

New Beginnings...

Dear Friends,

The autumn has been a busy time what with the launch of our exciting new 'Streetbase' project across Torbay. We've also launched 'The Zone: Reboot' – an after school club for school years 5-8 at the Christian Community Centre, Fore Street, Brixham.

As well as opening exciting new provision for young people across Torbay, we have had an influx of new volunteers as well as students looking to start careers in Youth and Community work. Part of our ethos at Youth Genesis is to develop new workers for the field, so we are very excited to be working with and growing new Youth and Community Workers who are on fieldwork placement with Youth Genesis!

The OPP...

Katie Sowden has joined Youth Genesis as a One Programme Participant, or OPP, for one year. The OPP is employed by the Methodist Connexion and placed into a project or agency to learn the role of a Youth Worker. Ten OPP's are placed nationally, Youth Genesis is one of the successful agencies who are playing host for the next year. The projects that Katie is getting involved with include The Zone: Reboot, The Place and Streetbase detached youth work in Torquay. As well as the placement, Katie will also be attending residentials with the Methodist Connexion nationally – some exciting times ahead!!



Katie Sowden (OPP)

Working with McDonald's...

The 'Streetbase' project got off the ground in September in both Paignton and Torquay. Teams have been working in Victoria Park in Paignton on Tuesday and Thursday evenings where they are making contact with up to 60 young people per session! The detached youth work teams are also making contact with the community and local businesses as well as making sure that young people are safe when they leave the session at the Parkfield youth centre on Thursday evenings.

We have two Streetbase teams working in Torquay on Tuesday evenings; one team has been going out to the Chelston area to work with young people, and the other team has been focussing on the Torquay town centre. This team has started working with a group of 30 young people in the McDonald's restaurant on Union Street. The Manager and staff at McDonald's have welcomed our Streetbase youth work team as the young people have been anti-social towards the staff and threatening on occasions. The workers have been having discussions with the young people to find out what they would like in the area – activities, projects and safe places to go etc. The McDonalds management say the work that we're doing is brilliant and is helping the restaurant to be a safer place. Let's see where it goes...!



Mark and Sara in Paignton



Torquay Team outside their Base

These special teams of youth workers are out on the streets reconnecting the churches of Torbay with young people, without your prayers this work wouldn't happen in this way.

If you would like to get involved, either as a worker or prayer supporter – please contact:

Sara Artingstall (Streetbase Coordinator) – 07944 366990

Rev. Gill Kimber (Streetbase Prayer Coordinator) - 01803 556773

The Zone: Reboot...

The Zone has been 'rebooted' (or "reopened" for those not up with the current lingo!) this Autumn Term, but in a different way... The club, which is based at the Christian Community Centre in Fore Street, Brixham, is now open after school on Tuesdays for ages 9-13. The main aim is to provide more support for young people who are at this transition age, and

more crucially, so that they can be supported by workers and new peer groups for when they go from primary to secondary school. 'The Zone: Reboot' still offers young people a variety of activities that includes games, computers, and crafts and cooking. The sessions also offer young people a space to do homework and access support. 'The Zone: Reboot' is another important opportunity for the local churches in Brixham to build connections with a new and younger generation.



Staff working with young people at a 'Pizza making' session

Another aim for 'The Zone: Reboot' is build relationships with young people at an earlier stage so that we can get to know them better by the time they reach their teenage years; this will help us to better support them when needed. We also see the opportunity for parents and carers to get to know our valuable workers from the churches – another great way to reconnect the community with the churches!

Milkshake Anyone?...

The golden rule of youth work is: *We do not do things for young people, we support them in doing things for themselves!* We always apply this to the work that we do in the clubs, groups, drop-ins, activities and services that we offer to young people. The young people who come to The Place drop-in on Friday nights said they wanted a Milkshake Bar, so we

said “If you want one, you set it up!”, and they did! The young people run the Milkshake Bar themselves – they buy the stuff, make the milkshakes and sell them. Of course, the youth work staff support the young people, but the young people learn skills around health and hygiene, managing stock, customer service and managing finance – some useful skills for life!



Young people running their Milkshake Bar at The Place

The Place also offers young people other activities that include games, focus/topic discussion groups, crafts, cooking and support with a wide range of issues that teenagers can experience.

Please pray for...

- **Young people we are working with who have specific issues** – those who have learning difficulties, issues with relationships, those who are bullied, who misuse drugs and alcohol, those who are unemployed, those who self-harm, and those in any kind of need that we are not yet aware of.
- **Streetbase** – for the new teams who are going out onto the streets of Torbay, that God will give them strength to deal with the many situations that they face.

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- **Relationships with other community and voluntary groups** - Youth Genesis is part of a network of community and voluntary groups in Torbay, please pray for our relationships with our secular partners, that they will see God's love shine through the valuable work that we are doing.
- **Reconnecting young people** – that the Holy Spirit will work through us and help to reconnect those young people who are lost and in no way connected with the churches of Torbay.

Some Diary Dates...

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| 11th December pm | Youth Genesis Christmas Meal Event. |
| 15th December am | Jonathan is speaking at Palace Avenue Methodist Church, Paignton. |
| 19th December | Youth Genesis meeting with LINX Schools Workers. |
| 25th December am | Jonathan is speaking at Furrough Cross URC. |
| 12th January am | Jonathan is speaking at Central Church, Torquay. |
| 15th January | Youth Genesis Directors meeting. |
| 19th January am | Jonathan speaking at Brixham URC (Boys Brigade Enrolment Service) |
| 26th January am | Jonathan is speaking at Teignmouth URC. |
| 2nd February am | Jonathan speaking at Southfield Methodist Church, Paignton. |
| 8th February | Detached Youth Worker Training at Christ Church, Paignton. |
| 13th February | Jonathan is speaking at St Marychurch Probus Club. |
| 23rd February | Jonathan is speaking at Blackawton Parish Church. |

Weekly Activities

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| Mondays | 5.30-6.45pm – Anchor Boys Brigade at Brixham URC (5-8 yrs)
7-8.15pm – Junior Section Boys Brigade at Brixham URC (8-11yrs)
7.30-9pm – Senior/Company Section Boys Brigade at Brixham URC (11-19 yrs) |
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- Tuesdays** 3.30-5.30pm – The Zone: Reboot After School Club at the Christian Community Centre, Fore Street, Brixham (9-13 yrs)
7-9pm – ‘Streetbase’ Paignton Team (11-19 yrs) Based at Christ Church, Paignton
7-9pm – ‘Streetbase’ Torquay Team[s] (11-19 yrs) Based at Central Church, Torquay
- Wednesdays** 5.30-8.30pm – ‘Streetbase’ Brixham Team (11-19 yrs) Based at Brixham United Reformed Church.
- Thursdays** 10am-12noon – 16-24 Work Club at Brixham URC (16-24yrs)
7-9pm – ‘Streetbase’ Paignton Team (11-19 yrs) Based at Christ Church, Paignton
- Fridays** 7-9pm – The Place Youth Drop-In at Brixham URC (11-17 yrs)

Thank you for your prayers

Jonathan Oliverio – Youth Work Co-ordinator



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