



Newsletter Summer 2008



It's true to say that we have found the first half of 2008 something of a challenge as a community of people. Our numbers on a Sunday evening have been slightly down and, though we claim not to be concerned with such things, there is a part of us that still looks to these things as a measure of success or failure however poor an indicator such things may be!

Taking our focus off this potentially disheartening statistic we can see that other areas the work of Legacy have been growing in leaps and bounds. Our new look cell groups which are based around interest groups such as BMX, Skateboarding and Gaming are flourishing and through these we are seeing many young people come to faith for the first time and grow in their discipleship. The first year of "The House" which saw four of our number take up the challenge of living as a residential Christian community was a resounding success. We move into the second half of 2008 with probably the strongest team of full-time and part-time workers in Legacy's history and I am incredibly excited at the opportunities which lie ahead for the rest of this year and into 2009. Peter Hillman (*Pastor, Legacy Youth Congregation*)

Soul Survivor 08



Scripture seems to teach us that there are many things we will not understand until we see Jesus face to face. I confess that there are some things I don't think I will understand even then - one of them being God's fondness for camping! Ancient Israel were commanded to live in booths and each year at Soul Survivor Legacy also have to live in tents!

But despite the rain and the mud we had an amazing time of worship, prayer, teaching and seeing God bless our mates in many different ways. Three of our number gave their lives to Jesus for the first time and, without exception, everyone came back challenged and changed if only a small way. Our committed catering team of Brian, Jennifer and Jen treated us to culinary delights throughout the week and Jamie (Legacy Rayleigh) soothed our troubled souls with guitar music each day!

I know we seem to say it each time we come home but I'll say it again - this year's Soul Survivor was one of the best!

September sees the launch of our new Legacy House project. Following the success of last year's Flat we are very excited to have a new team for a new academic year in a larger and more suitable house.

During the last year the housemates have had regular visits from local youngsters many of whom are interested in participating in the spiritual aspects of their shared life such as morning and night prayer. Ross has completed his year in the flat and we are grateful for all his hard work. He will continue to head up the video project and help lead BMX cell.



Luke and Matt are continuing with another year in The House and Carl Dent will now join as a novice member of the community. New additions are Aaron Beale, Kim Palin and our new full-time youth worker Anna-Marie Moorhouse.

Anna joins us having completed her degree in youthwork with Oasis. The main focus of her work will be to develop work among young women in and around Castle Point. Plans for the Autumn include dance and singing workshops at the Legacy XS Centre. In addition she will begin to develop a "feminine spirituality" stream to Legacy's work.





Youthlife

It's always great to make new friends and in July we had the chance to do just that when we played host to Ilyos and Vitalik from

Central Asian Breakdance team "Youthlife". The organised a week of events in the Appleton School which included assemblies, PE lessons and lunchtime workshops.

The two lads were joined by members of the Legacy team including Luke Cooper who was able to MC during the school assemblies. As a result of this input we aim to start lunchtime MC workshops each week in Appleton. Other team members who caught the breakdance bug included Matt, Ross and James!

It's probably fair to say that the summer of 2008 was our busiest ever at Legacy.



It seemed that almost every weekend during July we were taking part in some event or other ranging from helping out our friends at St Mary's with their summer fayre to running the Youth Zone at the Rayleigh Churches family fun day. We could only have taken part in all of these events with the help of lots of volunteers, so thanks go to everyone who gave up their time to support Legacy's partnership working throughout the summer.



The main event in which we took part during the summer months was the SOLID youth festival in July.

For this event we operated the mini-ramp and cage as well as providing a team for detached work and ministry in the main meetings. We also worked with Junior SOLID on the Sunday and helped with both set up and pack down of the event. We very much look forward to continuing our involvement with SOLID events throughout the year and particularly next summer's festival.

Legacy Rayleigh

After Pete's ordination in 2007 we had the opportunity to partner with the Rayleigh team ministry in developing their new youth work and, with the appointment of Jamie Sawtell Legacy Rayleigh has now been launched!



Jamie has extensive experience in the area as a former youthworker with the County Youth Service and has launched into his work with enthusiasm and passion. Already getting stuck into detached work he plans to build up a team to develop work with youngsters in Rayleigh eventually forming a youth congregation as part of the team ministry. Legacy Rayleigh and Legacy Benfleet will be working extensively together with joint outreach and worship events.



Legacy XS Arts Suite

As part of extensive re-modelling of the facilities at Legacy XS we have drawn up plans for a new arts suite which will include a sprung dance floor, recording studio and video editing suite.

As a part of the MTV sponsored BOOM! project we have already received a free video camera and are looking forward to taking delivery of a 20" iMac computer with editing software.

The Board of Legacy XS decided to press ahead with the arts suite project in order to widen the appeal of the centre to as diverse a group of youngsters as possible. This is despite some unpleasant news in June that, due to an accounting error we had been under charged by our building contractor in the sum of £15,000. Fund raising efforts to fund this shortfall continue and we hope that with cost saving measures together with new income streams from the arts suite we will raise the money as quickly as possible. In the mean time donations from individuals and organisations are very welcome.

And finally...

Please, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to share the good news of Jesus and his Kingdom to young people in Castle Point and now Rayleigh. We are honoured to serve them and Him and value your support.