

News from Mark and Sue

Issue 12.2 Autumn/Winter 2006/07



Serving with "YOUTH WITH A MISSION CYMRU/WALES" in Wrexham, North Wales YWAM

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ
Ephesians 3 v8



A New Home

As we sit down to write this newsletter, it is still such a novelty to look around our new home and realise that the Lord has truly given it to us.

We have now been in 24 Havard Way since mid-August, although 3 days after we moved we left for a 2 and half week ministry trip/holiday. As it turned out, the holiday wasn't very restful, as really we were eager to get back to Wrexham to unpack and finish settling in.

That being said, the trip started with a few days with the Egyptian monk, Dr Atef, about whom

Atef, should he be coming to the UK, so please do keep in touch and we could see about a retreat just for our friends and supporters.

Family Matters

As you can imagine, having to move twice in five months has brought its toll and we have to admit that the journey of having to find somewhere to move to under pressure of time has been quite taxing.

For Sue, not having anywhere to really call home since returning from India at the beginning of the year, she is now very glad to have a permanent home where we can unpack fully.

The children though, seemed to really take it in their stride, and thoroughly enjoyed living in a big vicarage for 5 months. Tasha has now got the biggest room, and when we have guests she has to move out to share with her brother in the smaller 3rd bedroom.

We are definitely blessed by the garden and enjoyed a firework party in November where we were able to invite some of our friends from the area, which provided many with their first opportunity to visit. Sue has already hosted a 'Body Shop' party in raising funds for the India mission she visited earlier in the year, and through hosting prayer groups and conducting marriage counselling the house is starting to really get used! We have already had a few visitors, but please do get in touch if you fancy a break up here visiting the Venings in Wales...

A New Ship

On the YWAM front, we are now getting more invitations both locally and nationally—as well as there being some new YWAM initiatives.



A Recent 3 Day Break to Italy when Daddy was Teaching There

we have written previously. He happened to be in the UK and we were invited to spend some time with him and a few others. It turned out to be exceptional. In discussions with Dr Atef, we asked about possible future retreats in Wales, to which he was extremely open. Dr Atef teaches on the journey of a follower of Jesus to full Christ-likeness and how the centrality of the cross to our lives assists us in our walk with Jesus.

Several of you have asked about time with Dr

Street Pastors Stuff

Both of us have almost now fully completed our training as Street Pastors. Patrolling regularly on the streets every Friday night since April, we were overjoyed to hear the Chief Police Constable comment on our progress recently. According to their crime records, there have been **NO** aggravated assaults, ABH, GBH or stabings on any Friday since we began patrolling. As a result he is now highly recommending SP to other forces and seeking means to obtain further funding! In addition the local council is thrilled and they both want us to patrol on other nights! Could **your** town benefit from SP?



Sue on Duty Recently

See www.streetpastors.org for many more details and photos!

Homeless

As we reported over the last year, YWAM began ministry to the homeless in Wrexham about a year ago. This ministry has developed and now we have 5 churches in the Wrexham town fully involved.



Working with the Homeless

This is a very exciting thing to see happen and we are thrilled that so many different churches can work in unity over this very emotive issue.

Initially, church folk were a bit reticent to join in, quite naturally concerned over issues like safety and so on. Many now say "why haven't we done this before! It is a real need."

More recently YWAM was asked to be part of a cartel that lobbied the local Council and Welsh Assembly for some help in providing rehabilitation accommodation for recovering homeless.

As we go to press, the council has released a property to use over the winter and we hope and pray that they will extend this to us full time so that we can attempt to fully eradicate the need for anyone to ever be homeless in Wrexham again.

You may recall that last year we ran a DTS (Discipleship Training School) and that half the students went on outreach to Morocco on a ship, the 'Elida'. YWAM England & Wales was so impressed with this boat that we went to prayer to see if this was something that God wanted to plant permanently in YWAM England & Wales. So, all being well, we should sign the papers for purchase of the Elida (soon to be called 'Next Wave') ready to start ministry by about Easter of next year. We need to see God provide a million pounds and so far over 10% has been raised which is the deposit. We shall report on how things are going next time!

Closer to home, YWAM Cymru/Wales has been asked to become part of NGL (New Generation Leaders) which is a national

(Continued overleaf)



The new ship—Next Wave

(Continued from overleaf)

organisation headed up by the Evangelical Alliance.

Working with 3 or 4 other Christian

organisations, we are going to host a large

event next March where we hope to find at least 100 potential young leaders from across the nation.

Mark is due to open the day with a special teaching—so keep March 24 in your prayer diaries!

Welsh Speaking Connections

Additionally, invitations are coming in from Welsh speaking groups and recently YWAM was asked to lead a full-on Welsh speaking retreat for a national organisation. With much trepidation we accepted but were thrilled to be asked. In the end it turned out great, although it was a bit of a nerve-wracking process! Mark is also again part of the Welsh speaking puppet show that travels to Welsh primary schools. This year he has to be the voice of a naughty schoolboy called Aled!

More Invitations

YWAM has also been asked to co-chair a Wrexham wide missions group that has as its specific focus on developing missions in the town and this has been an exciting privilege. "Mission Wrexham" has encouraged a town wide event for young Christians and is also trying to encourage

many local churches to focus a part of their energies on evangelism. Alpha has been a major part of this thrust recently, with 5 Alpha groups being run in the town, including one by Sue. She has worked very hard on this and has been thrilled to see her group come to know the Lord. Wonderful!

Mark, as well, continues to teach wherever he can and has preached locally as well as sessions of teaching on DTS both at home and abroad. This is a very exciting part of our ministry and we are praying for more opportunities to share and teach.

Finally

Get ready for this one! Heheh! We have just discovered that Sue is pregnant! The baby is due in July—and before you ask, yes, it **was** planned—which means all of our children will have July



Whilst visiting the Welsh Assembly

birthdays! Busy time! Please pray for the baby and for Sue, having children has not always gone smoothly for us. We are all very excited!

YWAM Property

As many of you already know, we are praying for a significant breakthrough for a YWAM property. Veteran newsletter readers will remember some previous 'possibles' but so far none have come to pass.



A Recent Possible — just too Remote Unfortunately

Although tempted at times to be discouraged, we are very much keeping this issue alive in our prayers and dreams and welcome very much your continued support in this area.

This could be an area in which you have a thought, picture or encouragement. If so, do please let us know—it would mean a great deal to us.

*Hope you enjoyed our update from Wales.
Have a wonderful Christmas and may you
know God's fullest blessing in the New Year.*

*Love from
Mark, Sue, Zaak
& Tasha xxxxx
(+ bump!)*

Want to know what to PRAY? Thank you for praying for us - it means a great deal

- Much to praise God for this time...in particular, of course, the safe provision of our new home and, we trust, the safe provision of our new arrival next summer! Do continue to pray for us, blessing Him for such generous provision in our lives. We know that we would not be able to cope without your committed prayer.
- A year ago we asked you to pray about our car situation, and this year we can report that God has provided! We have bought a 10 year old People Carrier (but it certainly doesn't look 10 years old!). With only 50,000 on the clock it looks the business and means that we should have trouble free motoring for a good few years. It is big enough carry 8 which means we can use it for ministry use too. Thank you Lord!
- We have not stopped praying for a breakthrough with regard to a YWAM property. Although no suitable property has yet been released, we remain utterly committed to seeing this happen. We are praying that God will continue to lead us in prayer and battle to see this building soon!



Want to get in touch with us?
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*A Very Merry Christmas and
Blessed New Year
to all our friends and family!*

