



# PrayerMatters

February/March 2010

**Christian Youth Outreach** *Inspiring young people to live for God, for each other, for the world.*

## Thurstable CU

Now a month old, IMPACT, the Thurstable School Christian Union, is really taking shape. We have a group of enthusiastic Year 8's who attend every week, eager to eat chocolate, play games, and chat about how they find life as young Christians.

So far we have looked at the topics of equality, fair trade, how we treat others, the power of the words we choose to say, and also, lent. Out of these issues come really interesting discussions in which the young people are able to be open and honest about their thoughts, views, and struggles.

At the moment we're really enjoying getting to know the students better, and they've given us loads of suggestions for further activities they want to do, and themes that they would like to cover.

Please pray:

- that IMPACT develops and expands to become a real outreach to the rest of the students.
- for the current attendees, that their walk with God continues to grow and mature

## Sixth Form College

This term has been great with loads of significant conversations with students. One that jumps out is with a girl called Kelly who God randomly brought into my life one late afternoon on my final lolly walk of the day. We connected straight away and chatted about everything from college to boyfriends, futures and friends. A few weeks later I once again happened to bump into her and as usual God's timing was perfect. On seeing her I noticed she looked upset, so I offered her a coffee & a chat which she gratefully received. The next hour saw her pour out all her cares & worries, cry her little heart out and then leave feeling a bit more peaceful.

Please pray for:

- Kelly that she would feel able to cope with all the pressure of her college work and that I would have the opportunity of meeting up with her again.
- Divine inspiration and a packed auditorium for the Easter Service on March 25th

## Alderman Blaxill

Abi (not her real name) says she feels invisible, that no one sees her. She gets bullied - once some other students follow her home and threatened her. But she says she can never show them she's 'weak'. School is hard. She says she's not like other girls - doesn't really care about make-up or clothes and would rather go for a walk and climb trees. When she talks she sounds much older than her age. Abi seems to carry the weight of the world with her - she gets angry and frustrated when talking about things that annoy her, like when teachers are unfair or when other students don't allow her to work in class.

Abi meets with me for 20 minutes a week. In this time she can talk about anything on her mind and offload all her frustrations. She says she likes chatting and she feels relaxed afterwards.

Please pray for:

- Abi and all the girls like her who Amy meets with regularly
- That Abi will know she isn't invisible
- For Amy's relationship with staff members

## Regular activities:

<b>Mondays</b>	Gilberd School lunchtime F.I.L.M. group [Amy, Josh, Rachel]
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Thurstable School CU [Josh & Rachel]
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Ipswich training day [Josh & Rachel] Alderman Blaxill mentoring [Amy]

## Other dates

**w/b 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Please pray for a youth worker you know

Thu 25            **Thinking about Youthwork** - "Christian Youthwork and Sex Education"  
7:30pm at Orchard Baptist Church. £5

**w/b 1<sup>st</sup> March** – Please pray for the young people of Thurstable School, Tiptree

Mon 1 - Fri 5        We are at Thurstable School all week running **Sanctum** for the young people, staff and parents.

**w/b 8<sup>th</sup> March** – Please pray for the continuing development of CYO's mission to young people

Mon 8            **CYO Open Evening**, 8pm - 10pm at Kingsland Church, Lexden (old MFI building)

Tue 9            Colchester Boiler Room Advisers meeting [Tim]

Thu 11           24-7 Prayer "Prayer Spaces in Schools" team meeting, London [Tim]  
Mayor's Charity lectures at the Town Hall - The Future of Transport, with John Grimshaw, founder of Sustrans. Tickets £5 from the Town Hall or on the door.

**w/b 15<sup>th</sup> March** – Please pray Amy as she does the final preparation and writing of material for the 'Beloved' course for girls

Mon 15 - Fri 19    Tim away at Lee Abbey - mini retreat plus writing education resources for 24-7 Prayer "Prayer Spaces in Schools"

**w/b 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Please pray for the young people of Thomas Lord Audley School

Mon 22 - Fri 26    We are at Thomas Lord Audley School all week running Sanctum

Sat 27            "Joy" - a new termly event for Christian young people from the Colchester area

### .. e-news ..

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The latest edition of PrayerMatters is also available to download from the CYO web site at: [www.cyocolchester.org.uk](http://www.cyocolchester.org.uk) Click on 'latest news'

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