

Anne's First Year - September 2005 - September 2006.

Anne Craig is an Unlock Development Worker in Glasgow and was featured in the 2004 Annual report as the first of our new 'Corner Shop' style workers to be appointed. It is hoped that Unlock will be able employ 3 more of these workers in other parts of the UK in the course of 2006. Here is a taste of what Anne has achieved in her first year for Unlock.

September 2004 - began work by contacting 5 groups/churches who had expressed an interest in Unlock's methods. Visited several of these and met leaders.

October/November - began leading weekly group meetings (14 - 20 people) at Taransay Court and preparing material for them to use. Continued to develop contacts.

January - met with a representative of the Bible society who works with contextual bible study and agreed to attend their one day conference in March. Continued work at Taransay Court. Made contact with 'Alternativity' and arranged to work with them to produce new material.

February - began leading a weekly group at Ruchill tearoom (6-7, mostly men) using the Unlock pack 'Experience the Bible'. Visited a group in Drumchapel, who are already using Unlock resources, and spoke with another group leader who regularly uses Unlock material. Glasgow Unlock Support Group began to meet regularly to support Unlock in Glasgow.

March - produced bible study material for Scotland's Priority Areas conference and promoted Unlock's work there. A member of the growing Ruchill group died in an accident. Ruchill group began choosing their own topics for studies. Taransay are now confident and keen enough to meet without Anne for two weeks while she is on holiday.

April - Easter and 2 weeks holiday!

May - Continued working with two groups and began planning promotion events for the autumn with the Glasgow Unlock Support Group. Prepared for Oasis Trust teaching session. Windy in Glasgow.

June - led workshop on Unlock methods for Oasis Trust Frontline Project. Both weekly groups ended for the summer break, one with a communion/picnic based around the feeding of the 5000. Began using Unlock material with a group of about six 15-22 year olds.

July - Holiday, plus catching up on reading and working with Support Group to prepare for autumn promotion events. Support Group members affirmed the value of Unlock's work and resources for all the groups that are currently using them.

August - attended a meeting organised by the Church of Scotland's Transformation Team for those involved in working with small groups and the community. Letters sent out to all Urban Priority Area churches inviting them to an Unlock taster day in November. Preparation for Unlock promotional display at the Church Without Walls 'Big Saturday' event in Glasgow in September.

September 2005 - Taransay group resumes. Promoting Unlock at the 'Big Saturday' event.

Latest news 5/10/05: -

- Unlock stand at the 'Big Saturday' event. Many people took leaflets and ordered Unlock resources at this event and others took information about the 'Unlocking Faith' event planned for November in Glasgow.
- A team of 5-6 Glasgow people, all involved in groups that use Unlock material, are working with Anne and Martin to plan and run an Unlock Taster day called 'Unlocking Faith' on Saturday November 12th. This is proving to be a very creative process and the CO is meeting with them at the end of October.
- Anne is planning to visit a number of groups that are using Unlock material independently, to develop contacts and see if they need any ongoing support. One of these is a group in a centre for homeless men.
- Anne is pulling together the resources she has developed in the last year so that we can make them available on the website.
- Martin is in negotiation with a possible funder for future Unlock work in Glasgow. If his bid is successful it will not only enable the work to continue but to expand as well.

In Glasgow Martin's determination, know how, support and networking ability, coupled with Anne's gifts and considerable hard work, have created a 'Corner Shop' project that will be an excellent example for others and should give Council hope that the model is indeed workable. All we need to do now is find a 'Martin' in three or four other UK cities!