

News from Mark and Sue

Issue 11.1 Spring/Summer 2005

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

YWAM



Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.....

Ephesians 3 v20a

Aloha!

Greetings from a sunny Wales! Time has flown by once again and it is summer already. Lots has happened since we last wrote, so sit back, relax and catch up with the Venings!

Christmas was a wonderful family time with January disappearing hard on its heels. During that



Zaak & Tasha contemplate seafood!

month we said goodbye to some staff who left to go back to the States to have a baby (Ava who arrived safe and sound) whilst Sue prepared to travel to Romania to visit one of our DTS teams there.

Belgium and Harpenden

We also planned to travel to Belgium during February, as a family, to attend a Western European

Leaders Consultation, as Mark is one of the 14 leaders for YWAM in Western Europe.

We stopped at Harpenden on the way back as we had both been invited to teach on a school that was running there. We both taught on some different aspects to Stewardship.

In the middle of all this traveling, Sue lost a Great-Aunt and Mark lost his Grandad so we attended two funerals during this time as well. As a result—and all of a sudden—we arrived into March blinking, and wondering where the year had gone to so far!

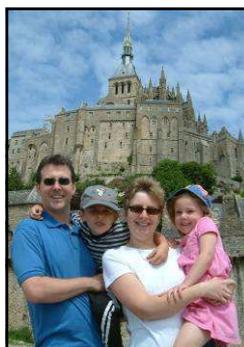
March was the time of the DTS debrief and also found us arranging a day for YWAM leaders in England and Wales to spend a day on the boat that took one of the teams to Morocco for outreach (see panel overleaf).

Easter

Easter was then upon us and we spent some time very enjoyable time with two sets of friends and also traveled to see Sue's parents in Lincolnshire. We had a great time catching up with everyone, exploring castles and lakes as well as generally eating too much chocolate!

So What About the Day to Day Stuff?

- Life continues with everyday things too – we still go to Welsh lessons and both have enrolled on an intensive week of Welsh for the second week of July.
- Mark remains a Governor at the Welsh school and Sue is continuing to chair the Nursery Plus Committee. We both enjoy being able to serve the school in these ways and make new friends in the process. The kids are doing well at school with good reports.
- They are both well adjusted, happy children despite our unusual lifestyle. They are busy planning their parties for next month although Zaak was heard this morning suggesting a football party for next year – talk about forward planning!



Romania

Sue packed her bags at the end of January and flew to a very snowy and cold Romania (so cold she wore long johns constantly and if you left your hand on the door handle too long it froze stuck!).



A Romanian Man off to Market

The team were based in a town called Sighisoara in Transylvania and Sue worked hard ensuring that the team had as positive a time as possible.

Andrea Rogers, the daughter of good friends from our time at Frimley, accompanied Sue, and this has inspired us all to go back again in the summer!

We are leading one of the Summer Outreach teams for teenagers from YWAM UK and will go to Constanta, which is a town on the Black Sea. We will be traveling with 10 teenagers and a couple of other YWAM staff. The children are excited already!

Developments

After Easter it had become clear that we had not been able to spend the early part of the year as we had planned.

Originally, we had intended that during the DTS outreach we would spend time in intentional reflection listening to God's voice as to our next stage of development.

Happily, we were able to really focus on this after Easter—helped somewhat by most of our staff leaving. (All for good reasons, we might add—getting married, joining a ministry in Sweden, having babies and so on—so we are now back to George and Nancy and ourselves!) And God spoke!

(Continued overleaf)



On a Visit to Conwy Castle

A New Property

As you all know, we have sensed God speaking to us for some time with regard to a permanent facility for YWAM in Wrexham.

During this period of reflection God has confirmed that now is the time and so we are in active faith mode for a new property in the town. The prayer and fund-raising is keeping us busy, approaching trusts and individuals, but realistically it would not keep a team of 9 occupied.

Therefore, we definitely believe that the timing is right, and that Wrexham is the place. We have prayed and consulted with several people in the town and elsewhere, and they have all encouraged us to press ahead in our efforts to find and buy a property for YWAM in Wrexham.

A Time for Growth

Once the property is released to us, we will be able to recruit more staff, as we will be able to offer them somewhere to live amongst a com-

munity, and it will also enable us to pioneer some ministries. There are lots of ideas - a youth hang out, coffee shop, debt counseling, DTS, a church based DTS, youth meetings and discipleship—to name but a few!

This is such an exciting development that we have enclosed a separate flyer devoted wholly to this topic! It is the kind of document that we would give to anyone who would like to know more about a property for YWAM in Wrexham. So, make a second cup of coffee and read on.....

Thank you

This January marked our 10th anniversary with YWAM and many of you have stood with us for most, if not all of that time. We do so appreciate everything that all of you have done to support us during that time.



Feeding Lambs in Lincolnshire!

many thanks to you all for your continued support to us. Please do stay in touch - or visit!
Love from Mark, Sue, Zaak & Tasha xxxxx

DTS

The DTS graduated in March after the Outreaches had finished.



A Retro 80s Night!

We were thrilled to see them so excited for God and His purposes in their lives.



The Elida IV docked in Liverpool The Elida, which took our DTS team to Morocco, played host in March to stories, photos, and a look at what YWAMers are doing around the world.

It was finished off with a cultural meal - chicken tagine, cous-cous and all the trimmings. A fun experience for Sue cooking for 70 in a small ships galley!

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



- Praise God for safe travels so far this year and ask God for continued protection as we travel to Romania as a family (29th July to 12th August including briefing and debriefing), and to Pembroke for a holiday (17th - 24th August). We really sense that it is important to include the children in an much of what we do as we can—therefore, trips to Brussels and this one to Romania are an attempt to demonstrate that children can be a vibrant and key part of any missions trips or ventures.
- Pray for finances for the trip to Romania. We have learnt that the flights are £100 per person more expensive than we had budgeted - don't fly on a Monday if you want cheap flights!!
- Pray for wisdom, guidance and divine appointments as we fundraise for YWAM's properties. We believe that the key to our fundraising is relationships and we trust God to draw us to the people that He is wanting us to get to know.
- We may try and lead a trip to Egypt next year—please pray for clarity in our prayers about this.

Want to get in touch with us?



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We were going to send out an email or two between newsletters to those who said they would like to receive it. Only a couple of people requested it, and so we have worked hard at keeping them up-to-date during the intervals between our twice yearly. Send an email to family@vening.net if you would like to be included on the list.