

# Unlock

Unlock  
news  
2007/8

## Chair's Annual Report 2007

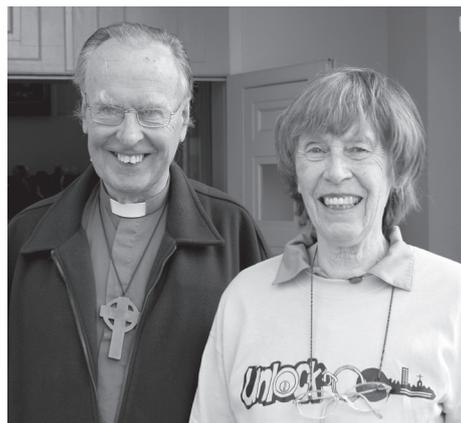
Sometimes you can be very confident you are on the right road, that you have read the signs right, but you just don't seem to be getting there as fast as that confidence suggests you should. It's a bit like that with our Unlock Local projects (sometimes referred to as 'Field' or 'Development' workers). We're all a bit frustrated, frankly, that we can't tell you about three new Unlock Local Projects by now. We can report even more progress in Glasgow (see page 4) and, I'm particularly pleased to report, the appointment of a worker in Hull (see page 3) and we are edging towards work taking off in Sheffield, Liverpool, and Birmingham but I can say with some confidence that unless many of you reading this pray, the many obstacles and encumbrances that seem to beset us won't be overcome; so please do.

We've made real progress on the walk this year. We've talked a lot about it becoming a much more effective tool for engaging many of you with what Unlock does, and that seems to be happening and we hope that the increased income this year, indeed

and old and in-between alike, was actually very uplifting. Thank you again.

A major development in this year to come will be an office move. Whilst our current home has served us well and cheaply, it's time for a change. Our new home, still in Sheffield, will mean we're part of a wider Christian community; that is, we'll be sharing with some other organisations (a local community Forum, the local church office). We think that will be much more encouraging to our tiny and part time team, each of whom can be very isolated for most of their working week. Dawn will tell you more ... (see page 2) but please pray that the move goes smoothly in late October.

The last thing I want to mention is partnerships. They've been all the rage with Government for some years and you may have noticed your favourite Christian organisations talking about them, maybe even merging with other groups. We have been trying to explore working relationships with other much bigger organisations for a couple of years and we are almost as frustrated with the lack of progress here too. Unlock is a very small organisation with a very big and absolutely fundamental message for the Christian church in this country: If you don't get your



what looks like being our best year since 2002, is a result of that hard work. Peter (your ex-Chair) and his wife Jill (also an ex-Council member) are working well with two newer current Council members and others, to organise the annual London walk, so we've got an excellent team with much more efficient office back up. Well done all. I really enjoyed pestering some of you for information again this year, and the enjoyment of those that I spoke too, young



communication right, a huge proportion of people out there won't be able to hear you, and even if you are shouting loud enough to make them, you'll be speaking a language they can't understand. We need to work with other organisations to share our expertise and experience. It doesn't matter if Unlock doesn't grow, as long as the message gets out there. Dawn has managed to cement a deal with the Bible Society; now we need to ensure it has an effect. Dawn is trying to work on other relationships too. As an Unlock supporter, please pray for her in particular and if you work for a potential partner, please get in touch.

In this last regard, as well as the first, we are on the right road but we'd love to be getting there quicker. Your support, in prayer, and financially, is crucial to our success.

Andrew Dorton.



# Unlock

Registered charity no. 313454

**Handsworth Parish Centre**  
**Handsworth Road**  
**Sheffield S13 9BZ**

**Tel/fax: 0114 2939060**

**e-mail: [office@unlock-urban.org.uk](mailto:office@unlock-urban.org.uk)**

**[www.unlock-urban.org.uk](http://www.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

#### CHIEF OFFICER

Dawn Lonsdale

#### I.T. AND FINANCE ASSISTANT

Lois Fenton-Smith

#### OFFICE ASSISTANT

Melizza Mugenyi

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Jenny Blake (Treasurer)

Nick Carter (Secretary)

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Sarah Watkins-Idle

Martin Johnstone

Canon John Roberts

Andrew West

#### TRUSTEES

Canon John Roberts (Chair)

Canon John Hunter

Nick Carter

Barbara Funnell

#### BANKERS

Co-operative Bank, Salford M5 2QP



# Unlock is moving...

... but we are not going very far. Having searched in Sheffield for around a year, we have finally found some new premises to move the Unlock National Office to, and we are planning to relocate towards the end of October 2007. The new premises are smaller, but perfectly adequate, and much better supported. They will cost us less overall, but will provide a more pleasant, and much less isolated environment for the office staff, who currently work alone at the Unlock Office most of the time.

The Office staff will be very busy this autumn, managing the move, but we are sure it will be worth it. For those of

you who know Sheffield, or want to find our new location on a map, the new office premises are in Handsworth, behind the parish church.

The e-mail addresses remain as before but the new telephone number is:

**0114 2939060**

and the new address is:-

**Unlock**  
**Handsworth Parish Centre**  
**Handsworth Road**  
**Sheffield**  
**S13 9BZ**

Please update your records with this new information.

## More new resources on the *Unlock* Website

'Experience the Bible', is now available on the Unlock website, as are some new resources produced by Unlock Glasgow, and (very soon) a new resource Called 'Unlocking The Bible' by Roy Dorey. Other packs will follow in the next few months including the first Unlock Hull resources. You will also find Unlock promotion resources on the website, to help you tell your church all about Unlock's work.

## Bring a Friend

**Do you usually do the Unlock walk?**

**How many people do you bring with you?**

The more walkers we have the more money we raise for Unlock's work. This year, why not try to introduce one or two new people to the Unlock walk experience by bringing them along with you. If you would like some help promoting Unlock in your church you will find promotion resources on the Unlock website, or you can request them from the National office.

**Give regularly to Unlock without spending a penny!**

You can support Unlock by using the internet search engine **Everyclick**. Make everyclick your home page, and register with them as an Unlock supporter, and then every time you search through everyclick, a small donation goes to Unlock.

To find out more go to

**[www.everyclick.com](http://www.everyclick.com)**

# The 2008 (25th) Annual *Unlock* London walk will take place on Saturday 19th April

## “The rich on the river-front, and the poor behind”

It will include parts of Chelsea and East Fulham on the North side of the Thames, and Battersea on the South side, taking in 3 Thames bridges, (Wandsworth; Battersea; & Prince Albert). The walk will encompass incredible juxtapositions of rich and poor, much more evident now than in 1987, when the walk last explored this area. Indescribably luxurious glass buildings (flats) along the waterfront, with posh restaurants built in, and then, right behind, almost within a stone's throw, really poor estates, from the 60's/70's. It is a pattern that keeps repeating on both river banks.

Places of interest: Royal Chelsea Hospital, (which will already be getting ready for the next Chelsea flower show), is just off the route, but an easy detour for those who wish. King's Rd Chelsea, renowned for smart shops is there, also Cheyne Walk, with all the blue plaques and lovely houses. On the South side, Battersea Park boating lakes are famous, and the Peace Pagoda –where peace rallies are held, overlooking the river. Old Battersea village and Battersea church are very historic (1157) where Turner painted sunsets looking over the water.

The 25th (2008) *Unlock* London Walk brochure should be available in January 2008. If you would like a copy, and are not already on our mailing list, please contact the *Unlock* National Office.



## Unlock in Hull

*Unlock* and Hull go back a few years now. Right back to the early 90s in fact when *Unlock* was still EUTP and Humberside was still officially Humberside. It all started with a visit from Bill Bullen and with him, the article “How the other half learn” (co-written with Jim Hart). Sparks flew when some local clergy and lay workers realised that what they were hearing and reading was what they were already doing. They got it immediately and much to their relief, felt that they were “got” too:

“As Bill spoke everything he said made complete sense. All the things I've felt instinctively had a grounding.”, Sue Sheriff told me, a local curate at the time and for whom *Unlock* has been particularly helpful:

“*Unlock* did for me what, the theory is, we do for others. It helped my theological development. And what was the most exciting thing, above all, was watching people blossom and seeing them express themselves. It's a levelling thing. It's not the one with the degree who leads but the one with the story.”

With equal measures of enthusiasm and creativity, several years of trying things out and experimenting *Unlock*-style with Bible studies, training and big creative events followed. Some memorable events included “Consider the brick”, “Consider the go-cart” and “Making fences, building bridges”. “Consider the go-cart”, which was based on the Exodus story, was particularly significant for local lady and one time *Unlock* field worker, Betty Jackson:

“I remember an event about the Exodus and I didn't want to be involved. I wanted to stay in the kitchen instead cos I thought that was my place. Andy dragged me out though and.... I told my story of how I moved from Hessele Road to Preston Road when I was 7 and how it felt like entering the Promised Land. It felt good and bad to tell ... my story. It was something I hadn't thought of much. A forgotten memory. There was happiness in it but also some pain. It was the first time I realised that the Bible had anything to do with my life. Another woman talked about the time she left her husband. It was a healing thing for both of us.”

Relating our story to the Bible is powerful stuff. As Liz Dorton told me, the field worker previous to Betty, “the stories become yours and there's lots of WOW moments. It's a magical thing really. It has affected

my way of thinking. Stories are validated, even the smallest things.”

It's encouraging to hear these stories and to know that what's happening in Hull now is a result of the efforts and experiments of years gone by. And what is happening? Well, there's a group of us meeting regularly now to plan and put-together events and happenings, and I'm in post as the Development Worker making sure things happen and spreading the word in Hull. I've also been gathering stories and helping at some national events (the Sponsored Walk and “Jesus in the City”).

In September we held our first event, “Unforgotten”, inspired by recent news headlines of Hull being the “forgotten city” in the floods fiasco. Our hope is, by seeing us in action and trying out the *Unlock* method for themselves, people will catch on and want to try something out in their own church and/or community.

So, watch this space for all things *Unlock* in Hull. We're on the move again and whilst building on past work and wisdom, we're hoping for new things to spring up and take hold.

Fiona Smith  
Unlock Development Worker - Hull

**Contact the National Office for details of the next *Unlock* Sponsored Walk**

# Unlock Glasgow

It has been an eventful year for Unlock Glasgow. Paul Ede and Graham McGeoch started work in September 2006, and have achieved so much since then, with great creativity and enthusiasm. Between us we have led seven groups in different parts of the city, each over several weeks, and each group very rewarding and worthwhile. We have also run two separate leaders training courses for some of the leaders of these groups. These 4 week training courses have been much appreciated, and we hope they have helped to empower the groups to continue as we move on.

We have also met with seven other groups for single occasions, either to talk about the Unlock approach, or to lead an Unlock Bible study for everyone to take part in. Several of these have asked us to come back for further Bible studies.

We have a growing number of resources which we have begun to put on to our website, and we have also been working on improving and updating the Unlock Glasgow website. There are links in both directions between [www.unlockglasgow.org.uk](http://www.unlockglasgow.org.uk) and [www.unlock-urban.org.uk](http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk)

In July we also had our sponsored walk

again, hosted by Maryhill Churches in partnership with Unlock Glasgow, and open to people from right across the city. It was even more successful than last year, with a greater number of walkers taking part, and an additional church involved as one of the hosts. Everyone who took part seemed to enjoy it, and we have had a lot of very positive comments from the walkers and from the host churches too. There was an Unlock Bible study which people could do as they walked, as well as prayer sheets, things to look out for en route, and a childrens' quiz.

Paul stopped working with Unlock Glasgow at the end of May, and we have now welcomed Victoria Rudebark as our new member of the team. She joined us at the beginning of August, and is already bringing a lot of new and helpful ideas to our teamwork.

We had a table for Unlock Glasgow at the three day NEXUS evening held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre



in Glasgow from 23rd-25th August 07. This is sponsored and planned jointly by the four Clyde presbyteries of the Church of Scotland together with a number of other churches, and also the Christian Resources Exhibition, and it has been very widely publicised. So we will have the chance to meet and talk with a lot of people from churches all over Scotland during the three days of the event.

We hope that a number of new openings may develop from this, and also from letters which we are sending out to all the churches in Urban Priority areas. We will keep you posted as our work progresses here in Glasgow.

Anne Craig  
(Team Coordinator, Unlock Glasgow)

## Doing every *Unlock Walk* twice - without legs!

This is the astonishing story behind the brief acknowledgment on the last three Annual Walk Maps - "John and Margaret Brown (access)". John and Margaret are veteran Unlock walkers. John first came across the publicity about Walk no 2 (1985) entirely by chance. Their church in Tunbridge Wells

knew nothing of it. They got a few sponsors, but Margaret's sister joined them and was much better supported by her church. Thereafter they walked together, doing most of our annual walks with their sponsor money going to Unlock via the sister's church.

All changed dramatically when in 2002 John had one leg amputated. They still did the 21st walk, 2003, with Margaret pushing John in a wheelchair. Coincidentally, Parliament was at last addressing the issue of public access for wheelchair users, requiring all public buildings, buses, churches etc. to make the necessary provision. On the 2004 walk in Tottenham, including the very hilly area around Alexandra Palace, John and Margaret met me and my wife Jill, who draws the maps. They pointed out to us that it was not a wheel-chair friendly walk, either in terms of the provision in the churches we visited or the hills. Then came the amazing offer. "If you want, we will test out the walk

route for you next year". But did that mean they would do the walk twice? "That's OK." It was a huge offer, because, with the best will in the world, you do not notice the problems unless you are a wheel-chair user.

In the autumn of 2004, they tested out the 2005 Paddington walk very successfully. In that autumn, John was back in hospital with trouble in his remaining leg. He insisted on coming out of hospital for a day, for Margaret to push him round to test access for the '06 route in Lewisham and Greenwich. When the day of the walk came, they walked it again but by then John had lost his other leg. In the autumn, they walked the Isle of Dogs-Canary Wharf route, discovering how wheel-chair unfriendly Tower Bridge is. Both of them had operations in the several weeks before the day of that walk, and they had to be persuaded very reluctantly to stay at home! They are now limbering up to test the 25th walk!!

We are all privileged to be walking in the steps of such determined commitment and faith.

Peter Hall  
(Walk planning Team)



# Unlock Diary 2006/2007

## August 2006

2 New Glasgow Workers appointed.

Unlock Glasgow becomes independent.

## October 2006

### Workers festival and Unlock Council meeting

Opportunities for all Unlock staff to meet are few and far in between, so each festival is always highly anticipated. This year was no different. It was great to catch up with all the workers and council members, in particular those who had travelled all the way from Glasgow and were new to Unlock. Held at St Mary's Church in Sheffield the first day of the festival challenged workers to be as imaginative as possible by illustrating their perception of Unlock through art! On the following day internal reflection was encouraged and led by the Glasgow team. On both days the problems and successes we experience as part of the Unlock team were shared and discussed. We're all looking forward to this year's Festival!

## November 2006

CO visits Unlock Glasgow to train workers. New Hull Development worker, Fiona Smith, appointed.

CO does Jury Service!

CO promotes Unlock Training at National Symposium on Urban Mission Training in Birmingham.

## December 2006

Christmas lunch for the Office Team in Derbyshire.

Annual reports mailed.

## January 2007

Unlock Council Meeting

2007 Walk brochures mailed.

CO meets with fundraising consultant

## Office Staff Retreat

Most years' the office staff tries to spend a day away on retreat and this year's was spent at Whirlow Grange, Sheffield. The mood was calming and day's activities centred largely on self-reflection. It was great to get out of the office and break up everyday work routines. It was also a rare chance for Dawn, Lois and Melizza to spend some quality time together as an office team.

## February 2007

CO travels to Swindon to meet a representative from the Bible Society at their national headquarters. The Bible Society are impressed with Unlock's work and have kindly given us some one-off financial support.

CO meets with a promotional consultant.

## March 2007

Office staff begin visiting alternative office premises in Sheffield.

## April 2007

CO provides an Unlock training day in London for the Shaftesbury Society.

## The 24th Unlock London Walk in memory of Basil Cracknell

*Bermondsey and the Isle of Dogs*

This year's event saw walkers return to the past, to be precise, to the route of the first ever Unlock Walk. Dedicated to the brainchild of Unlock Walks, Basil Cracknell, the day saw older supporters reminisce whilst younger ones were able to take a look at part of Unlock's living history. Few will forget the sight of the floating church along the River Thames or the captivating interior of the newly renovated St James church. The walk Workshop was planned and run by Fiona and Sarah, on the theme of slavery, and blind spots, and included breaking paper chains to symbolise the way God sees us free. Overall the day was enjoyed by about 700 walkers in

all, who have so far raised £24,000 towards our work; the best walk income since 2002! Next years walk is set for the 19th of April 2008.



## May 2007

National Council Meeting.

## June 2007

CO & Fiona Smith represent Unlock, and provide workshops, at Jesus in the City Conference, Bristol. See Fiona's report below.

CO leads Unlock training for Chester Diocesan Conference at Swanwick.

## July 2007

Unlock Hull provide training for new urban clergy in York Diocese.

New National Office premises found. Move scheduled for late October 2007 – for more details see page 2.

## September 2007

CO leads a Sunday morning Service about Unlock for a supporting church in Derbyshire. Want someone to do this at your church? Just contact the National Office and we will see what we can do.

'Unforgotten' Unlock Workshop in Hull, relating to the 2007 summer floods.

Theology student on 2 week placement with Unlock in Hull.

## Unlock out and about - a mini-blog

Mid June on the M1, bound for Bristol and the 5th UK Urban Mission Congress, "Jesus in the City"..... Checked in just as the 40 European Baptist delegates arrived. Good to see Dawn who'd just been setting up the Unlock stand.....Challenging to hear Jim Wallis kick off proceedings with a

stirring plea for "justice revival".....Friday and a visit to a local youth project. An eye-opening lesson in radical grace and race relations..... Saturday and workshop day. Dawn and I running 2 sessions back-to-back. Two very different groups of people with some "getting it" more than others. Some magic moments though. Most memorable discussing the Lost Sheep story with a

delegate from the Ukraine and hearing his story of adopting three street children. A definite "got it!" moment followed by an invitation for Unlock to go to the Ukraine.... Watch this space.....!

Fiona Smith  
Unlock Development Worker - Hull

See our website for more information at  
[www.unlock-urban.org.uk](http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk)

# Unlock Finance Page

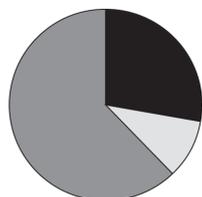
## Ducking & Diving

During the past year Unlock has continued its strategy of investing in Unlock local field, or development, workers to the extent that Unlock Glasgow is now independently funded and managed and employing three workers – doing Unlock work but at no direct cost to Unlock. Towards the end of the year Fiona Smith was employed as a new worker in Hull building on the work started by Unlock in a more limited way several years ago. This investment in local projects has resulted in a £10,000 shortfall for the second year running, which we would hope to see covered by donations.

### EXPENDITURE 2006

**Total = £47,305**

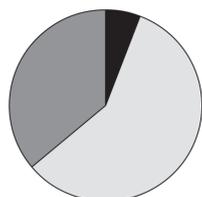
■ Management & Admin	£13,379	28%
■ Fundraising	£4,512	10%
■ Direct Charitable Work	£29,414	62%



### INCOME 2006

**Total = £37,086**

■ Investments	£2,130	6%
■ Sundry	£130	0%
■ Sponsored Walk	£21,530	58%
■ Donations	£13,296	36%



Unfortunately walk income was down by 8%, reversing the trend of the previous year to equal the 2004 figure. Over £1,000 has been spent on improving the database in the hopes of keeping you better informed, whilst streamlining systems for claiming Gift Aid on donations. This will be especially beneficial as all charities will experience a 3½% drop in Gift Aid from next April due to the reduction in the basic tax rate. Perhaps you could consider increasing your giving slightly to reflect the extra money the Chancellor will leave you in your pocket.

There are many different ways you could consider helping our work, for example why not bring a group of friends and join the 700 plus walkers in London on April 19th. It certainly is a tremendous experience and the sponsorship it generates is of the utmost importance to us. If you take a look at our website [www.unlock-urban.org.uk](http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk) you will find several of our bible studies which are downloadable free for use in places like home groups. Perhaps you could consider making a donation to Unlock in response to this provision of resources.

Please pray with us that we can continue to obtain the necessary support to enable our strategic work to go forward. Unlock needs you!

Jenny Blake  
Treasurer

Unlock will only be here, to provide resources for urban disciples, and to enable local urban leadership, as long as you keep on supporting our work financially!

Your support has brought us this far, and exciting things are beginning to develop; now we need you to keep us going!

## Unlock needs:

- **Money** – we can't do anything much without it! - Donations of any shape or size!
- **Promotion** – do please tell other people about who we are and what we are doing, so that they use our resources and/or support us too!
- **Prayer** – please pray for our work
- **Walkers** – come and do our Annual London Walk in 2008 (Chelsea/Battersea, April 19th)– and raise some funds for us, either through sponsorship or by sending us a donation.
- **Churches** – we are looking for Churches who are willing to make a regular commitment to support our work over the next few years. If you want us to come and make a presentation at your church please contact the National Office.

## 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 28p 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 28p 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 be claimed back by the charity/charities that you give to – so if you give £10 you must have paid £2.80 in tax!

# If Unlock is the answer – what is the question?

An organisation like Unlock, which has been around for decades, needs to check, from time to time, that we still know what we are all about. Our mission statement, states that we are in the business of:

*Unlocking stories of urban people*

*Revealing Good News of the  
Down to Earth Christ*

*Releasing life changing skills and confidence*

Unlock was founded over thirty years ago, by a group of Evangelical Church leaders, who had a concern for the inner city poor. In those days it was called EUTP (Evangelical Urban Training Project) and was set up, not for evangelicals to bash liberals or traditionalists, and not to patronise the working classes; but to say to evangelicals, "there's a whole mass (class) of people out there that just can't hear you, you speak at them not with them, and you use a language they don't understand, because it just isn't theirs - it's OUR problem, not theirs! - and so, if you want to share good news with these children of God, you'd better learn how." In other words, we have not done what Jesus would have done, if he came among us now, and we are going to try.

Since then, first EUTP, and now Unlock, have been about learning how; and making that way of learning, and some resources to go with it, available to the churches, especially the evangelical ones, but any others too. Our founders were particularly concerned that Christian Disciples, in deprived inner cities, and city estates, were being denied the chance to explore their growing faith for themselves, in ways that fit with their way of looking at life. There is now, as there was then, a vast array of resources for people who want to grow in Christian faith and discipleship. But in general those resources are alienating for urban working class people, because they use middle class vocabulary, middle class approaches, and middle class examples. The fear was that ordinary working class people were left feeling that learning about faith couldn't have much to do with them, because it wasn't presented in a style that related to their everyday lives and their way of looking at things.

Unlock founders quickly realised that there were different approaches, which were more comfortable, and appropriate, for people who, 'can read but don't much: people in whose homes there are few, if any, books. The temptation is to think that Bible study has to be dumbed-down for what Unlock came to term 'Non-book culture': but that assumption is both arrogant and wrong. Just because people do not think or learn in bookish ways, doesn't mean that they are less capable of thinking and learning: it just means that they have a different approach. Part of the problem is exactly that kind of unconscious assumption; that the kind of people Unlock work with, have sometimes been made (or allowed) to believe that they are not qualified to think theologically, and have nothing to contribute to exploring the Christian faith. 'I'm nobody, no one will be interested in what I think, and I'm not very good at explaining ....'

The truth is, that when you ask these urban disciples, to tell you their stories, or better yet encourage them to tell their stories to, and with, one another, and when there is real listening, we find stories of biblical values lived out; stories that have real resonance with the stories in the bible, and which provide a very fruitful source for theological reflection and new insights. Actually we find that the 'bookish' types have something to learn from listening to everyday, down to earth, Christians sharing their stories, and that certainly we all have some new things to learn together. So Unlock are working in these ways to enable those Christians who live and worship in urban, and less wealthy, areas to have the confidence to interpret their faith and the bible for themselves, and then to share it appropriately and to challenge the way the church has traditionally communicated the Good News.

Unlock has listened to the people we are concerned for, and has worked with them, to discover ways in which they can explore their faith for themselves; approaches which do not rely on reading lots of text, and do not rely on knowledge gained from book learning, but which draw on people's day to day experiences, and allow them to express their insights in creative ways. We have developed

resources that are tailor made for urban disciples, but which also work quite well in a range of other environments, because they offer fresh ways of working with the bible, which value each person's story, and each person's ideas. Our Field workers, in UK cities, work to enable local leadership in Unlock approaches, so that we do not create another layer of dependency, but instead help local people to grasp the concept, and build their confidence that they can do it for themselves. Our national staff provide training for other organisations which are sending people into urban mission, so that they too are better equipped to – Unlock the stories of urban people – enabling them to reveal Good News of the Down to Earth Christ – and release life changing skills and confidence.

At its May meeting Council considered the question above, 'If Unlock is the answer – what is the question?' Phrases which came up included

*empowering ordinary everyday Christians*

*working class reaching working class*

*resourcing urban discipleship*

*setting people free*

*telling stories*

*upside down Bible study*

It was clear from the discussion that Unlock's aim has been very consistent since its foundation over thirty years ago, and that what is probably unique to Unlock, given that many organisations would lay claim to some of these, is our focus on the Bible. Effectively Unlock are working at how to enable and encourage those in 'non-book culture' to engage with the content of – a book! specifically the Bible.

We need your support to continue to do that work, but please also consider whether we can be a resource to your faith, your church, your mission. If you have never tried an Unlock Bible study, perhaps now is the moment. A growing range is available to download free from our website [www.unlock-urban.org.uk](http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk) We guarantee a refreshing approach to the Bible – money back if you are not totally satisfied!

Dawn Lonsdale (Unlock Chief Officer)

# Unlock

## Wanted!

Unlock likes to work creatively with images, rather than lots of text, and we need to improve Unlock's display and presentational resources in order to make an impact in today's fast moving world. We need the following equipment:

- A dataprojector*
- A digital camera*
- A video recorder*

If any of you are upgrading your own equipment, or work for a company who is upgrading theirs, and could obtain any of this equipment, second hand, for Unlock please let us know. Failing that we need donations to cover the cost of these items, probably around £3,000. Please contact the Unlock National Office if you think you might be able to help.

If you can't help in these ways then please pray that someone else will be able to!

## Congratulations!

– to Tim and Sarah Watkins-Idle, on the birth of their second son, Samuel, (a brother for Joel) in August. Tim and Sarah have been key players in planning and running the Unlock London walk, along with Peter and Jill Hall in recent years.

## Unlock Training Available

Unlock provide 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.

Unlock T Shirts, which were on sale at the 24th London Walk, in a range of sizes and colours, priced £6, are now available from the National Office for £6 plus P&P.

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

### 1 Unlocking real life stories of urban people

Unlock's methods begin with a group of people sharing their real life experiences. **Unlock's** materials suggest different things that will help this to happen - for example, a few questions, a game or a video clip

### 2 Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ

These real life stories are compared with similar situations in the Bible. Unlock materials provide Bible passages on individual pages, that can be photocopied for use with a group

### 3 Releasing life changing skills and confidence

Change happens as a result of linking real life experiences with the Bible

'We learn it now and we learn it for life.'

The individuals and groups involved change, and there is often action among those around them

4 ...LEADING TO MORE TO BE EXPERIENCES UNLOCKED

## Unlock Supporters Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

### Please register me as an Unlock:

Partner  Friend  Prayer Partner

I'd like to make a donation towards Unlock's work and enclose

£

Signature

(Cheques made payable to 'Unlock' please.)

I would like my donation to be gift aided

Please send me information on the next Unlock Sponsored Walk I am interested in:

A list of Unlock resources  Unlock training brochure

Doing the walk  Being a Church Walk Leader

Sponsoring a walker  Promoting Unlock's work



Please cut out and return to us at: Unlock, Handsworth Parish Centre, Handsworth Road, Sheffield S13 9BZ