



Campaigners
ENGLAND AND WALES

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2009 No 7



Yesterday, today, forever, Jesus is the same

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Leaders and Friends,

We continue the steady progress of reorganising our renewed Movement. We have made decisions on names to be used on our publications. We are not trying to insist current Centres make immediate changes, but would expect new Centres to use the agreed names.

The Trustees are examining the geographical spread of our existing Centres. Some are isolated, some are in clusters, and some have historical links. The aim is to group them together and to give each group the support of a senior leader as a channel to the Executive Council and the Board.

The next major item on the agendas must be Development. We must grow or die. We are considering different ways of publicising Campaigners through exhibitions, advertising on the internet, and in the Christian Press. However, I am convinced that the real power is in Prayer. We need to pray for God's guidance on methods and timing.

I believe that Development is vital, and the responsibility of every Leader, and every Friend. We need to pray and to spread the Good Word that Campaigners (England and Wales) is ready to fight for the souls of this generation of young people.

Thank you to those who wrote or emailed me about your Centres. The diversity is fascinating, but the love of God shows through in every one.

Sheila and I visited the Church of the Good Shepherd, Parkstone, on 3rd May. It was wonderful to meet so many people and to see the work still continuing after sixty years.

I pray that you will know the Lord's presence and to be strengthened in the work He has for you.
Yours 'Unto Him *Graham F. Payne*

**New Headquarters! New Administrator!
New address! New phone number!
New (or is it old?) names for groups!
New programmes! See inside for details!**

Meet Garry Knight our new Administrator

Garry's notes from HQ

Some of you will have heard that the Coventry HQ office opened on April 16th. This is a new venture for me and I am excited by the challenge and look forward to helping in any queries you have. On page 7 of this newsletter is a slip with all the contact details you need to get in touch.

I was asked to write a short article about myself and I thought this is a wonderful opportunity. As God gave me the words to write I was surprised by the thoughts that God put in my mind and so the end result is a recap of how Campaigners has been so important in my journey of faith, so here goes!



Garry with Graham Payne outside our new HQ

My home church for 50 yrs has been Christ Church Coventry. My parents moved to this area as my father started work at Rolls Royce after leaving the RAF. I remember joining Junos at age of 7 mainly because my friends went along but I suspect my parents were glad to have me learn in a Christian environment, team work, self discipline, life skills and the 'joys' of drill practice.

I was also proud to wear the uniform especially when we marched around the local streets with a pipe and drum band.

Two life changing events happened in 1966 at the age of 10. My father died suddenly and I remember vividly almost every minute of that tragic day. I was unaware of the support the church gave to me, my mother and younger sister, but looking back I believe God enabled the Campaigner chiefs to help me through the difficult months that followed. Later that year I agreed to go to a camp in N. Wales run by Alan Hill who was the Junos Chief at Christ Church. On the last evening the chaplain after Clan C invited anyone who wanted to know more about Jesus to stay behind which I did. The chaplain prayed with me and gave me a booklet which he said would help me learn more about God and his Son Jesus. I recollect that my anger and loneliness was replaced by a sense of peace and I went back to my tent and read the booklet until I drifted off to sleep. From that point on I realised God my Heavenly Father loved me and I wanted to love him too.

I am going to leave my story at this point and hopefully in another newsletter I can write the next instalment. God Bless, **Garry**

From the Editor

Welcome to this 'bumper' edition of the Newsletter. I have received so many wonderful contributions, and there is so much to tell you, that edition 7 is twice as long as before. I did not want to leave out any item because I can sense a continuing theme. Again and again we read of people's lives being changed by Campaigners. Leaders who have faithfully served God by teaching children and young people about the Lord Jesus Christ, and who also owe their personal faith to their membership of Campaigners in the past.

You will see from the front page that there have been some major changes since the Spring Newsletter.

EW Headquarters has moved to Christ Church Coventry, and the Board has appointed Garry Knight to be our new Administrator. We welcome him into our fellowship, and again express our appreciation to both Christ Church Summerfield, and to Christ Church Coventry, for their generosity and care in offering hospitality to the Campaigner Movement.

The Executive Council met on May 3rd and faced the very difficult decisions about the future names for our groups. After discussion and prayer, a vote was taken. It was decided that we would return to calling our two younger groups Eagles and Junos, and keep the newer names of Crosstrax and Delta for the older sections. These names will be used on all future publications. As the Chairman writes on page 1, Centres are free to use their existing names locally, but the programmes will be revised in line with this decision.

We are blessed by your continuing support for our Movement. Thank you!

Pat Kingston

NOTICE BOARD

Old and New

Names of our Groups

In future the Campaigner groups will be called

Eagles

children aged 4 to 6 yrs

Junos

Children aged 6 to 10 yrs

Crosstrax

Young people aged 10 to 13 yrs

Delta

Young people aged 13 +

New Office Hours

The HQ office is normally open Monday & Thursday between 9.00am and 12.00 noon.



At other times messages can be left on the answer phone

George Hedger fund

- A big 'thank you' for your generous response
- to the George Hedger fund for camp sponsorship!
- I am pleased to tell you that Campaigners has
- received enough to send at least 15 young people
- to camp. More children may be helped as the
- money will be given as grants to help towards the
- fees and travel.
- Applications for assistance should be made to
- HQ through local Leaders.



Eagles Steps Award

The Eagles Steps Award cloth badge is available from our uniform supplier Sandra Mallett tel 01708 857800

CAMPS 2009



C.O's Steve & Kathy Davies, and Colin & Tracy Guy, are making the final preparations for the 2009 Campaigner camps. Both Carrotty Wood August 8th — 15th and Dartmoor Camps 25th July—1st August are nearly full and well staffed.



Both camps will run Camp Leadership training this year. Anyone interested in taking this course should apply to HQ.

News from Campaigners Scotland

We have been in close contact with Campaigners Scottish Region's new Administrator:

Anne Muirden

3 Dornie Place
Inverness
IV2 4BX

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND MEAL

For adult Friends and Leaders at

CHRIST CHURCH COVENTRY

SATURDAY 23rd JANUARY 2010
12.00pm—4.00pm

Church of the Good Shepherd, Parkstone

held a special anniversary service on 3rd May to celebrate 40 years of Campaigners.



Crosstrax and Delta members wearing the new uniform followed tradition by parading the Colours

Extract from the **BOURNEMOUTH ECHO** 12th May: -
“ Ken (an ex Campaigner) told the ECHO he went to the service and was surprised to see the church was full to capacity, with a mixture of old and young singing the praises of the Campaigners and thoroughly enjoying themselves.”



Visitors and friends joined the young people in a buffet meal

St Paul's Church Slough

Also held a special Campaigner Sunday service on 3rd May



C Club and KidzZone children sang the action song 'God's not dead'.

The Music Group was made up of current members and leaders and past Campaigners



Congratulations !
to Janet Binns who is Curate at **St. Paul's Church Slough.** She is also the Campaigner Delta leader. She recently successfully completed the London Marathon. Janet was raising money for a neighbouring church to help them finish their building project.

On 10th March

Christ Church Coventry Campaigners

gave a candlelit meal for parents and friends instead of holding their usual meeting. Each Campaigner was encouraged to bring two guests. Menus and invitations were sent out in advance so that guests could choose their meal. Tables were prepared earlier, and by the time the diners began to arrive there was an atmosphere of considerable excitement.

Campaigners wore white tops and dark trousers/skirts, and were asked to bring a tea-towel, because they were the waiters. They served their own guests. After all the hard work, there was a short Clan C talk on the theme of 'Service and the Suffering Servant'.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Officer

A big 'thank you' to Mrs Yvonne Downs who has recently retired from this post which she filled for many years, both for Campaigner Ministries and for Campaigners England & Wales.

Yvonne's daughter Julie Witchalls will be taking on the task.

All enquiries regarding Schemes and record Books should be directed to:-

Mrs Julie Witchalls

26 Macdonald Avenue

Ardleigh Green

Hornchurch

Essex

RM11 2NE

tel: 01708 702026

email julie@withchalls.org.uk

Julie writes about her mother:

Yvonne Downs

Yvonne joined Campaigners as a teenager during the war (WW2) years, becoming a member of the Girl Craftsmen at St Andrew's Edgware.

At the end of the war she married and started a family, when she was out of Campaigners for a short time. However, during the early 1950's Joan Fenner asked her to take the Craftsmen clan for a few weeks while she had an operation. Those few weeks continued into months and then years while she became a Chief in the Craftsmen clan.



During the early 1960's at the request of the Rector she moved to another Church within the Parish at Edgware and started Girl Junos and Inters at St Peter's. During her years there she was involved in running all groups from mixed Junos to mixed Craftsmen, encouraging many to work for their Duke of Edinburgh Award.



While in Campaigners she also started running girl's camps. For many years she acted as Adjutant to Joan Fenner at Craftsmen Camps and as CO at Inters Camps.

In addition to all of this Yvonne has held a number of other roles within Campaigners. She was the District Chief in North West London for many years. And she has been Award Officer for the D of E Award on behalf of Campaigners, a position that she has just relinquished.

During the 1990's she moved across London to Harold Wood, leaving St Peter's Edgware to become a member of St Peter's Church in Harold Wood. Here she continued with her involvement with Campaigners and helped in the Inters and Craftsmen Clans until 2003.

Julie

Friends Newsletter

2 Timothy 3 ;14—17 “as a child”

“holy scriptures”

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I recently came across a copy of Jean Kerr’s Thanksgiving Service which was held at Crowborough in 2007. As many of you know, she was the niece of our Founder Chief. She worked faithfully for many years for Campaigners. This was the reading she chose for her funeral.

I remember at the age of 18 yrs. Writing out this passage in answer to a question for the rank of Deputy Chief. In those days we had to take a written test and do a practical test for each level of leadership before a Headquarters Chief. At that age I am sure I didn’t fully understand the importance of these verses. Like many things we encounter in our early days, we only realise how important they were to us at the time when we grow older. Parents only realise years after their children have grown up that what seemed at the time insignificant and unimportant meant a lot to them. Like the 2d iced bun I used to buy my daughter when we went to feed the ducks. She still likes iced buns!

In this passage Paul was reminding Timothy of the importance of the sacred writings of the O.T. taught to him by his mother and grandmother. Many people return to the faith because of their past experiences when they were young.

Likewise with our present Campaigners. Through our Bible teaching and our various programme activities, many lives are changed. It is often many years later that ex chiefs and leaders are made aware of this. Sometimes we may never know until we are taken into His Glory.

We conclude from this passage that this God given scripture which leads us to salvation, will teach and train us to live a life worthy to be called a Christian.

Yours sincerely, Sheila Payne

Change of Lifeliner’s Name

The Campaigner EW Board has carefully considered the terms and names currently in use in the Movement. To make these more relevant and understandable to our present society, some names have been changed.

In all publications the name ‘Lifeliners’ will be changed to ‘Friends’, or in full ‘Friends of Campaigners’.

Over the years supporters and Prayer Partners of Campaigners have had various titles, starting with ‘COGS’ - (‘Campaigner Old Girls’), ‘Associates’, and then ‘Lifeliners’.

By then each Campaigner Centre had a group leader who organised meetings for prayer and financial support for their local Centre.

There are two personal items I would like to add here -

- When I was a Chief I was always invited to these meetings and I was encouraged and strengthened.
- I recently attended the funeral of an elderly lady supporter. Her friend told the story how as a young Campaigner she shared a blanket with her in a tent at Camp. Their friendship lasted well into their 80’s. I wondered why Camp was so important!
- Seriously, Camp played such an important part in changing our lives, and that is why I am so grateful that right from the start, Camp has been a priority for Campaigners E & W.

Why was the name ‘LIFELINERS’ used?

The lifeline was a corded rope approx. 5 yards long, which was worn as part of the early Campaigner uniform. There used to be Lifeline inter - Clan competitions.

It still features on the original Campaigner badge, see page 1.

It is symbolic of:

- **Saving life**
- **Our link with God**
- **Our link with each other**
-

Lifeliners who are sad to lose this name should feel free to continue its use locally.

With the Lord

We send our prayers, sympathy, and love to the families and friends of
Eileen Kerr (nee Wright)
Winchester
Joyce Shillman
Cheltenham
who died recently.

We request that we are informed of members who have died so we can record it in the Newsletter.

Sheila

PRAYER LINKS

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We have not lost the word LIFELINE completely because, as you see with this mailing, there is a **CAMPAIGNERS LIFELINE PRAYER DIARY FOR ALL TO USE EACH DAY OF THE MONTH**. Many have asked for more specific and personal prayers to be shared and I wondered if this could be done by email even though some would not have access. We are still trying to sort out our new communication systems in the office. Our Friends in Canada are very keen to have a prayer network set up. Suggestions would be welcome.

Items are specific in the diary, but without personal names. I have tried to cover all aspects of needs and thanks for :-

a. National level, b. Local Centres, c. Personal.

I would like to bring before you in prayer for healing and peace:-

Anne Whytock, Eddie Bishop, Frank Greenhalgh, Rev Bill Nash, and the many others in our Campaigner family who have needs.

Finally, **THANK YOU** for your prayers and generous donations.

Sheila

From Canada

Wonderful memories of the Past

It was in 1959 that I had the privilege of meeting Pastor and Mrs George Simpson in Ontario Canada. They had come to us from England, via nova Scotia, to pastor Temple Baptist Church, a new church outreach. I had been a Gold Cord Girl Guide who was a guest for the World Camp in Ontario in 1957, and had become leader of that group, but was disappointed when I got to know the lives of other leaders who indulged in many worldly practices.

Then, my new Pastor's wife started talking about Campaigners, Junos etc. and I became very interested in this outreach to young people, with a definite effort towards Christian growth. Mrs Edwina Simpson was a loving, patient, and able leader and teacher.

Lives were changed - I am sure mine was too. The Lord led me to Quebec, Canada, not long after my induction to Campaigners. My husband and I were church planters in Quebec for 42 years and we still work there for six months during the Summer.

My prayers continue on a regular basis for Campaigners everywhere for changed and victorious lives.

P.S. Mrs Edwina Simpson is still going strong at 96 years of age—she uses the internet etc.

Jeannette (Oliver) Geoffrion

11909 12th Ave. E.
Bradenton, Fl
34212
USA



Jeannette with her husband



Cut out this slip for reference

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Coventry ● CV3 5GT
Tel. No: 02476505758

✉ info@campaignersew.org.uk

www.campaignersew.org.uk

Registered Charity 1124155

The Office is normally open Monday &
Thursday between 9.00am and 12.00pm.

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the answer phone.

Beryl and Mick Martin—A Campaigner Story

“Hello” said the voice to the two feet sticking out from under the car. That was our first real introduction to Campaigners. The ‘voice’ belonged to Jean Kerr. Niece of the Founder. We worked closely with her during our years in Crowborough and she became a lifelong friend. We learned much from her gracious and enthusiastic leadership. Having been officers in the Boys’ and Girls’ Brigades we had a background of uniformed movements and soon went into uniform. That was 45 years ago. Our children joined with Anne becoming a chief before she went to Bible College, and Paul met his future wife Tricia at Castlerigg camp.



Regional Chief

A move from Crowborough because of Michael’s work took us away from the local clans, but Michael was asked to join the Development team with George Hedger, Pam and Ken Howe, Tony Pitts, and others. He also became District Chief.



Ice cream to doggy bag

They were busy happy days with many Centres being formed in the South East. We travelled many miles promoting the Movement, training chiefs, running District Parades, camps and events. Michael became Assistant Regional Chief, and Beryl Assistant District Chief.

Michael was Head gardener at Scotney Castle, owned by the National Trust. The very severe storm of 1987 caused catastrophic damage in the Scotney garden, and it took a toll of Michael’s health. He was advised to take early retirement, which he did. We moved to mid Wales, mainly for financial reasons. End of Campaigner life for us we thought!

Again, life took an unexpected turn—George Hedger and his wife moved in nearby, and we again became involved in Development work under the guidance of Pam and Ken Howe. Several new centres opened, but sadly, for a variety of reasons, all except one have now closed. Our home church was Llandidloes Baptist, where the Rev Meredith Powell and his wife wanted Campaigners in the church. We gave a commitment of three years, after which we returned to the South East. Twelve years on, a good, well run, Campaigner Centre is still in existence. We keep in touch and have great interest in the groups.

On returning to the SE we hung up our uniforms again, finally this time.

Campaigners is a great Christian work. We felt God called us to the Movement, and as a family we owe it so much.

Our thanks go to all those who are working hard in the Movement today, and we pray it will go forward to be used by God to bring this, and future generations to the Lord.



Beryl and Mick with family and friends in USA