



Wiltshire  
**YOUTH  
FOR CHRIST**

# Partners' Newsletter Autumn 2018

# Director writes – ‘Your county needs you!’

In this issue of Partners newsletter you will read about our plans for the GSUS Live mission to schools. This is both an exciting and daunting opportunity. Over six weeks, in partnership with local volunteers and youth workers we will deliver RE lessons covering the life of Jesus in six schools to over 4,500 pupils!

This is a fantastic opportunity for the local church to serve our local schools and share the gospel with lots of young people. To paraphrase the well-known WW1 poster, “Your County Needs You!” We would love you to be part of this with us.

There are various opportunities for your involvement and you can give as little or much time as you feel able. If you are excited by the possibility of sharing the life of Jesus with young people you could get involved as one of our presenting team. If you prefer to help with set up and pack down, we are looking for people who can help with this at the beginning and end of each week. Most

importantly we would love you to pray. We have put in the dates and places where GSUS Live is taking place and would ask that you pray with us for the schools, students and those involved in this fantastic opportunity. More information and how to get involved can be found on page 6

Finally, a project like this demands a considerable amount of time and resource to make happen. If you could donate to support this work, please consider using the form on the back of this newsletter. Any gift given with this form will go directly to helping us put on GSUS Live this year. Alternatively go to [www.give.net/WiltsGSUSLive](http://www.give.net/WiltsGSUSLive)

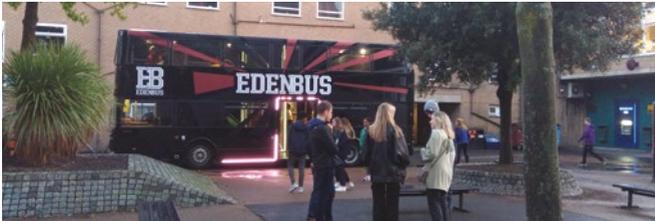
Thank you for joining with us to see the lives of young people changed by Jesus.



James Vaughton

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## Time and space to reflect



Steve started in his role 7 years ago in rural Wiltshire and following the summer events he took a Sabbatical break. Part of his time was spent visiting “The Message Trust” in Manchester for a week, coinciding with a 2-day staff event focussing on prayer, worship and updates on projects run by the trust around the world, including Germany and South Africa. Steve was impressed by their hospitality and the encouragement he

received during his stay. He visited several of the trust’s local urban projects, and was able to contribute, including talking at a Prison Ministries meeting, helping in the kitchen at The Mess Café and supporting a local church and gap year team on the “Eden Bus” visiting Manchester University. The time away has given Steve space and time to reflect on similarities, challenges and opportunities in rural and local ministry.

## Meeting young people on their ‘turf’



I'm sure we can all think of spaces and places in our local communities that we pass by and recognise that they have significant potential but can often appear neglected, tired and under-used. Part of the vision for the Pop-up café is to create a buzz of life in spaces that might not always get a lot of attention, such as green spaces and recreational areas.

One of the best aspects about this summer project are the reactions of the people we meet. As we set up activities, music, games and food, reactions are often very positive and unexpected. In Stallards Park, Trowbridge, proximity to the skate park means we meet young people on their “turf”. The inflatables, provided by Active Trowbridge, added another dimension.

This year we had some fantastic conversations with teenagers who had experienced a challenging end of term at school. The skate park is a place where they can escape these difficulties and find a sense of belonging and solace alongside their peers. It was a privilege to join them for a week, offering them food and encouragement, be a sounding board and maybe bring some hope into what may be “hopeless” situations.

In Devizes, young people proactively helped to set up and pack down the event as well as just enjoying the facilities, meeting new

people and connecting with the other helpers. During the event, Steve hosted a Local Youth Network meeting with several organisations and Councillor Simon Jacobs. The “Key to Life” van, an Arion 52R car and the local Police team vehicles, provided a focal point and attracted a crowd. A local church reported that as a result of a discussion with one young person, they are attending an after-school drop in. Young people from various schools engaged with the event and we believe that in partnership with local churches, GSUS Live Tour and other activities, it plays a vital role in supporting and encouraging young people not normally connected to churches during the summer break.

[View a video of the event on our website.](#)



# Helping young people connect with God

Our weekly discipleship group, Youth Stream, has kicked off with an exciting new series, "Unlimited Data" which is simply all about connection with God. For the first week, we celebrated the start of the new school year, thanking God for the fresh start that He offers us – something we can all be grateful for whether we are young or old! It was a powerful thing to be able to give young people an opportunity to respond to the invitation to accept a new beginning in their own lives.

As we continue this series, we will be thinking about why we connect with God and remind

ourselves of His different attributes. Using the analogy around smart phones, we will think about what happens when we have "low charge" and aren't connecting with God in a meaningful way.

Youth Stream is an encouragement to a diverse mix of young people from different backgrounds. At the end of last term when asking for feedback, they described it as being a "stress-free and accepting" place that is "spiritually refreshing" and "useful".



## Youth Stream

**A dynamic weekly discipleship group for young people who want to:**

- \* Understand what their faith means to them
- \* Dig deeper into the Bible
- \* Explore important and relevant topics
- \* Get to know other young people!

 <b>Wiltshire YOUTH FOR CHRIST</b>	<b>When?</b> Every Tuesday night, 7.30-9.30pm	<b>Where?</b> Dan and Rachel's house: 16 Cavell Court, Trowbridge, BA14 0HH
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## Bath & Wiltshire Youth for Christ AGM

You are invited to join us at our AGM on Monday 22nd October, 7.30 pm at St Swithin's Church, Walcot, Bath. Come and hear about what we have achieved this past year and our strategy for the future. If you plan to join us, please email [admin@bathyfc.co.uk](mailto:admin@bathyfc.co.uk)

# Prayer points for Wiltshire

## October>

- Volunteer youth worker training on 6th October being delivered by Dan
- Please pray for all our volunteer mentors who are part of Connect Mentoring as they work with young people in schools in the area
- Pray for Dan Webb and his family
- Pray for our Accompanying Project work in Melksham and Bradford on Avon as we finish with those who went up to secondary school this year and start with a new cohort of year 6 pupils.
- Please pray for the planning, preparation and training for GSUS Live

## November>

- Pray for the Christian Union at St. Laurence School
- Pray for schools across West Wiltshire. Why not pick your local school and pray for staff and students at this time?
- Pray for Steve Dewar and his family
- Please pray for Potterne Youth Club, which meets every Friday evening, specifically for new volunteers to support the project.
- Pray that the GSUS Live tour would have a significant impact on young people in schools. Pray specifically for the individual schools on the following dates

<b>5-9 November</b>	<b>Kingdown</b>
<b>12-16 November</b>	<b>St Augustine's</b>
<b>19-23 November</b>	<b>John of Gaunt</b>
<b>26-30 November</b>	<b>Clarendon</b>

## December>

- Please pray for Christmas services Steve will be delivering
- Across all our projects pray that God would give us opportunities to share the good news of the Christmas message with young people with whom we work
- Thank God for his provision over the last year and pray that we will be able to continue to resource the work going forward
- Thank God for our Wiltshire Youth for Christ advisory group and pray for us as we seek to grow this group of people who help shape our work
- Pray for the GSUS Live tour in the following schools

<b>3-7 December</b>	<b>Devizes</b>
<b>10-14 December</b>	<b>St Laurence</b>

## January>

- Pray for Steve, Dan and James at our annual staff conference from 7-11 January
- Pray for follow-up work to GSUS Live, for wisdom and God's guiding for the team
- Pray for James and his family
- Please pray for school assemblies being delivered by Steve
- Please pray for the Youth Stream discipleship group and for Dan, Becca and Beth as they lead the young people

# Interactive RE Resource visits Wiltshire



An important part of the DNA of Wiltshire Youth for Christ is about providing vehicles for local churches to connect in a meaningful and engaging way with youngsters in the community. This Autumn, we are excited to partner with Counties to deliver the “Gsus Live” project in 6 secondary school across Wiltshire. This fantastic RE resource aims to unpack the teachings and identity of Jesus by looking at the themes of fear, forgiveness and rejection – challenging subjects we all experience in this life at some point!

Up to 4,500 teenagers will be exploring these themes over 6 weeks using touch-screen computers, interacting with fictional characters through animations, instant chat, short educational films and music videos all on-board a multimedia classroom. It is a great resource for schools and an opportunity for the local church to get involved.

We are looking to recruit volunteers to help set up the lorry, present and facilitate the sessions and pray for the event. If you would like to find out about getting involved, please contact **Dan – Dan@wiltshireyfc.org.uk** or **Steve – Steve@wiltshireyfc.org.uk** As part

of the preparations, Chris Scorah (Youth Worker at Christchurch, Warminster) is organising a celebration event and has invited Guvna B to come and perform for students at Christchurch. He will be hosting a prayer event for the duration of the project to which anyone is invited.

We truly believe that God will do something wonderful through this project and are looking to partner with local churches to provide a follow up event to further unpack some of the themes. Please do consider this as part of your rhythm of prayer from **5th November to 14th December** and do get in touch if you are interested in hearing more!

Tour dates at each school are as follows:

<b>5-9 November</b>	<b>Kingdown</b>
<b>12-16 November</b>	<b>St Augustine’s</b>
<b>19-23 November</b>	<b>John of Gaunt</b>
<b>26-30 November</b>	<b>Clarendon</b>
<b>3-7 December</b>	<b>Devizes</b>
<b>10-14 December</b>	<b>St Laurence</b>

**If you’d like to contribute financially...**  
**[www.give.net/WiltsGSUSLive](http://www.give.net/WiltsGSUSLive)**

# Making a difference to the lives of young people in Melksham

We have been working with Melksham Team Ministry over the last year to establish and deliver the Accompanying Project in the town. Here Hannah Tarring, our Melksham Accompanying Hub Leader, tells us how they as a local church are serving local children.



*We have really enjoyed working with Youth for Christ this year and launching the Accompanying Project in Melksham. We began the project in January 2018 and have spent this year working with two children in a local primary school. It has been a blessing to get to know the children and build a relationship with them throughout the year. We have enjoyed baking, playing games, creating a stop-motion film and learning magic tricks to perform! The children have really benefited from this intervention and we have received positive feedback from school staff.*

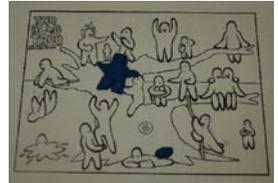
*The main highlight, amongst many, has been the opportunity to build a relationship with the children based on trust and aiding a smooth transition to secondary*



*school. We love that the Accompanying Project is creative and can be tailored so easily to the individual needs of the children.*

*Working with the children in their new school is continuing to support them in their transition and we look forward to building a relationship with the local secondary school as we move forward with the project.*

*We are very excited to be launching the project in another Melksham school this year and hope to build our volunteer base to enable us to support more children on their journey.*



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## Connecting with young people in schools

*"Mentoring has been important to me as a time to think through stuff that holds me back." Joe – Year 9.*

Our schools mentoring scheme continues to flourish this term both in terms of volunteer team and in content. Dan and Katie (Bath YFC) have been working together to develop the project; sharing resources and ideas as we move forward this term. Dan has been working with new students at St Laurence

and John of Gaunt schools, including small group mentoring to help young boys engage in group contexts.

If you are interested in getting involved in Connect Mentoring – an accessible and exciting way of making meaningful connections with young people on a one-to-one basis, come along to our training day on **Saturday 19th January 2019!**

# I would like to give a gift towards the GSUS Live mission this year.

I would like to give a monthly gift of £ \_\_\_\_\_ or a one-off gift of £ \_\_\_\_\_ to see young people's lives changed

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE?

**Enclosed cash or cheque**  
(please make cheques payable to Wiltshire Youth for Christ)

**Give by standing order**

TO: The manager, bank/building society: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNT NO: \_\_\_\_\_ SORT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay Wiltshire Youth for Christ, account number 20029580, Sort Code 20-05-12, Barclays, 4-5 Southgate, Bath BA1 1AQ, the above sum at the frequency stated, starting on 12th day of the next month.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement of my gift and our newsletter and updates.

by post  by email

**We value everyone who engages with us by whatever means, and we do all we can fully to protect your privacy and to make sure the personal data you provide us is kept safe. You can read our Privacy Notice on our website [www.wiltshireyfc.org.uk](http://www.wiltshireyfc.org.uk)**

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By ticking below I confirm that I am a UK tax payer and that I have read the Gift Aid information below (please tick all relevant boxes for your giving to Wiltshire Youth for Christ)

Please claim Gift Aid on all my applicable gifts

from today **AND/OR**  in the past 4 years

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please ensure that you inform Wiltshire Youth for Christ if you:

1. Want to cancel this declaration;
2. Change your home address or name;
3. No longer pay sufficient tax to cover all of your Gift Aid claims.

By ticking the box above I confirm that I have paid/will pay enough Income Tax/Capital Gains Tax each tax year (6th April-5th April) to cover the tax claimed back by ALL the charities (not just Wiltshire Youth for Christ) I financially support each tax year. I am aware that no other taxes contribute to this figure and that Wiltshire Youth for Christ will claim 25p for every £1 donated by myself from today onwards.

**Please return to the address below**



c/o John of Gaunt School Wingfield Road Trowbridge BA14 9EH  
T 01225 336055 E [admin@wiltshireyfc.org.uk](mailto:admin@wiltshireyfc.org.uk)  
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