setting up courses, Muslim converts, American and German missionaries and many local pastors and lovers of God.

I have also help to set up the Grace Project. We cleared out an old storage room, decorated and cleaned it, build some tables and are in the process of obtaining some sewing machines so girls can be taught vocational skills to provide a wage for them.'

Her highlights have been that she is no longer treasurer for Ryan's Sunday League Football Club. She had done this for 2 ½ seasons. The youth group 533@22 has taken up the extra time this created.

The newcomer welcome card at Church hasn't been offered to Denise as often this term as she has managed to get along to church more due to Ryan's injuries and cancelled football games.



Sarah



This is a huge year for Sarah. There is so much going on in her life it is hard to condense it all down. At school she has done really well and is now coming to the end of her A levels.

She recently won the Sociology Award which was hugely encouraging; especially as this is the University Course she would like to study. She has a conditional offer from Warwick University, so all she has to do now is get the grades.



Her social life is thriving, she is looking forward to going away with her girlfriends in the summer to celebrate finishing school and is dating a guy called Jamie, who is a semi-pro Ice Hockey player and is a great guy.

The driving is going well and she passed her theory driving test in February, so she is one step closer to getting that car that she wants. We often find her sat at the computer not on Facebook but scrolling through the pages of Auto Trader!



For her it is a big birthday year, she is 18. Her Nan spent ages thinking what would be appropriate for an 18 year old and is taking her to Disneyland!

She also continues to work at Pizza Hut at weekends and holiday time.



Ryan



Ryan has had a tough few months with the football; he has had injuries which have meant he has not been able to play and having changed teams recently this has not really enabled him to re-engage with the new team.

In the same vain he has taken up refereeing. We were really impressed that he stuck out a term of evening classes learning to be a referee, sometimes not delivered with the greatest creativity, yet he has seen it through and is now a level 7 referee. At the moment he is refereeing games with his mentor present, but will be flying solo soon. You do get protective when you see your son being the one that the parents are shouting at.



He is doing really well at school and the three subjects he chose were, PE, History and Business Studies, all seem to be going well. He seems to

get most of his homework done on the bus home!

In his spare time he is a member of 533@22 and now I can see why whenever we had a parents evening they always said Ryan was a lively member of the class! He just talks and talks and talks.

He has been involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme and is looking forward to going away on the activity weekend.

Richard



Richard is now half way through his curacy and enjoying all sorts of new experiences. His favourite is doing weddings.

A couple of highlights are the Pathfinder Group which has just started up. This is a pilot project being run by the Bible Society looking at how to help people become more biblically literate. We've got about 25 members of the congregation involved in this which while being challenging is also good.



Secondly, the Youth Group. This is called 533 which was the address where it use to be held! So now it's called 533@22. This is just a small number of kids but they are really great and we enjoy doing a variety of projects with them. Recently we went to the Ice Hockey to see Jamie play. It was a great night out and lot of fun. The co-leaders Laura and Luke have been a real godsend and they bring energy to the programme. Luke is currently in Thailand on a WEC mission trip.



Lastly at church, a while ago we saw the Church Evangelism Fund was going to give money away to young people if they could think of a good idea for evangelism. For a laugh we did a Dragons Den where the young people had to come up with a good idea to reach out to their friends. We had the whole Dragons Den set up going on and the young people presented their ideas.



The best one, which was to set up an ice cream parlour at the Church Heritage weekend and tie it in with Back to Church Sunday and make it a youth focus where they invite all their friends, have an ice cream parlour to create an environment where people can gather around and then have details of all the youth programmes in the area was formulated.

The young people did a huge amount of work on this and then submitted it to the Church of England.

The upshot is that we were award £1,000 and made the national press with headlines like "churches use ice cream to reach out".

We haven't actually done it yet, but it does now mean we have to! The kids wanted to call it "evangel-lolly", but that is a step too far.

The pieces of work that have my attention at the moment are around supporting the Trustees who work with Youth for Christ. In the Local Ministries there are about 300 Trustees who are just superb people who give lots of time and energy and I am looking to see how I can help them more.

The other thing I am involved in is a project with the Archbishop of York and his Youth Trust, looking at how we can engage young people not only in learning about the Gospel but also engaging with their communities and being good citizens.

Finally this year Richard is 50, having considered all the options of what would be a mature, appropriate and respectable way to celebrate this, his mum has decided to take him to Disneyland! It makes you feel all grown up!

YFC

A major part of Richard's time has been taken up with the new strategy. In some ways this is a lot of talking and paper, but it does set the agenda for the way YFC goes and have a huge impact once it is done.

We are looking to highlight 4 key areas. Firstly, increased local presence. We want to see an increase in the number of Centre, the type of Centres and the quality of the Centres across the UK.

Secondly, education; to increase the range and depth of our resources in both formal and informal education. Thirdly, people development, that we have a continued commitment to see our staff and volunteers supported to the best of our resources.



Lastly, experience, by this we are really keen to create life changing experiences for young people, where they not only hear the message of Jesus Christ but get to encounter him in some form of activity or event; lots more will be coming out about this in the near future.

Staff Changes

As usual with YFC there have been lots of changes in staff. I think one of the joys of working for a youth organisation is its fluidity but it can sometimes be hard to keep up with. Lots of Centres are changing staff at the moment as people develop and move on and in my own team; Adam who had been working with me for a year or so has now been promoted into a role in the HR department and Catherine Green has joined my team. Catherine brings very different skills but is settling in well and is an asset to the team.

Book...

For a number of years now Richard has been writing articles for Youthwork Magazine and we are in discussion about whether to turn this into a book of youth resources.



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Taking the Good News relevantly to every young person in Great Britain

Regular Prayer Needs:

- Please pray for Sarah as she prepares to go to university.
- Please pray for the Pathfinder group Richard leads on a Tuesday night.
- Sunday night and the 533@22 that Richard & Denise lead with Laura & Luke.
- Please pray for Richard as he leads or preaches most Sundays.
- Please pray for Ryan as he is in his GCSE years.
- Please pray for God's provision. It is a continuing challenge to keep our personal support figures up. We are currently at 40%.
- Please pray for the new YFC Centres we are planning to launch this year. That they may be effective in their ministry to young people.

Richard's Prayer Diary

March

6th Conducting a wedding
7th Leading a service
8th Leading a Churches Together meeting
9th Attending training—deliverance ministry
10th Speak at Mid Year retreat
12th York with Archbishops youth trust
15th Llandudno YFC café opening
17th 50 today, taking the day off!
18th In London
19th In Warrington Archbishops youth trust
20th Shifnal & Albrighton YFC launch
22nd Speaking at Kidderminster
23rd Day in Liverpool
31st North Staff training day

April

4th Easter Sunday services
5th 9th Disneyland
15 & 16th Speaking at Spring Harvest
19 & 20th Coaching training
21st Meetings in Glasgow
22nd YFC Leadership team meeting
27th Speaking at New Staff induction

May

4th Leadership team away day
5th—7th Leading the Staff Sabbath
11th Leadership team meeting
14th Calderdale YFC Launch
17th In London with a Trust
18th Sarah is 18!
19th-20th In Scotland with Scottish staff
24th In London

June

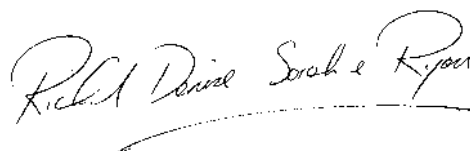
3rd Attending training in London
10th Churches Together in London
12th Clergy training day
14–17th Directors gathering, Czech Republic
24th Denise's birthday—Holiday
26th Conducting a wedding
29th Leading a quiet day
30th Local Ministries team away day

July

1st Full team meeting
6th YFC Focus day in Taunton
7th YFC Focus day in Halesowen
8th YFC Focus day in London
13th YFC Focus day in Leeds
17th Meeting with Bath YFC Trustees
25th Ryan's 15th Birthday
27th Go on Summer hols...

Thanks for all your love and support.

All the best



If you would like to be added or removed from our prayer letter mailing list, please drop us a note at the address above.