

In Touch

November 2018



Countdown

The countdown is on! In just 3 years-time The Campaigners will be entering its centenary year. The vision for 2022 is to celebrate our past by looking forward to a future equipped for the next 100 years!

None of our hopes and dreams will come to anything without committed prayer support and taking time out to listen to God. For many years now, Dorothy Brown in Canada has put together the Prayer Dairy we send out regularly. We are eternally thankful to Dorothy for this, but the time has come for her to step back from this responsibility. Looking forward, I shall be collating the prayer pointers together with Garry at the Campaigner Office. Please keep us updated with your prayer needs and answered prayer!

This Newsletter is the place for your news stories to encourage us all to know that God is changing lives through The Campaigners. Ask yourself, 'Have I Got News for You?' and keep your stories coming!

For your prayers in the coming months, there are many threads beginning to take shape which we are drawing together to weave something amazingly special. Weaving this tapestry into a simple, easy to use and attractive product is a creative conundrum, rather like making the connections in 'Only Connect'.

As we aim to put the 'Campaign' back into 'The Campaigners' we need your specific prayers for:

- Our investigations into finding a campaigner facility where we can establish a Campaigner Community Base with facilities for training, camps etc. and activity skills and much more!
- A new concept for CrossTrax. The 10-13 age range has always been the weakest link bridging children's work and that with teenagers. We are working on creating a whole new product, based on a 'Faith in Action' model which we hope will be a 'must-have' resource for churches.
- A refreshed look for Eagles, Junos and Delta / DofE to complement our work on CrossTrax.
- Our planning for a resource that will challenge adults to explore their calling into voluntary youth leadership. We view such a calling to be no less valid than, say a calling to serve overseas!
- 'I'm sorry I haven't a clue!' We also are conscious that youth leader training is empowering, encouraging and wholly necessary in today's world of regulation and keeping Campaigners safe. Please pray for our work to design a more professional approach to our training programmes.
- Over the next few years we are aiming to offer a broader programme of national events. These are be intended to support local groups by building up the Campaigner Community within which we all stand and share ideas. This is a challenging undertaking for which your prayers are vital.

Many of you may have wondered why we haven't updated our website. Well the good news is that we are seeking tenders to design a more functional website that will serve all the needs of a growing youth ministry. We do have a promotional website which is used for development purposes which you may find encouraging to look at. Just Google 'Join the Campaigners' and it's top of the list after the ads. If you take a look, you'll find an answer to the question, 'What are you Campaigning for?' in just a minute!

As outlined in my last newsletter, I'm still waiting for a response to the urgent needs I identified for your prayers. I've been encouraged by this verse from Matt. 7:7 'Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.'

We press on towards the goal to win the prize... Let's go for it together!

Tim Greenhalgh

Viney Hill Campaigner Camp 2018

This year's camp was again held at Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre in the Forest of Dean. With 28 young people and 12 adults on camp there was a very friendly atmosphere amongst all the campers.

As you would expect, the Camp COs, Colin & Tracey Guy and 'Adj.' Maureen Cottrill organised all the ingredients for a fantastic campaigner camp. In the mix there was everything from good food (cooked Sheila Armstrong and Doff Alexander) to a packed programme of organised activities, camp bonfire and songs, team games and free time to chill out. The camp coach outing was to the Big Pit in Wales where everyone went 300 ft. underground with a real miner to see the coal seams first hand.



Our chaplains for the week were again Joy Howell for the Junos and CrossTrax, and Tim West for the Delta. Joy provided another good programme based on the theme of 'Sailing the Seven Seas' using 7 C's – Camp, Courage, Call, Choice, Challenge, Change and Commitment, with a linked bible story each evening, interlinked with songs, prayers and quizzes.



For the older Delta teenagers, Tim used the theme of how being a Christian transforms your life from one state to another, such as being blind to seeing, lost to found, etc. The evening meetings consisted of songs, games, bible verses, relevant DVD clips and a talk. For prayer, the young people wrote topics and thoughts on a large sheet of paper which was then used for the prayers.

On the Sunday morning, the whole camp joined together for worship in the lounge with songs led by Joy and a message from Tim. The adults met together each morning for a devotional thought which was led by a different leader each day, and then met again for prayer in the evening.

It was another good camp, with a great team of leaders supporting each other and working well together, and we were thankful for all the prayer support before and during camp. Thank you!

And finally, We learned recently of the death of Elsie Forsyth (née Frost) earlier this month. Elsie was a 'Chief' at St Jude's, Mildmay Park, Islington where there was a large group of young people, many of whom gained their Gold D of E and 'Crown' Awards. She played in the Drum and Fife band which, on occasions, proudly marched down Whitehall and was an enthusiastic Campaigner camper. On one occasion, Elsie made a wedding dress for one of the girls in her clan, just one example of her Christian love in action. She was also renowned for having the gift of giving great and unforgettable Bible based messages including one based on Isaiah 40:26, 'Stars in the sky' – each is known by name and not one is missing. Elsie, who was awarded an MBE for her services to youth work, was a perfect example of Christian commitment and selfless passion for living out the Gospel message through The Campaigners – an example we hope and pray will be the model for our future Campaigner youth leadership.

- Ps. Did you spot the theme? There are seven TV/Radio Quiz shows hidden in the text on the page 1.

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7 Frankpledge Road, Cheylesmore, Coventry CV3 5GT

Tel: 02476 505 758

Email: admin@campaignernew.org.uk

Website campaignernew.org.uk

Reg Charity No: 1124155

Editor: Tim Greenhalgh

The Rectory, Church lane,
Welford on Avon CV37 8EL

Phone: 01789 751 546 / 07815 742 757

Email: tim@campaignernew.org.uk

Website: jointhecampaigners.org.uk

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