



Christians and Sheffield Schools

connecting ● encouraging ● resourcing

ESTABLISHED 1985

Ministry Partner of



Christmas Term 2017

“These are things we learned from our ancestors, and we will tell them to the next generation.” Psalm 78:3-4

September brings a new start for schools, teachers and pupils. There are new schools, different staff, clean pages and second chances. It can be a time to be ‘born again’. There is another cohort we can serve and pray for – another generation to tell the good news to.

Here is a flavour of our work of connecting, encouraging & resourcing churches to serve schools over the past term.....

Speaking & Training

Scripture Union’s 95 Tour came to St Mary’s, Bramall Lane in May with National Director Tim Hastie – Smith reminding around 40 of us of that research tells us 95% of children and young people have no meaningful contact with a church. SU’s Matty Hawthorne interviewed me on the work of CaSS and we all enjoyed celebrating SU’s 150th birthday with a delicious slice of cake!



I also had the opportunity to speak at Meadowhead Christian Fellowship (and an impromptu chance to at St Thomas’, Crookes!) about the opportunities for churches to serve schools.



I attended the interest morning for the Higher Tour Sheffield – look out for another interest event this autumn.

To find out more about The Higher Tour go to www.hihertour.com

At Scripture Union's local mission partners' training in Leeds I learnt a lot about the characteristics of Generation Z as we discussed the latest research from Youth for Christ entitled '[Rethinking Culture](#)'.

Joined Up Conference - Saturday 10 March 2018



For those working with Schools, Children, Youth & Families

Keynote speaker Dr. Rebecca Nye
24 workshops, short stories, marketplace
A chance to connect with others
St Thomas Church, Philadelphia, Sheffield
£10 (includes lunch)

For a flavour of last year's conference go to www.joinedupconference.com
CaSS and partners are meeting every month to plan the event. More details about Joined Up 2018 and how to book will be added to the website soon!

Connecting & Encouraging

We have been delighted to connect with a range of people keen to serve schools in Westfield, Owlerton, Cemetery Road, Crookes, and elsewhere.

Resourcing

Emily & I have added further categories/links to the resources area of the website (e.g. mental health, statistics). There are now 32 categories.

We have updated our Y6 Transition booklet with the help of Kinder Kalsi (Church Army) and Rev. Phil Goodacre (Christ Church, Hillsborough and Wadsley Bridge) This can be downloaded from the website along with instructions for transition activities at: www.cass-su.org.uk/TransitionIdeas.php



We have continued to work on seven CaSS school – church visit packs – it has proved to be a big job! We were encouraged to read in the press this week that research indicates that visiting a church building has a big impact on young people, with 13% of teenagers saying they decided to become a Christian after visiting a church or cathedral.

www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/06/17/one-six-young-people-christian-visits-church-buildings-inspire/

School Chaplaincy

We are continuing to read, research and have conversations about school chaplaincy and to work on creating a training course for potential school chaplains. We hope to have more dates and details about that available in our next mailing.

Please note there will be a recommended stream of workshops for school chaplains at the 2018 Joined Up Conference.

Funding

CaSS is funded entirely by donations from a few individuals and churches and occasional grants from trusts. If you would like to make a financial donation to the work of CaSS, please download a [form](#) from our website. Thank you!

CaSS was delighted to be successful in our bid for resources to The Rebecca Hussey Trust. We are grateful for the award of £500 worth of books which will supplement our RE resource boxes and Gabi's Grief boxes. We will also start a Bible Box and begin a school chaplaincy library. We look forward to the arrival of the books.

Emily & I are busy submitting bids to wide range of other funding bodies.

P.S.

We have updated our mission statement on the home page of our [website](#), the history of CaSS [page](#) and added a useful [mind map](#) of what CaSS does. Do check them out.

Events/Available Resources



Free Training in Sheffield to do Drug Prevention Work

Would you like to help children and young people in Sheffield avoid drug and alcohol-related harm, so that they can achieve their potential? Hope UK can help you, through providing free training for volunteers from churches in Sheffield to train, later this year, to become drug educators. A national charity, Hope UK trains Christian volunteers to become Drug Educators with youth and parents' groups. Our training takes approximately 120 hours to complete and is accredited with the Open College Network. Expenses incurred by volunteers will be reimbursed. If you would like to find out more, please contact Ian Mitchell on 07889 496684.

Training in Schools Work

Monday 9 - Wednesday 11 October 2017

Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield



Scripture Union

The course is highly recommended by CaSS and suitable for those new to schools work or those who would like a refresher. If you have any new workers or key volunteers, this course would be very suitable for them.

All of the details, a sample programme, booking form and other information can be found [here](#).

Scripture Union Light Party Ideas – A Christian alternative to Halloween.

If you need some inspired ideas for a light party then Scripture Union's free Light Party Pack could be what you need. Order your free 2017 pack [here](#).



Festive (www.festive.org.uk) exists to inspire and equip students to share their faith and live for Jesus whilst at college. They are currently the only Christian charity in the UK working specifically in the Further Education sector and the majority of students and CU's that we support are in the South of England. They have teamed up with Scripture Union in a pilot project to try and connect with more students in the North of England.



They have hundreds of these stylish travel mugs to give away to students on their way to college this September. They have a simple URL printed on that will take students to a special page on the Festive website linking them in to what they do and how they could support them at college.

Get a stash for free! If you would like to give a travel mug to some Christian students heading to College this year – please get in touch with Festive and they will send you enough mugs for free.

Email: info@festive.org.uk

Emily and I are grateful for your interest, support and prayers for the work of CaSS. Thank you.

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