

Don't give up March 2019



**But I want you to keep your head no matter what happens.
Don't give up when times are hard. Work to spread the good news.
Do everything God has given you to do.**
2 Timothy 4: 5 (NirV)

A few hundred yards from our home, standing quite unassumingly against black railings, is a grey memorial stone. Soon after we moved here last August, we stopped to read the inscription and were staggered to learn that it commemorated the lives of three men of Newbury who had been put to death for their faith. This took place about 450 years ago and it was in our own church of St Nicolas that they were found guilty, then to be burnt at the stake in the very road where we live. You can read the account at <http://www.newburyhistory.co.uk/newbury-martyrs> .



That makes sombre reading with which to start this letter but we make no apology as we are approaching Easter and focusing on all that Jesus suffered in our place. It begs the question; should persecution once again strike this nation, would there be sufficient evidence to convict me for being a Christian? How about you?

It's easy to think that times are hard, that the world's values are slipping into ever greater depths of depravity but, in comparison to the experience of believers elsewhere, dare we say that it's not really that bad for most of us? However difficult our circumstances, let's follow Paul's instruction to Timothy, his son in the faith, not to give up but to continue spreading the good news and doing everything God has given

us to do. This we can only do with the enabling of the Holy Spirit but some prayerful encouragement for one another is also helpful.



Thank you for your prayers and support over the past month. It means a lot to us. We enjoyed a Winmill half-term break in South Devon (11 including us), savouring traditional Devonshire delights as well as the stunning scenery. Apart from that, it's been a time for calls, meetings, writing and preparation, carried out mainly from our dining room table. Pete has, in addition, been painting walls, woodwork and ceiling in the newly converted garage, our designated workspace which is to be known as the Garden Room, and he is now laying the flooring. The Garden Room will soon receive furniture, books and crates of resources, each item taking its place and freeing up space in our front living room.

At last! Count Everyone In is officially a charity, registration number 1181852. Many thanks for your prayers and much gratitude also goes to Tim Roberts, our first chair of trustees, for making this happen. He is now applying to HMRC for CEI to be eligible for Gift Aid and we expect this to happen fairly quickly. That will enable supporters who don't currently give via our Stewardship account to have Gift Aid added to their donations if they choose to do so (and backdated to cover earlier years). Watch this space

An opportunity - Cornwall, Camping and Count Everyone In, 2-9 August

Creation Fest is unique among the UK's family-friendly Christian festivals in that it faithful Bible teaching and preaching with skateboarding and music from more the bands. Add Count Everyone In to that mix as we are returning for a second year t with learning disabilities to join in with this annual event held on the Royal Cornwe near Wadebridge. We shall offer a welcoming oasis with gentle worship, interactiv engaging teaching, fun and creativity.

For that to happen we need team members to serve with us this summer. You will your own costs, including travel, camping equipment and food but the cost of your camping or caravanning pitch will be covered. You will receive a Creation Fest t-shirt and a Count Everyone In tabard. There is a good range of food vans on site, as well as a team canteen that provides basic meals at a reasonable cost for those who sign up for the whole week. Training is mandatory and you need to be on site from Friday morning 2 August. The main programme starts on Saturday evening and the CEI meetings take place each morning from Sunday 4th to Friday 9th inclusive.

You will work hard but can also consider it a holiday as there will be plenty of time from lunchtime onwards each day from Sunday to Friday to enjoy the rest of the event or to explore Cornwall. Do get in touch if you, or someone you know, are interested. Email us with any questions at counteveryonein@gmail.com or apply direct

**CREATION
FEST**

at https://creationfestuk.brushfire.com/2019/449265?mc_cid=683c383632&mc_eid=ef29acea99

Whilst filling out the application you will need to choose 'Count Everyone In' for all three team options.

See <http://www.creationfest.org.uk/> for more details about the event itself.



Greetings cards

We are impressed with the quality, range, price and speed of delivery of greetings cards that we buy through Tua Phelps-Jones, a good friend of CEI. Do take a look and, if you choose to buy, Count Everyone In will benefit.

Go to <https://www.flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/tuaphelps-jones> and look for the Customer Club tab where you will find more details and can sign up. You will see that there are special offers from time to time and you will get a small gift with your first order. There is a new catalogue so it's definitely worth a look. Delivery is £3.50 but **free** for orders of £30 or over.

Thank you so much for your custom!

Additional Know and Grow training dates

We are thrilled to be adding additional dates and venues so please take a look at the list of events below or check them out on our **website** <https://www.counteveryonein.org.uk/> Keep visiting the website because you could well find something new. For instance, did you see the Guest Blog entitled Mission on your Doorstep that we recommended last month?



Accessible Bibles The reprint of the New International Readers Version (NIRV) – accessible edition (New Testament) is available from Biblica Europe. The softback costs just £7.99 but for £2 more, at £9.99, you can get a beautiful, dark blue, hardback copy and even a softback Mark's Gospel at just £2.00. Take a look

at <https://www.biblicaeurope.com/bible-shop/all?for=Accessible>

If you place an order for the whole New Testament in either hardback or softback you might like to help Count Everyone In by entering the initials PW in the discount box. Remember, if you are looking for the whole Bible in the NIRV it is available in smaller print either from Christian bookshops or online.

Prayer points

- Thank God that CEI is now a registered charity and pray that this status will provide the credibility to open up more opportunities
- Pray that the taxman will approve CEI as a recipient of Gift Aid, thereby adding value to some of the funds we receive
- Pray that the Garden Room will soon be completed and will provide our long-awaited dedicated workspace
- Pray for meetings on 16 March with our faithful support group and trustees (Tim, Dorothy, Jonathan, Keith, Rick and Val)
- Pray for continued inspiration as we prepare theme and teaching materials for events this year
- Thank God for all those volunteers who are serving on this year's festival teams, starting with Word Alive in just a few weeks' time
- Pray especially for Janneke as she works increasingly with us and for others who are considering joining us - remember, we asked God for 4 people!
- As ever, please pray for health, strength and safe travel for Janneke and ourselves

March dates - correct at time of publication *:

Saturday 2nd

Godly Play introductory day, St Albans Diocesan Offices

Sunday 3rd

At our home church today

Wednesday 6th

Eastleigh Baptist Church – exploring ideas for accessible worship

Friday 8th

Christine at Lee Abbey for weekend with ladies from St Nic's

Sunday 10th

Pete at St Nic's

Wednesday 13th

Pete taking part in 3-day 'Beyond the Boundaries' conference on intellectual disability and spirituality, Oxford

Saturday 16th

Support group and trustees' meeting, Newbury

Sunday 17th

At our home church, St Nic's, today

Thursday 21st

CEI team planning meeting, Alton

Friday 22nd

Additional Needs Alliance annual get-together, Birmingham

Saturday 23rd

Men's breakfast (Pete!), then travel to March, Cambs

Sunday 24th

Fenland Community Church, March – morning service

Wednesday 27th

Planning with Keith & Gill for LPO (Spring Harvest France),
Janneke joining us by Skype

Thursday 28th

Morning of LPO planning, then home

Saturday 30th

Wedding in St Albans of Christine's old school friend

*Please note that we try to take Mondays off, especially following weekends when we have been working.

CEI Events to August 2019

Sun 24 March

10:30am meeting, Fenland Community Church, Scout Hut,
Mill View, March (behind Sainsburys) <https://www.fcc.uk.net>

Sun 7 April

St Albans Prospects 3:15pm, Cornerstone Church, Cell Barnes
Ln, St Albans AL1 5PX pritchardval@yahoo.co.uk

Sat 13 – Thurs 18 April

Word Alive, Pontins, Prestatyn <https://wordaliveevent.org/event/>

Sun 19 May

Shine 15th anniversary, Worthing Baptist Church, Christchurch
Rd, BN11 1JH shineworthing@gmail.com

Weds 29 & Thurs 30 May

Friends of Jesus, Cranham Baptist Church, Upminster RM19
1NS christinemh50@yahoo.co.uk

Mon 3 – Mon 10 June

Holiday week in France, Le Pas
Opton <https://www.springharvestholidays.com/feature-weeks/everyone/>

Sat 22 June

Celebration Day, St Martins, 127 Suez Rd, Cambridge
CB13QD cacole2607@gmail.com

Sat 29 June

Know & Grow 1, Crownhill Methodist Church, Plymouth PL6
5AG claire_j_harris2003@yahoo.com

Sat 6 July

Know & Grow 1, Camberley (details to follow)

Sat 13 July

Know & Grow 1, St Nicolas, West Mills, Newbury RG14
5HG counteveryonein@gmail.com

Sat 20 – Fri 26 July

Keswick Convention, St Herbert's School,
Keswick counteveryonein@gmail.com

Sat 3 – Fri 9 August

Creation Fest, Wadebridge,
Cornwall <http://www.creationfest.org.uk/>

Thurs 22 – Sun 25 August

Westpoint (Newfrontiers), Westpoint,
Exeter <https://www.commission-together.org/westpoint/>



All our ministry is self-financed so, if you wish to support, you can give directly to us or online via **give.net**

Simply use the link below on your PC, phone or tablet and you will be taken to our **give.net** page, then follow the instructions. www.give.net/20043120

Thank you for your prayers and support. Please feel free to get in touch and do let us know if we can pray for you.

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Social media - See www.counteveryonein.org.uk and you can also keep up with us on Facebook and Twitter. Please follow, like and share.

Love and blessings,

Pete & Christine

