



Rochester Diocesan Board
of Education



youth.leaders.info@rochester

News from the new Diocesan Youth Office

Winter 2007



In this issue of **youth.leaders.info@rochester** we are doing a big feature on gap year opportunities for young people, also:

- ➔ Angelspace - launching on February 25th 2007
- ➔ Gap year/volunteering opportunities for 2007.
- ➔ Two new ways to getting hold of RDBE resources!
- ➔ Trax 16



It's that time of year again!

A new term is upon us, and probably in full swing by the time you are reading this edition of **youth.info!** I hope you managed to have a good break over Christmas and had a wonderful time and God richly blessed you with rest and more rest! A good lesson to take on board this term is that we *work from rest and not rest from work*, think about it for a second.



So, a new term and what are you up to? What is God up to? My prayer for you is that God will bless you in your ministry as you receive new young people from the children's groups and see other young people off to university and you continue to nurture the ones with you for another year. May I encourage you to keep in touch with the young people who went off to university in September. Perhaps have them write a letter sharing their experiences of a whole new life to the youth group they have left behind and have been a part of for a long time?

Remember, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Have a wonderful term and I hope to see some of you soon. Invite me round for coffee anytime...I bring cake! God bless!

Phil G.

All New Diocesan Youth Event

A very exciting new youth event for young people in secondary school!

Place: The Crypt at Rochester Cathedral

Time: Sunday 25th February @ 6pm to 8pm

What: a café style worship event

Free entry!

There will be a café (bring some cash), light worship, videos, discussions, images, music and more!

For more information ask for a PR pack from the Diocesan Youth Advisor.

Tell your youth group to visit

www.angelspace.org.uk

Or text “angelspace” to 07766404142

the pr pack will have promotional material to give to your young people

GodSpace

CafeSpace

PrayerSpace

ChillSpace

SafeSpace



Three New Resource Centres in the Diocese!

Where can you go to get a parachute, a badge machine and a PA system? Well, before now you could come to us at Deanery Gate in Rochester and hire out all sorts of games, toys and equipment for your youth and children events. Towards the end of 2006 two churches agreed to become resource centres for their Arch Deaconries and now you can borrow equipment from one of the three areas that make up Rochester Diocese. This has been setup for your convenience, because I am all too aware that getting to Rochester may not be the easiest thing just to pick up a parachute or a badge machine.

The three places you can now go for equipment are:

**For the Rochester Archdeaconry:
Diocesan Office at St. Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester**

**For Tonbridge Archdeaconry:
St. Stephen's Church, Tonbridge**

**For Bromley & Bexley Archdeaconry:
St. Nicholas Church, Farnborough Parish**

You can still hire equipment from the Board of Education, but it's worth contacting your local centre first. For an equipment hire form you can either contact Sarah Cabella who holds hire forms for each of these centres or contact your closest centre.

Contact details are:

Diocesan Office:	01634 560000
St. Stephen's Church, Tonbridge:	01732 771977
St. Nicholas Church, Farnborough:	01689 602372

Games with a point:



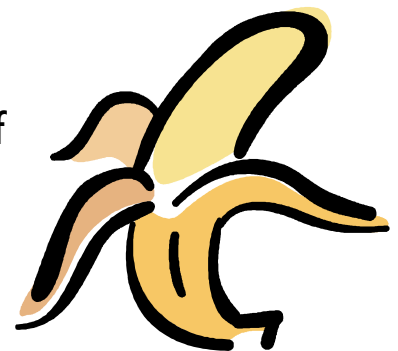
A Walk in The Dark

You need three players to start. One leads the way, one to be in back and one to be "it" in the middle. At night time when it's dark, one player takes a turn being "it". "It" must wear a blindfold. The player has to walk through the whole house blindfolded. During the first pass the other two people lead them through the whole house - one in front and one in back. Then when they get back where they started, they do it all alone and try to remember their footsteps. If they do the whole thing correctly they win! If they don't, they must come back to the start and give another player a turn. Each turn you go different routes to make it harder.

The Point: This could be a discussion starter if talking about friendship or the Ecclesiastes principle of, "Two is better than one. If they fall down ..."

Banana Surgery

This can either be played as an upfront game, or if you have a smaller group, you can have everyone play.



Have a team peel and cut up a banana into equal parts. (Don't tell them what comes next until they're done.) Then tell them they must put the banana back together using pins, needles, tape, or whatever. The team with the best reconstructed banana wins.

If you do this with a big group, use a video feed to a big screen and time the "surgery" so it doesn't drag.

The point: Things taken apart (relationships, reputations, etc.) aren't as easily put back together.



Volunteer Opportunities - Helping to rebuild lives in Upper Egypt with BibleLands

Bible*Lands* is working in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Egypt, a not-for-profit, ecumenical, Christian housing charity.

Bible*Lands* is supporting this work and, together, we will be sending volunteer teams to work alongside local Egyptian families, building houses for the rural poor.

Joining a Habitat for Humanity volunteer team will give you the opportunity to travel overseas and work in partnership with people in Egypt, helping to build simple, decent homes. Volunteers work alongside low-income families who invest hundreds of hours of 'sweat equity' into building their own house and those of their neighbours. Time and again, volunteers say that working and sharing with the local home partners has been a transforming experience in their own lives.

Bible*Lands* and Habitat for Humanity will be sending our volunteer teams to the district of Minya, in Upper (Southern) Egypt, about halfway between Cairo and Luxor. We are currently taking bookings for the next team which will travel to Egypt between 23 March - 1 April 2007. Details of further teams after this time are still to be confirmed.

Trips will last approximately 10 days and will include time for sightseeing, as well as several days' building in the villages.

There will be an Orientation Day for each team a few weeks before they leave for Egypt.

Volunteers need to be aged 18 years or more. You can either travel as part of a church or other organisational team, or you can join a team of individuals put together by Bible*Lands*, as the 23 March - 1 April 2007 team will be.

It takes enthusiasm and motivation to participate in this mission. No previous building experience is required!

How much, and other important questions...

The cost of this trip will be £530, plus flights. This includes all travel arrangements, accommodation, food and travel insurance. In addition to the costs of the trip, we would encourage each volunteer to fundraise approximately £500, which will go directly to the community in which the team will be working, to help build more houses.

What next?

If you would like to take up this exciting challenge, making a difference to the lives of many people, and possibly seeing some changes in your own, please contact Jennie Watts by email, telephone (01494 897931) or by completing our contact form, ensuring that you supply your name and address and where you heard about this opportunity, so that we can send you an information pack.

A couple of websites I have found this term:

www.warningsigngenerator.com

www.sr.se/pl/src/sing/index.htm (this is well worth typing in!)

<http://ldd.lego.com/> (if you like lego, this is cool!)

www.looptracks.net/

www.embody.co.uk/





Love Speak Serve

Careforce aim to serve evangelical churches and organisations by placing Christian volunteers aged 17-30 where help is most needed in the UK. To enable Christians from Britain and other countries world-wide to serve for a year in the UK in an area of need alongside local Christians.

If you are keen that your gap year has some real plan and purpose and you are looking for an opportunity to serve God and those in real need then Careforce is an excellent agency to spend your year.

Since 1980 over 2000 Christians have completed a year in the UK as Careforce volunteers - all have survived to tell the tale!

You don't need money. You don't need vast experience. You do need a living faith and a genuine desire to serve. We are looking for 100 such people to start in September 2007! All will receive dedicated support and encouragement from Careforce and their placements.

Careforce volunteers help to transform local communities in the UK through selfless service for Jesus! If you are keen to be part of this exciting ministry then we look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Visit www.careforce.co.uk for everything you need! They are recruiting for September 2007 now!

(personal note: Careforce changed my life when I did a two year placement working for a church doing youth work in Nottingham. Phil G)



www.trax16.com

Is the monthly podcast for young Christians from the Church Mission Society.

It's the authentic voice of today's young Christians:

- ◆ Committed to mission locally and globally
 - ◆ Growing as disciples
- ◆ Exploring new ways of being church

Trax16 invites you to be a part of this online community and challenges you to live out God's mission for your life

It's a missional thing



Frontline UK:



WHAT?

Frontline UK offers you the chance of a lifetime. It's a unique gap year experience for those who want to serve in a diverse, urban context. Frontline UK will enable you to get involved at the heart of a local community expressing your faith in action and serving the local people. It is an opportunity to help transform some of the poorest communities in the UK and to find yourself transformed in the process. Frontline UK is a life changing experience!

WHERE?

Frontline UK operates in a number of UK cities:

Waterloo, London (11 months only); Grimsby (11 months only); Clitheroe (11 months only); Leeds (5 or 11 months); Enfield, London (5 or 11 months). There are 2 Places – an opportunity to spend 5 months with an Associate project of Oasis in Bridgwater and 5 months with Oasis Zimbabwe.

WHEN?

11 month Frontline teams run from September to July

5 month Frontline teams run from September to February and from February to July

WHO?

Frontline is primarily for young people between the ages of 18-25, both from the UK and elsewhere. However, it doesn't matter if you don't exactly fit the age bracket! If you are still at school, and thinking about future options, or a little older and looking for a change of direction – just get in touch, we'd love to talk to you.

Application

Select whether you want to do the 11 month or 5 month programme and then you can fill out the application form online at www.oasisuk.org and click on get involved. You'll then be invited to visit our Frontline UK team at our London office for a Selection Day. During the day you'll be interviewed and have a chance to meet

Contribution Page:

we would love it if you could contribute to the mailing, whether it be a youth event you are organising, an article you would like to write or even a resource to share...write it on this page and send back to me. Thanks.



Name: Denise Ince

Date: November 06

Title: Illumin8 (All Hallow's Eve)

Dear Phil

I just wanted to tell you about our church alternative to Halloween, 'Illumin8.' It was a very successful evening of fun and light for the children and adults that attended.

Our theme this year was 'From Darkness to Light'

We had fluorescent wristbands for children to find. Helium filled balloons, tables of various activities, silhouette puppets, biscuit decorating with toffee covered slices of fruit, and hot chocolate mountains. Yummy!!

While this was all going on the teenagers got together and had band practice of the worship songs we were going to sing at the end and took some great photos of the younger ones having fun. I ran a power point of photos for our talk. Children then held up their silhouette puppets against the light of the screen and made them dance.

Everyone including adults had florescent name badge which we all swapped for the interactive prayer and placed around tea lights placed in the shape of the cross. The evening ended with children taking home a balloon and a story book about the whole Halloween history and why we don't celebrate it.

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Contributions for this Mailing are *always* welcomed,
Please send them to Phil Greig at the above address
or by email to: youth@rochester.anglican.org



Mailings are approximately every two to three months.
Information and publicity also appears in Rochester Link, our Website
and is circulated on the email list.

The views expressed in this mailing are those of individual contributors. They do not necessarily represent the official views of the Church of England, the Diocese of Rochester or Rochester Diocesan Board of Education. The editor reserves the right to select or edit material submitted for publication. The Church of England Diocese of Rochester serves 215 parishes in Kent, west of the river Medway, the Medway towns, and the London Boroughs of Bexley and Bromley. The Diocesan Youth Service is part of the national Church of England Youth Services and is sponsored by Kent County Council Youth and Community, Medway Youth Service, and the London Borough of Bromley.

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