

August 2021
What a difference a day makes

**In their hearts human beings plan their lives.
But the Lord decides where their steps will take them.**

Proverbs 16:9



Dear Friends,

Freedom Day has come and gone. What has changed for you? Anything? The media led us to believe that after 19 July we would be at liberty to enjoy everything that we had missed but, if you're at all like us you're fed up with news bulletins – be they about Brexit, US elections, UK government or Covid. We tend to agree with the old adage 'No news is good news'. With so much uncertainty and fear around us is it any wonder that cases of poor mental health have risen dramatically? Pre-Covid it was known that 20% of the UK population live with mental health issues and that for people with learning disabilities it was 40%. Updated data isn't available but we are aware that many of our friends, including those with learning disabilities, are experiencing anxiety, depression and more.

Thank God that in Him we can find security, strength and peace. He is trustworthy in every way, regardless of what we are going through. This was one reason for focusing on God's faithfulness in our summer celebration.

[Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid. You are with me.](#)
Psalm 23:4

Welcome, thanks and prayer

Thank you for praying for us (Pete, Christine and Janneke) and Count Everyone In as a whole. You are part of the team that makes it possible, through prayer, financial support and interest, for adults with learning disabilities to access life in Jesus and to take their place in their local churches.

More Friends

Until now the **Friends with CEI** scheme has only catered for **churches and groups**. That opportunity has not stopped and we long to support even more churches/groups in their learning disability ministry by that means.

Now though, prompted by a couple of enquiries, we are opening a new category for individual Friends. If you are an **individual, a couple or a family group** and would like to be more closely involved with CEI, more of an ambassador for the charity, a person who commits to pray for or give financially to CEI, or maybe someone we can call upon to volunteer at exhibitions etc, then this scheme may appeal to you. If you are interested, please drop us a line at info@counteveryonein.org.uk or, if you prefer, by post to 34 Enborne Road, Newbury RG14 6AH and we'll send you a form to complete. We look forward to hearing from you.



Shake off the dust from your walking boots (or shoes)! Building on a suggestion from one keen supporter, we are developing a brand new idea with several benefits:



1. Getting fit
2. Telling people about Jesus
3. Telling people about CEI
4. Raising funds for CEI

More to follow

July highlights

- **Bristol Cathedral Social Justice Group** – an unexpected opportunity to speak and answer questions via Zoom about making the Cathedral and churches more welcoming and accessible for adults with learning disabilities
- **Virtually Keswick** – our five sessions are being repeated in each of the 3 weeks of this year's convention via their website and will be available later on YouTube. It's great to see these sessions reaching hundreds of people who might never attend the CEI meetings on-site!
- **Know & Grow Makaton pilot** – so pleased that Janneke was able to do this face-to-face once more and it gave us a chance to brush up on our signing too
- **Church** – an uplifting evening of praise and worship (even though we weren't permitted to sing) followed, the next Sunday, by singing with masks on; serving together at the Listening Café (as mentioned last month); offering otherwise isolated people an opportunity to chat and enjoy a delicious cream tea
- **CEI summer celebration** will be over by the time you read this but at the time of writing the bookings are still coming in and we are excited about seeing everyone once again. It will be lovely to sing, sign, listen and pray together.
- **Relaxation** – homegroup barbecue, Meet Monday team social, Sunday lunch with friends, picnic with friends in National Trust Gardens, coffee meetings, a virtual catch-up with a real glass of wine and now we're looking forward to a family holiday

Training news

Don't forget to think about the training that your church/group might need. We expect to be available from the autumn onwards. **Know and Grow 1** may be just right for your situation – definitely for new groups but also to re-energise and equip teams as they prepare to reopen after such a long time. **Know & Grow 2** will get you thinking and is ideal if you have already done K&G 1 and wish to dig a bit deeper into the issues facing adults with learning disabilities and how the church may support them. Don't hold back simply because you don't think you have enough people to make it worthwhile; we will publicise it through our networks too. **Let's talk!** info@counteveryonein.org.uk

Exciting news! Janneke is now taking bookings for **Know & Grow Makaton** so please get in touch with her if you are interested. Many of you are keen to have this training

which will be the only validated Christian Makaton course available.

In the meantime, Janneke continues to offer generic (i.e. not Christian) Makaton courses via Zoom. These sessions should be undertaken in numerical order. Please contact janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk if you are interested.

Printed resources

Don't forget, you can purchase our daily Bible notes by emailing info@counteveryonein.org.uk. Prices listed exclude p&p, for which we request you add a donation:

- Undated Bible reading notes, including Bible text, thought and prayer each day
 - Who is Jesus? – 14 days – £2.50
 - Easter – Palm Sunday to Easter Monday – 9 days – £2.50
 - Jesus returns to heaven and what happened next – 14 days – £2.50
 - The Holy Spirit – by Chrissy Cole – 7 days – £2.50
 - Prayer – by Keith & Gill Barnard – 30 days – £4.50
 - Christmas is coming – 25 readings for Advent – £4.50

We recommend the **New International Readers Version (NirV) – Accessible Edition**. With its large, clear print and line drawings, the New Testament (Hardback at £9.99 or softback at £7.99) and Mark's Gospel (£2) are available.

Psalms – NirV accessible edition – watch this space for news of the official launch and how to obtain your copy. See Makaton signed dramatic readings of a selection of the psalms on Facebook.

Ways to help CEI

- We've stocked up again on **greetings cards** from the lovely range that Tua Phelps-Jones sells to raise funds for CEI? They often update the range so do take a look at <https://www.flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/tuaphelps-jones>
- Tua is also collecting **postcards** for another CEI supporter to sell at auction so, if you have any new/old, written/unwritten, stamped/unstamped cards, Tua is happy to receive them and bundle them up until she has a decent lot to pass on. Please email info@counteveryonein.org.uk for her address, or send them directly to us.

- If you would like to support CEI when you're doing online shopping without it costing you more than the price of the goods, please consider using **Give as You Live** and/or **Amazon Smile**. Be sure to indicate that you're supporting Count Everyone In.
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Diary dates for information and prayer

- Sun 1 – Sat 7 Aug – Family holiday in Devon
- Mon 9 – Weds 11 Aug – Grandsons Josh & Matthew come to stay
- Sun 15 Aug – Pete preaching at Cornerstone Church 11:15am in St Albans
- Sun 22 Aug – Pete preaching at St Nic's 6:00pm in Newbury
- Mon 23 Aug – Meet Monday planning – Zoom
- Mon 30 Aug – 6 Sept – Spring Harvest Holidays (LPO) – to be confirmed – France
- Mon 6 – 13 Sept – Houseparty prayer team (P&C) – to be confirmed – France
- Sat 27 Nov – CEI Christmas Celebration – live & livestreamed from St Nic's, Newbury

Please note that the best time to contact us is Tuesday to Friday 9:30 – 5:30.

Prayer and praise – “Don't worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray, and give thanks to him.” Philippians 4:6 (NirV)

1. Give thanks that we are offering provisional bookings for training in churches
2. Thank God for the recent Know & Grow Makaton pilot and pray for progress towards full validation of the course by The Makaton Charity
3. Pray for people with learning disabilities and their care-givers as freedom, fear and choice contend for dominance
4. Pray for families that have struggled during the pandemic and are facing huge decisions for the future of their adult sons and daughters
5. Pray for the launch of Psalms (NirV Accessible Edition) and our partnership with Biblica and Living Breath Videos – that Psalms will be helpful to all who read/see/hear

6. Thank God for CEI trustees (Richard Coward – chair, Keith Barnard, Dorothy Blackhall, Jonathan Edwards, Val Pritchard and Tim Roberts – treasurer) and pray for them too

Count Everyone In does not make appeals for funds but we are thankful to everyone who chooses to support either CEI (the charity) or us personally. Every little bit helps!



If you are thinking of supporting us financially, there are options:

To donate to Count Everyone In, please go to www.give.net/20280624 or pay directly into Metro Bank account (Gift Aid form available on request) - Sort code: 23 05 80 - Account no: 33248601

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1181852-0>

To support Pete and Christine personally, please go to www.give.net/20043120 or pay directly into our TSB account (Gift Aid not possible by this method):

Mr P & Mrs C Winmill - Sort code: 77 70 64 - Account no: 01822668

GDPR We hold your contact details for the purpose of sending you this newsletter at your own request. We also hold details of people who serve on CEI teams or attend training days. If you have any questions about this, or you wish to be removed from mailing lists etc, please let us know.

Social media – See www.counteveryonein.org.uk and you can also keep up with us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. Please follow, like and share so that more people find out what is happening.

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Pete & Christine'.

Pete & Christine Winmill