

2011 walk income has now topped £28,000. Great result! Many thanks everyone!

**Celebration** Unlock will be 40 years old on the 25th of May 2012

# Finding God's story within your own

Through short stories and video clips, and talking through issues such as bullying, weddings, and normal day to day life struggles, such as depression, I have been able to help the ladies engage with stories in the Bible that relate to them as people, and hopefully giving them a sense that they are valued and loved. The biggest learning curve for me through working with Unlock's approach is that taking the Good News to people is not complicated and doesn't have to be. It's about allowing yourself to be incarnate in each context you find yourself in and being relevant. For me



also it's about allowing and enabling each person to find God's story within their own narrative. Debs Marsh (Unlock Birmingham)

## **An Arrest and a Bible**

One of the women who had been coming along to the Unlock group has recently been arrested for a number of offences (mainly breaking and entering a few different places) and is due in court at the beginning of August. I've met with her a few times since her arrest – she's really having a tough time (lots of issues behind what she has done), but we had some really good chats about a couple of different things. Eventually she asked me if she could have a Bible to take home with her – I managed to get hold of a picture/comic book style Bible for her to have. Really interested to see where this is going – it'll be a very difficult few months for her, but I am excited that I have been able to give her a Bible.



Registered charity no. 313454

Unlock Handsworth Parish Centre Handsworth Road Sheffield S13 9BZ

#### Tel: 0114 2939060 e-mail: office@unlock-urban.org.uk unlock-urban.org.uk

Unlock, is a charity established to equip Christians in inner city and outer housing estates to be more effective as they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their own areas.

Unlock employs six paid staff including a network of workers placed in inner city locations across the UK. The charity is overseen by its National Council that meets three times each year. The legal document of the charity is its trust deed, dated 25th March 1972.

CHAIR Andrew Dorton

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**I.T. AND FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR** Lois Fenton-Smith

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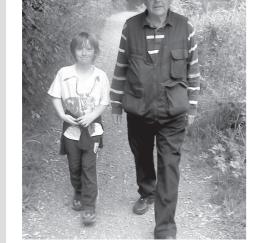
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## **DIY Unlock 2012** Walk **Unlock Walk**



David, aged 9, from Frimley, was supposed to take part in the London sponsored walk, accompanied by his Dad, in April. However, in the end they could not make it, so he walked his own alternative sponsored walk around his own locality with his Dad and Grandad. They walked 6 miles and he managed to raise £95 and was keen to collect the money for Unlock. He sent us this picture of him with his Grandad doing his own 6 mile sponsored walk.

Well done David - that was a great effort.

### Unlock CHECKPOINT VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to support Unlock through the London walk, but are finding the walking a bit much these days, why not volunteer to represent Unlock at one of the churches on the walk route. Unlock checkpoint volunteers help everything to run smoothly. They are provided with clear instructions and an Unlock staff T-shirt, so that they can be easily identified. If you are interested in helping in this way please contact

the Unlock Office.

**Saturday 28th April** 

The 29th Unlock London Walk will take place in Willesden on Saturday the 28th of April 2012

We are heading for new territory in 2012 in north- west London. Willesden was an ancient Anglo-Saxon village, known then as Willesdune, or Wellesdone in the Domesday Book, meaning "The hill of the spring". It all sounds very romantic, and was indeed a rural village until the coming of the railways. Today there is little to remind us of Willesdune, but a great deal of the 21st century with its global migrations. The churches reflect that cosmopolitan mix which is London today, but there is one that connects us with its early history. You may recognise many a name that begins with "Our Lady of...", but I will be surprised if you know about "Our Lady of Willesden"! But that is the name of a Roman Catholic Church and shrine which is likely to be one of the host churches on the walk. During the 14th-16th centuries, it was a very popular shrine much visited by pilgrims, until it was despoiled during the Reformation troubles featured in our 2011 walk about the King James Bible. Other host churches will include Pentecostals, an Elim bi-lingual group, and an inter-faith, ecumenical centre. Yet again the churches will reveal to walkers the astonishing ways that Christians in a changing urban world respond to Christ's call.

The brochures will be circulated from January as usual, and further details will appear on the Unlock website as soon as they are available.

### **T-shirts just £6**

Unlock T-shirts, which were on sale at the recent Unlock London Walks, in a range of sizes and colours, are now available from the National Office for £6 plus P&P.

### See our website for more information at unlock-urban.org.uk

# **Seeds in North Sheffield**

Nick Waterfield is the Fresh Expressions Community Worker, living and working in the Parson Cross estate in North Sheffield. We are in the process of working with Nick as well as Ali Dorey

I'm in touch with Nick on two fronts. The first one is through my job as North Sheffield Development Worker (8 hours a week), where we are working together and hope to use Unlock (and BEC) methods of interacting with the Bible. We are in the process of organizing Unlock events around three areas.

- 1 A study or studies with a "gardening/ allotments" group and below is an article from the Methodist Recorder in mid August 2011.
- 2 A study or studies with a parent and toddler group.
- 3 A small group to meet and undertake a training the trainers course, specifically for creating their own Unlock type studies.

The second front is our common view The biggest problem in many of our

that a community development approach to mission is fundamental to the church especially in inner city and outer estate ministry, but not exclusively to the poor. communities is a lack of hope, a sense of powerlessness and a low sense of self esteem and aspiration. Billions of £££'s will do very little good if these basic issues are not dealt with.

August 11th 2011

"And the Lord planted a garden eastward in Eden" (Gen2.8) From the very beginning gardens have been central to Christianity as places for beauty, reflection and discovery. For almost 20 years, the ecumenical Quiet Garden movement has been continuing this tradition by opening the gardens of churches and private homes to the public. Quiet Days have become an important part of the ministry and outreach for churches in four continents



## **Can we join in?**

For a while we met in Cotteridge church. We arrived early one week and it was evident that a short service had been held before we arrived. The group asked questions and were open to the answers about the nature of the service, as it had been a communion service. The ladies had a discussion amongst themselves about if they should ask if they could go to a communion service, if they were actually allowed.

So I was delighted and we agreed to meet earlier in order to join in the communion service the following

week. What struck me was that this was something they had approached me about themselves, and not something that I had instigated, or asked them to think about. I now plan to share a storybook with them about what communion is all about.



From the Methodist Recorder Thursday



across the world. Here is an insight into how Methodist churches are using their gardens to plant a seed of faith in their local communities.

The Cross at Yew Lane Sheffield is a newcomer to the Quiet Garden movement. Formally launched on April 2nd this year (2011), the garden is situated at Creswick Greave church in Parson Cross, North Sheffield. The project incorporates the history of the church which has been known locally as the "church in the garden" since its completion in the 1960's.

The garden was created after the congregation prayed abut the future of the church and is now used for new forms of ministry for the church. The Cross hosts guiet days that serve the local church, the circuit and local community as well as healing services and garden parties. Easter Sunday is a special event for the church when a sunrise service takes place in the garden.

An important aim for the church is to develop more mission and social work, using the garden to bring more non-regular churchgoers to the garden. "Space to Grow Roots" is one example of this. "S2G Roots" as it is known, is a gardening and social group for teenagers and young adults with learning disabilities or mental health issues. The garden also supports an outreach ministry in a local school, providing art therapy.

The church hopes that, in future, the garden will find new ways of serving the city of Sheffield. The community worker who organizes The Cross, Nick Waterfield, said: "The garden mirrors our respect as Christians for the local environment and an appreciation of God's work in nature and our desire to share that with others".

Steve Millwood (Unlock Sheffield)

New

Locations Unlock is exploring new project locations. We hope to establish new projects in London, Preston, Newcastle and Manchester. If you want to connect with these initiatives contact the Chief Officer at the Unlock office.

## FREEDOM FROM **OPPRESSION**

Mike came to Unlock group last week; he is an (on and off) alcoholic. He used to go to church, but he struggled with the congregation and eventually left. Since then he has always associated Christianity and Jesus with being judged for his failings (his addiction to alcohol) – it was wonderful to be able to talk to him about how Jesus loves everybody, no matter how they have

lived their lives. Mike struggled with this idea, but wants to talk more. As time goes on I want to think about how Jesus came to give freedom from oppression (including addiction) as well as having some conversations about grace and forgiveness when the time feels right. This is very exciting, but I think it is going to take a long time to journey through all this stuff.

### Don't forget to keep an eye on the **Unlock website for new resources**

New resources from Unlock Local projects in England are now available at... unlock-urban.org.uk

There is a regular stream of new resources from Unlock Glasgow at... unlockglasgow.org.uk

### **Christian Coalition for Urban Mission**

Unlock is now a founder member of this newly established urban mission coalition. CCFUM (www.urbanmission. org.uk), is inclusive of all involved in, and concerned for, Urban Mission, irrespective of theological perspective, denomination, or type of organisation. It aims to facilitate communication, co-operation, co-ordination and best practice among all involved in urban mission, and act as a focus for holistic, integral mission in urban areas.

### **Unlock in Partnership Birmingham; Queen's Foundation and** the St Peter's Saltlev Trust

After working in Birmingham for two years Unlock's work there is entering a new phase. Our Unlock Birmingham workers (two at a time) will be selected from amongst the Methodist Deacons in training at the Queen's foundation (www.queens.ac.uk). As well as working with small local groups in the deprived areas of the city, they will regularly share their Unlock experience and expertise

with their fellow students at Queen's, and offer Unlock training in the churches and projects where Queen's Methodist Deacons in training are on placement. Unlock is grateful for support for this work for the next three years from the Saltley Trust (www.saltleytrust.org.uk). This is a model Unlock would be interested in exploring with other

giftaid it but what is giftaid?

Simply, for those of you who have not yet heard of 'Gift aid', it is a system that

enables charities to claim an extra 25p

from the Inland Revenue for every £1

donated to them by a UK taxpayer.

9 in every 10 donations

received by Unlock are NOT

made under gift-aid.

If you pay tax then please consider

whether you can tick the gift-aid box on

the registration form when you make

your donation.

Gift aid will not cost YOU

anything!

All it means is that we can apply to the

Inland Revenue for an extra 25p for

every £1 that you give towards our work

To qualify for Gift aid, you must pay enough tax to cover the amount that will claimed back by the

charity/charities that you give to - so if you give £10 you must have paid £2.50 in tax!

## Training

Unlock provides training in "Working with the Bible in Non-book Culture", for those preparing for, or engaged in, urban mission. If you would like to know more about this, please request our training brochure from the National Office.

In 2011 Unlock is providing training or other input for:

- Preston Christian Action Network
- Church Urban Fund
- Greenbelt
- European Church Based Adult Educators Study Tour
- Eden Manchester
- National Estate Churches Network Peterborough Diocese



Steve lives in Sheffield and is studying to become a Methodist Deacon at The Queen's Foundation in Birmingham.

Steve has worked at a range of trades in Sheffield including Edge tool grinding, oven assembly, ice skate grinding, laundry sorting, cloth cutting and sewing machining.

Steve says of himself: - 'I am forty two years of age and have been married to Barbara for nearly twenty four years, and we have one son called Alex who is thirteen. We currently live in the Southey Green area of Sheffield

I have been a member of the Methodist church for twenty years and currently attend worship at Wesley Hall Methodist Church at Crookes, Sheffield, which is the area I grew up in, and where my family still live.

I am a local preacher, worship leader, and am currently in pre-ordination training as a student Deacon at the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. I also have a passion for Heavy Metal music and the culture that that brings with it. This has

in the past been a challenge for many Conservative Evangelicals within the church to deal with. However, it is part of my identity and I love to challenge the preconceptions that society has of youth culture in whatever form it may take. I have spent most of my working life in factory settings and know full well the joys and sorrows that kind of environment can bring. I have been made redundant four times in my life and this has had a profound effect on the way in which I approach life and interact with those who may find themselves in similar

## Andy Pears Unlock **Bristol**

**Sheffield** 

Andy Pears is a student at Bristol Baptist College and began working for Unlock Bristol in July 2010. He has been greatly encouraged by the excitement and enthusiasm with which Unlock has been received by many people.

Andy has developed Bible engagement work with a range of groups and individuals including single dads, exoffenders, and addicts. He is currently engaged in a community garden project in Bristol where he is developing Bible engagement around the theme of Gardens in the Bible. Bristol is a very diverse and multi-cultural city. Andy has found that he can use Unlock's

approach to Bible engagement in all sorts

## New Resources

ministry training establishments.

Sausages and stories Bible studies linked to topical news stories

Mind Over Matter Bible reflections on contemporary issues

Nechells Unlocks Christmas Christmas reflections from Birmingham

**Steve Millwood** Unlock

Steve was born in Darnall in Sheffield and lived there, and in Attercliffe and Handsworth. He started work as a Steelworks Chemist at one of the local steelworks in Attercliffe and eventually moved up to become a Shift Manager in one of the Electric Melting Shops. He began going to a Sunday Night youth club at Christ Church Attercliffe, was challenged by a number of things, including a week in Iona and their emphasis on peace and justice. He responded to Jesus's call to follow Him, was confirmed in Attercliffe in 1966 and has continued to follow Him to some





circumstances. I have spent two years at the Urban Theology Unit in Sheffield with it's ethos centred around the theology of cities and the diverse



communities that we find there. Along with that came a very strong liberationist ethos which had an enormous impact on my own view of salvation. Because of this I consider myself to be very much a liberationist in the sense that every person has something in their lives that they need liberating from; and this sense of liberation is found in the redeeming act of Jesus' self sacrifice.

of different ways and contexts within the community: in one to one conversations as well as with local small groups.

In the next few months Andy will be working to train local people in Unlock



approaches so that they can develop and sustain effective Bible engagement within their own local communities.

Unlock is working in partnership with the Bristol Inner City Churches Partnership (www.stlukesbartonhill.org. uk/partnership.htm)

amazing places. Steve moved from Steelmaking to teaching in the mid-seventies and then went to Brazil in 1979 and on to Paraguay in 1981, where he spent more than



ten years, an experience he wouldn't have missed.

Steve was the Vicar of Kimberworth Park, in Rotherham for 10 years until he retired in 2009.



# **Unlock Finance**

## **Church Urban Fund**

Unlock is grateful to the Church Urban Fund (www.cuf.org.uk) for development support. There is more to this than financial backing (although

that is part of it). CUF are working with Unlock to help us extend our impact and reach a wider audience, both in terms of our frontline work and our

fundraising. This will include developing opportunities to work in partnership with CUF's own local activist networks. Meanwhile Unlock is providing training input for some of the networks and agencies with which CUF is currently workina.

## **Treasurer's Report 2010**

I begin this report with two very big thank yous. One is to Jenny Blake for her many years of services as Unlock's treasurer, and together with the whole council of management we wish her well in her new role working in the Unlock office. The second is to all those who have supported Unlock financially- the support you give is what keeps us going.

That support has meant that despite 2010 being another difficult year, we were able to reduce last year's deficit very significantly. We ended the year with a deficit of a little over five and a half thousand pounds, which represents about ten percent of our turnover. Whilst this is much less than last year, and we have enough reserves to cover this, clearly we cannot continue to run deficits.

The Council decided in 2009 that it was not possible to cut costs significantly without having a very serious impact on our activities, and we agreed that it was worth running down the reserves whilst maintaining our impact amongst the groups we serve. In the words of one of the liberation theologians "the point is not to survive, but to serve". We have tried to cut what costs we can without damaging our work, and continue to look for ways to boost our income.

In 2010 income from the London Walk increased from a little over £23,000 to just over £26,000. We are very grateful to all those who helped organise the walk, those who came-particularly those who organised groups- and those who sponsored others.

We are also very grateful for those who made "non-walk" donations- you don't have to give to Unlock just when it's the London Walk! Indeed, I would encourage all who give at walk time to consider giving a non walk donation, or get your Church to contribute; such gifts would be a huge help to us as we try and balance our books.

As we continue to try and get our finances more stable, we are working on partnerships with like minded organisations which could benefit from Unlock's expertise, and we hope to have some news before long.

Tim Watkins-Idle (Acting Treasurer)



Total £61.281 Management & Admin £16.015 26% £4,856 Fundraising Direct Charitable Work £40,410 66%

8%



New ways to give

#### **About Everyclick**

Everyclick is a search engine with a difference. It works just like any other major search engine but the difference is that, once you have registered your wish to support Unlock through Everyclick, a small donation is made to Unlock for every search you make using Evervclick.

### everyclick.com

#### **Giving via Everyclick**

Search for Unlock on the Everyclick webpage and follow the simple process to make an online donation using a credit or debit card via their secure server.

Your donation will be collected and distributed to Unlock by Charities Trust, including a 25% Gift Aid on qualifying donations. 100% of your donation through Everyclick will go to Unlock. Donations made through Everyclick are processed

in real time by their payment partner Charities Trust (Charity Reg No 327489). Funds will be transferred by Charities Trust to Unlock at the end of every month. Charities Trust automatically reclaim Gift Aid on all qualifying donations made by UK taxpayers which means that an additional 25% will go to Unlock. This is a safe and convenient way for you to make donations to Unlock and it saves Unlock costly staff time processing donations and Gift Aid claims too! If you want to talk to someone about this contact Lois at the Unlock National office on Tuesdays.

# Unlock Diary 2010/2011

#### September 2010

Dawn (CO) attends Christian Coalition for Urban Mission Working Group meeting in Sheffield.

Unlock National Gathering, Bawtry Hall, South Yorkshire run by Council members Martin Johnstone from Glasgow and Sue Sheriff from Tadcaster. Over a period of 24 hours staff, workers and Council together with guests from possible future link organisations share in activities including dismantling a cardboard city to create models of their own localities, identify related bible passages and write prayer requests on a large sheet to hang over the models literally covering the areas in prayer. A good time was had by all!

#### October 2010

Steve Millwood runs a Churches Together Day for Stocksbridge Churches in Sheffield.

#### November 2010

Andy Dorton attends Urban Mission Forum in Manchester.

#### December 2010

CO meets Unlock workers in Birmingham.

Annual reports published and distributed.

#### January 2011

'Nechells Unlocks Christmas' and 'Sausages and Stories' published on the Unlock website

2011 London Walk brochure mailed.

Unlock National Council meet.

Exploratory meeting for Unlock project in Leicester takes place.

#### February 2011

Trish Dearden (Office Administrator) leaves Unlock office for pastures new.

CO visits Hull to explore ongoing use of Unlock methods.

CO attends Churches Together in England Urban Mission co-ordinating group in London.

CO attends Christian Coalition for Urban Mission Working Group meeting in London.



#### March 2011

CO attends Christian Coalition for Urban Mission Working Group meeting in Sheffield.

#### April 2011

in London.

The 28th Unlock London Walk - In The Steps Of Martyrs - Lambeth & Southwark and the City of London. An excellent turnout of about 850 walkers. Debs Marsh (Birmingham worker) and Andy Pears (Bristol worker) run an activity based on the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. Walkers are invited to stick a picture of a bible on a jigsaw piece, then draw a map of the local area they live in thinking about the people in the area who do not know the story of God, and put their map alongside the communities of other walkers to create a giant jigsaw.

The walk raises £28,000 towards the work of Unlock.

The next London walk will be on 28th April 2012.

#### May 2011

Jenny Blake begins work as Office Administrator after 11 years as Unlock Treasurer.

'Mind over Matter' published on the Unlock website

Christian Coalition for Urban Mission Working Group meeting.

Unlock National Council meet.



# 2010

#### CO runs workshop for Church Urban Fund

#### June 2011

Tim & Sarah Watkins-Idle (Council members) attend Biblefresh Pentecost Festival event, Methodist Central Hall, Westminster.

Debs Marsh (Birmingham local project worker) leaves to begin her new Methodist Ministry in Barnsley.

#### **July 2011**

Steve Sowerby takes over from Debs Marsh as Birmingham local project worker.

CO attends Anglican Adult Educators Network Conference.

#### August 2011

CO meets Steve Sowerby to discuss how he is settling in to the work in Birmingham

CO runs workshop at Greenbelt festival.

CO visits Bristol to meet with Andy Pears and some of the people he is working with

#### September 2011

Unlock Office Staff retreat - team building facilitated by Jenny Richardson (former CO).

Exploratory meeting for Unlock project in Newcastle takes place.

Unlock National Gathering, Luther King House, Manchester,

Unlock National Council meet.



## **Chair's Annual Report**



Last year I said that our way of getting Unlock's very simple but still so poorly understood message 'out there' to as many places as possible, was paying off. The trouble was, we didn't have the money to expand any further; indeed we were in danger of shrinkage. Well I guess many of you have been praying for us, and the walk income rising when every one else is finding it harder to fundraise that way (as we were), so that is a big boost.

On top of that though, we have an agreement with Church Urban Fund for a year from September which gives us the capacity to expand into at least two more places and maybe more. This also gives us access to a much wider network of organisations and people that can and will use 'the method' and the resources. For many years we've been looking for a partner who 'gets it' and now we have. We are grateful to Andy Turner and others for their work in getting us this far and we hope that the relationship will continue into further years. You might wonder, 'why them?'... why something associated with 'social action' when we're about exploring

If you would like to encourage your church to support Unlock, either through the London walk, or as part of their missionary giving, you can find Unlock promotional resources on the Unlock website, next to the information about the next Unlock walk. life stories and discovering together what the bible and a growing faith have to say to us about our life stories. Well they know as well as anyone with their eyes open that unless people change rather than just being done good to, then nothing much really changes. And we all want peoples situations to change. CUF funds work in the most deprived parts of this country. They aren't necessarily more spiritually needy. God is at work, but they are where Jesus would have started if he came now, and they are generally where Unlock has concentrated. We've always hoped to create local leadership, people who have the confidence and the depth of faith so that they can lead their christian communities, rather than being dependent on incomers. The Father decided bottom up was best and sent His Son. Unlock and CUF will only be successful when we build from the bottom up, if we give power back to people to understand their faith and what that requires them to do. In case you think it's another merger, since there are lots at the moment, it's not. And their are 'issues' as they say, but I think we're going

If you would like someone from Unlock to come and talk at your church, or speak at a church event then please contact us and we will see what we can arrange. to get along well, tiny though we are in comparison. Again, please do pray that we do!

This has not been our only financial breakthrough; Dawn has very skillfully developed a partnership with a training college and a trust local to it so that we have ongoing support for 2 Unlock local project workers (for details see item on page 4). I think Council were just as excited by this as the CUF development... another couple of 'institutions' really getting it. Sorry if that sounds patronising to them, but it can feel like a real struggle in a tiny organisation to get heard.

So, all credit to Dawn and Lois and ex-Treasurer/Council member now administrator Jenny who, along with those you'll read more about in this report, keep trying.

And finally, on behalf of the Council and Trustees, a very big thank you to you all for your encouragement and support.

Andrew Dorton.

When you request Unlock materials from the Unlock national office we do appreciate a donation to cover the costs of copying and postage.

## Unlock Supporters Registration Form

#### Please add me to the Unlock mailing list: I would prefer to be contacted by:

E-mail (this saves Unlock money)

Post (we are happy to do this if it is your preferred form of communication)

I enclose a donation to Unlock's work in deprived urban communities in the UK.

Name					
Address	£	(Cheques	'Unlock' please.)		
	Signature			I would like my donation to be gift aided	
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Tel No.		Unlock's work	The L	The Unlock London Walk	
		Unlock resources	Prayir	Praying for Unlock	
E-mail		Unlock training			