

Helping people with life controlling problems

# Newsletter

WINTER 2011



Tim

## Success Story

My name is Tim Haigh, I'm 40 yrs old and from Wakefield.

I am the second of five children and I grew up on a council estate on the edge of town. Growing up was tough when lack and hardship was a constant companion to us, my mum fought to give us the best she could, even if she had to go without so that we didn't have to. I used to be a bit shy and would always be looking for affirmation as a young man from my dad, which, sadly never came. At school I began to look for acceptance in all the wrong places and began running with a gang. Soon – trouble – and the police – were my new constant companions. This gang life got worse and worse until I ended up in jail and all that entails. I was 16 yrs old and had been out of school for barely 6 months. Prison life was harsh back in the late 80,s and a) to relieve the boredom and b) to keep in with the crowd, I began experimenting with drugs and came out of jail, newly educated in drug taking and with a wealth of criminal contacts.

The rave party scene was just beginning to sweep the country at this point in my life, and I jumped into it head first. The drugs I took (ecstasy, cocaine acid) would give me a temporary feeling of being loved and accepted but the morning after would dawn on me and I

would always feel so empty and lonely inside. This pattern went on for years, selling drugs and stealing to fund my lifestyle, yet never finding satisfaction. At this point of my life, I had a daughter, but I was so selfish, insecure and lacking in self-esteem that the relationship broke down and I hardly saw my daughter for the next 4 years. The years of drug taking began to take it's toll and I began suffering bouts of depression and paranoia, I began taking heroin, – at first just to block out the feelings of hurt, and regret deep inside me, but then the addiction kicked in and the drug became my new companion. I began selling heroin to fund my habit, and my drug taking spiralled out of control until I was injecting myself, sometimes, ten times a day. This went on for years. I was a physical and emotional wreck. The dark clouds of despair from the drug addiction drove me to the point of contemplating suicide. Could I live out the rest of my life dependent on a needle full of heroin?, or was it better to end it all now?

Suddenly, someone told me that Jesus was the answer to all my problems! I laughed at first thinking that this person was on drugs like me, but his words wouldn't leave my mind. Jesus loves you - I needed to know more, so went to

a meeting where The Evidence were playing. I listened and asked questions, then invited Jesus into my heart and asked him to forgive me and heal my brokenness. Some of the guys prayed for me and in an instant, GOD healed me of my heroin addiction, hallelujah. I have never touched heroin since that moment, 13 years ago. At last I felt at peace, but now I had a new companion, one who wasn't temporary, who wouldn't let me down or never leave me. Jesus.

I went into the Teen Challenge program a few weeks later and graduated from the programme nearly 18 months later. In that time GOD transformed me from the inside out, and after working for Teen Challenge as a staff member for a couple of years I left and went back to my home town, so I could begin to rebuild my relationship with my daughter. Since leaving, Teen Challenge and getting planted in a local church, I met a beautiful woman called Donna whom I married and we now have two gorgeous kids, Chloe (4) and Jack (18 months), not to forget my eldest daughter, Collette, who is now 18 yrs and the most stunning daughter a dad could wish for. She too is part of our church and loves Jesus



Tim Haigh

with a passion. I went back to college soon after getting married and trained in building skills, I then built up 3 successful building company's, from scratch, one of which was for house building. Not bad for someone who left school with no qualifications!

I have spent a lot of my time over the years going back into prisons, sharing my story with the inmates and telling them of the life transforming power of Jesus. I look at my life, my family and friends and just marvel at God's goodness to me. I know I'm loved and accepted by GOD and my faithful companion Jesus is still by my side, and has never left me, to this day.

## 'You Gave it All' – New Album from 'The Evidence'

October saw the eagerly awaited release of the new Evidence team album "You Gave It All". The album consists of a great mixture of songs by a team of young men that travel the country sharing how the Lord has saved them from despair and brought them into a new life in Him.



If you would like order your copy of "You Gave It All" for just £10 (plus £2 postage and packing) then please call Phil on 01269

842718. Please also call Phil if you would be interested in finding out more about booking The Evidence Team for a church / evangelistic event.

## Hope House crafts for sale

Hope House girls produce handmade jewellery and would like your help in selling this in your local church or event this coming Christmas. Please contact Hope House tel: 01269 844114 option 1 (10am to 4pm) Monday to Friday for more details or email [mike.rankin@teenchallenge.org.uk](mailto:mike.rankin@teenchallenge.org.uk)



[www.teenchallenge.org.uk](http://www.teenchallenge.org.uk)

# Directors Desk



Jay Fallon

## Dear friends of Teen Challenge

Faith does not make your life easy. Even as we read in that great chapter of Hebrews 11 of great men and great women of faith there lives were not made easy, there were obstacles there were discouragements and there were challenges. They came from different backgrounds and different walks of life but one thing they all had in common, they had faith and they believed in God and that with God all things were possible. That mountains could be removed, that problems could be solved, that victories were to be won. We are living in difficult days, in days of great challenge, days when the nations round about us are in distress in the midst of financial uncertainty and circumstances changing not just on a yearly basis but monthly basis, and yet the bible says we have an overcoming faith.

Victory as many of us would know is not the absence of trouble but in spite of it. And in spite of many many challenges we are not of those who shrink back. In days of difficulties and great challenges there are many people who have done great works who went before us and we can look at their lives and be encouraged. Great pioneers of lives that we should look at as examples. They may not be perfect lives, but lives that have done great works. I think of the general William Booth in the 1800's who had a burden, a desire for the poor. Difficult days, many challenges but with this faith, look what he accomplished. Look at the many people who were housed, the poor who were fed. It was a great work and many workers all over the country started as a small group known as the Salvation Army. By the 1930's there were branches in 55 countries affecting many lives and many families, just one man with a burden. He had a persevering faith as we can see from this quote:

*"While women weep, as they do now, I'll fight; While children go hungry as they do now, I'll fight; While men go to prison, in and out, as they do now, I'll fight, While there is a drunkard left, While there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, While there*

*remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight... I'll fight to the very end!"*

Obviously we could list thousands and many names that we will never know of who have done great works and who lived sacrificial lives that others may benefit in theirs. I think of the American missionary Jim Elliott who said 'he is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.' So we go forward looking at these challenges, but also looking beyond the challenges and the obstacles to the rewards that we all want to live a life that will be inconvenienced and there always is a life of inconvenience when you stop to help the poor, as the good Samaritan did, it cost time and it cost money, but it's a life, its an individual and when we stop and help we really are touching the heart of God and fulfilling the great command to go.

So we are going forward into great things with this faith, expecting great things with this faith, believing great things with this faith. In many ways it's been an exciting year. We have seen our training school being able to be trained but also to take that training and see it fulfilled in practical ways by going to the streets and helping the poor and the broken and the addicts that are there. We have seen our team even being able to go to

## Pressing On

poorer countries and help with people in Teen Challenge centres that are less fortunate than us. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we will be moving some of our offices early in the New Year which will be a challenging time, please continue to pray for that move.

It's just such a blessing to be able to bless others so I say with great joy 'let us not grow weary in doing good' but continue to press on and continue in this great work. That Teen Challenge will be a voice for the addict whose voice is getting quieter in the day that we live in. I repeat myself again to remind us in Proverbs 31: 8 & 9 to 'speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves, for the rights of all those who are destitute, speak up and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and the needy' as in all great works that reach out to the marginalised in society there has always been great supporters. People might not see their faces, people might not even know their names but there is one who does and He will reward every good work. Thank you once again for your support that is helping to reach the broken lives in our society. So from all of us in Teen Challenge, staff and students have a blessed Christmas and have a happy new year.

Thank you  
Pastor Jay Fallon

## The Harvest is Ripe

Students from the Teen Challenge School of Ministry have been extensively involved in mission throughout the UK over the past six months. Working alongside a local church in Stockport, Manchester they helped with mission in a very needy housing estate the night after the Manchester riots. Cafe style meetings were held as the gospel was clearly preached and testimonies of the transforming power of Jesus were shared. Many lives were touched and changed as a result of this 5 day mission.

A regular work over the summer in Mountain Ash and Aberdare in South Wales, allowed hope to be given to many young

people caught in addiction. Hundreds of quality conversations were had on the streets as people heard of new life in Jesus Christ.

Swansea continues to be a place where we are very well received amongst the hurting people. We are often found amongst the 'crisis loan queue' or outside probation, where despair looms - hope is given! Many relationships have been established and many people are now attending local church owing to the hope that is being shared. A regular 'street church' type event is held in a local church hall, proving to be a powerful way of presenting the gospel message to the unchurched.

We are seeing people making decisions for the Lord, seeking support and applying to our residential centres.

In early September the School of Ministry travelled 12 hours north to join with the longstanding Teen Challenge work in the North East of Scotland. They were involved in a weeks' mission amongst the many fishing towns, Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Macduff, Bucky, Banff, and other needy areas in the City of Aberdeen. Various events were held including 'Street Church', support groups and a BBQ. The team were active in door to door evangelism, leafleting, bus ministry and open air outreach.

The Lord revealed himself to many people and demonstrated His Spirit's power. Eternity will only tell the results, as many people came under the knowledge of Christ.

*The visit of the School of Ministry team to our church plant in Brinnington, Stockport caused such an impact amongst the community, we had a congregation before they left. Can't wait for them to return.*

Senior Pastor  
Stockport

*'How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings and who proclaim salvation'*

Isaiah 52v 7.



## Testimony – David

My name is David. I am 32 years old and was bought up in Dundee. . . .

I grew up in a close family unit and had a fairly happy childhood, however, when I got to the age of around 13 years I started looking for something else. I was looking for acceptance from an older crowd who hung around at a group of shops not far from where I lived. They all smoked and drank and before long I did too. I left school at 15 due to my heavy drinking and drugs came into my life shortly after. At 16 I first experienced prison. Instead of it being a deterrent it just pushed me further into a life of substance misuse and crime. At 21

I was homeless and was introduced to heroin. This gripped me in a way that I'd never known and my life at this point went from bad to worse. The last time I was in prison I went to the chapel. I was given a book about a guy whom God had changed his life and I asked this same God to come into mine. From that point things did start to change. I had hope! When I was released from prison I went to a church where I met a Pastor who had worked for Teen Challenge. He took me to Teen Challenge in April 2009 and I was able to put down the

alcohol and drug addiction that had tormented me for years. During my program I was able to get to know Jesus and through him, deal with issues and attitudes in myself. I graduated from Teen Challenge in October 2010 and went on to the Teen Challenge School of Ministry where I achieved more in 6 months than I did in 16 years as an addict. I now work at Challenge House where I'm able to help and watch others grow and experience the freedom in Christ that I found. The Gospel really is still changing lives today.

## Making an Impact

One of the highlights of the September tour has been our visit to Bournemouth where we had a meeting in the Salvation Army hall with about 250 people attending.

"Teen Challenge East Dorset were greatly blessed by the visit from the girls from Hope house.

About 15 - 20 responded to the appeal for salvation with at least 5 of these seeking to go to rehab. Many were impacted by what they heard, seeking prayer and looking for help to find faith in Jesus. One Guy moved by what he heard went away seeking God and has

since become a Christian, the transformation has been amazing! Several others from lives of crime and addiction are meeting with us who we believe are near the Kingdom. A young lady who had been a working girl came forward and is now looking to go to Hope House.

We really want to thank you for the huge impact God has enabled you to have in the area of Boscombe where we are working. We really appreciated the evening, the impact on many lives for which we praise God has been amazing!"

Michael & Louise Cook Teen Challenge South East Dorset

## Annual National Staff Conference 11th to 13th November 2011

Many staff and volunteers attended our annual staff conference at the Hayes in Derbyshire. The guest speaker Pastor Steve Derbyshire from City Gates church challenged workers to 'not become weary in doing good'. This was a great time of encouragement and inspiration as many workers take hope back to the streets for the lost and broken at the most challenging time in the year. Please continue to pray for Teen Challenge workers across the UK and Ireland.

For further details contact the National Office



## Training and Equipping Local workers for the Harvest

"Wayne Raper, our Operations Director, has been travelling over the last six months whilst supporting the setting up of new outreach works in South East Dorset, Ilkeston and West Lothian.

Altogether 87 team members have been recruited, trained and released as volunteers into their local communities to help local people on the streets. Already numerical growth is being experienced by these

teams as others see the joy that is to be found in reaching into the darkest places of their towns and cities and pulling out treasure; and with over 600,000 people in the areas that these three new ministries call "our patch" there is ample evidence that "The fields are white unto harvest".

Please pray for these new works and for the workers throughout the UK.



## Support Teen Challenge

We thank you sincerely for your faithful gifts to us:

**Monthly standing order** – if you regularly donate in other ways, why not contact the National office for a 'Sponsor a student' form and get your gift sent automatically via standing order?

**You can donate online at** – [www.teenchallenge.org.uk](http://www.teenchallenge.org.uk)

**If you are a UK taxpayer** – why not sign up to gift aid your donation which enables us to claim tax back on your gifts – contact Kim **01269 842718** or email: [kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk](mailto:kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk)

**Prayer** – we value your prayers for the students, finances and further development of Teen Challenge in the UK.

*giftaid it*

**Please remember:** if you move address please tell us so that we can update our mailing list. If you gift aid your donation, a new form will need to be completed at your new address. Please contact [kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk](mailto:kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk)

## Please help us to reduce Costs

If you are able access to a computer please consider receiving your newsletter via email to help us to reduce our postage costs. Please also let us know when you move address or if you no longer wish to remain on our mailing list. For further details please contact Kim at [kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk](mailto:kim.blackburn@teenchallenge.org.uk)



## Christmas Cards and Christian Gifts ...that assist our ministry

Once again this year we shall benefit from the sale of Christmas cards and the other cards and gifts available from Gospel Cards, etc. 20% of their Christmas card sales and 5% of the sale of other items will be given to 33 Christian missions including Teen Challenge UK. (To date, we and other societies have received over £250,000 in this way.) Produced to a very high standard, the calendars, books, etc. make excellent gifts for children and adults; while the cards are perfect for sending to Christians and non-Christian family and friends.

Please see the enclosed catalogue for details, and please remember mention our name if you place an order - thank you. Full details of the cards, etc. are also on their website:

[www.GospelCardsEtc.com](http://www.GospelCardsEtc.com)



## HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL SUPPORTERS

Please accept our sincere thanks from all the staff and students of Teen Challenge UK for your faithful support, prayers and giving. We would like to wish you a very

**Happy Christmas and a blessed, healthy and prosperous New Year.**



## Evidence Living Hope Dates for 2012



### DATES

Sunday 29th Jan – Chippenham Elim

Sunday 26th Feb – Bath Elim

Friday 2nd Sat 3rd and Sun 4th March – Exmouth (Blackdown Hills)

**EVIDENCE TOUR FROM 17TH MARCH TO 25TH MARCH**

(LOCATIONS TO BE CONFIRMED)

Friday 30th March –

Teen Challenge Student Graduation – Swansea City Temple

Tuesday 10th April –

Ystrad Munach

Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd April –

Liverpool City Church

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th May - Bristol Tabernacle

**LIVING HOPE TOUR –**

**19TH TO 27TH MAY**

(LOCATIONS TO BE CONFIRMED)

Check out the web site for further update

Main image: The Evidence on tour

## Autumn Graduation Service

The autumn graduation service held in Swansea was well supported with attendance from local churches, friends, family and supporters of Teen Challenge. This service provides a milestone for students who have graduated the Teen Challenge programme and School of Ministry as they receive a certificate of recognition for their achievement.

The guest speaker was John Partington National Leader of Assemblies of God who challenged and inspired students past and present to 'dream big'. The next service will be held on Friday 30th March 2012 at 7.30pm at the City Temple (Elim Church), Dyfatty Street, Swansea. SA1 1QQ Why not make a date to join us?

## Baptismal Services

In September many students in Wales were baptised in water at two special services in Penygroes. It is so amazing to see the faithfulness of God in touching and transforming hearts in this way and this is just a taste of what God is doing in the various Teen Challenge centres across the UK.



## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Sian and Richard who married in Gorslas on 24th September 2011. Sian and Richard both graduated the Teen Challenge programme in Wales.



## Teen Challenge UK

National Office, 31 Llandeilo Road, Cross Hands, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, SA14 6NA.

Tel: 01269 844168 | Fax: 01269 834705 | email: [info@teenchallenge.org.uk](mailto:info@teenchallenge.org.uk)

[www.teenchallenge.org.uk](http://www.teenchallenge.org.uk)



Teen  
Challenge  
UK