

April 2023

## Fragrance

**“If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples.”** [John 13:35 \(NirV\)](#)



### Dear Friends,

Heavy overnight rain had crushed the hyacinths and left their drooping blue flower heads shimmering with droplets of water on the fresh grass. They had grown from their bulbs in the dark, cold earth and come into bloom but now their future was cut short. Rather than leaving them there to wilt and die, or disposing of them with the garden waste, the church gardener picked them up and went to look for someone who might appreciate them.

That someone was me, Christine! Pete and I were in Horsham to facilitate a conversation on accessibility for children's and families' workers in the Chichester Diocese and this was the mid-morning break. Arriving home some hours later, I placed the flower heads in a small vase not knowing whether they would survive. Imagine my delight when next morning as I walked downstairs I became aware of their sweet fragrance filling the air. Now, three days later, they continue to give out a wonderful perfume.

Why do I tell you this? Simply because those hyacinths remind me that however tired and jaded I may feel, my life still has a purpose. Just as the hyacinths had grown from their bulbs in the dark earth and new life had emerged, if I spend time with Jesus, my life will show his love and his grace to the people I meet. When circumstances knock me down and I feel crushed, the sweet aroma of Jesus will still pervade the atmosphere.

May the fragrance of Jesus fill this place....

May the glory of Jesus fill His church....

May the beauty of Jesus fill my life....

Fill my thoughts, my words, my deeds,

My all I give in adoration.

(taken from a song by Graham Kendrick)



## Training

**“People are still talking about our training day with you. It has certainly left an impression on people.”**

Count Everyone In can tailor training for your particular needs, as we did for the Diocese of Chichester, but our flagship training is the suite of **Know and Grow workshops**. These comprise what most churches want to know about learning disability and how to be more welcoming and accessible. They are for everyone, those who ‘only’ make the tea and also for church leaders, whatever their involvement with adults with learning disabilities. In **Know & Grow 1** we look at topics such as:

- what it means to be human
- what is learning disability
- how churches can be more accessible and welcoming
- how to set up a small group and plan a meeting etc.



In **Know and Grow 2** we move on to address some sensitive but important topics in relation to learning disability, including:

- relationships
- healing
- death, dying and bereavement
- boundaries

**Know and Grow Makaton** (pilot) continues to thrill, inspire and equip people. Feedback from workshops delivered recently by Janneke in Weymouth and Chessington has been enthusiastic and affirming. The day is fun and informative, equipping people to communicate and worship using key word signing. Email [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk) to book a place at one of the workshops in our diary below, or enquire about hosting one in your own church.

**2023 festival dates** – where CEI will run accessible parallel programmes. Do come and say hello!

- **Word Alive 1** – 6 April at Prestatyn, North Wales. Day passes only now available with 50% reduction for concessions and carers free. See <https://wordaliveevent.org/online-booking/offsite>

- **Spring Harvest** 10 – 14 April at Minehead, Somerset. Day tickets only now available. Follow the links from <https://www.springharvest.org/>
- **Spring Harvest Holidays, France** 5 – 12 June. Details and booking at [Spring Harvest Holidays | Count Everyone In](#)
- **Keswick Convention (week 1 only)** 15 – 21 July at The Pencil Factory, Keswick, Cumbria. Book your own accommodation and just turn up. <https://keswickministries.org/about-keswick-convention/2023-convention/>
- **Connect** (Commission – New Frontiers) 24 – 28 August at Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet. Details and how to book at <https://www.commission.global/festivalhome>
- **Awaken** (formerly The ONE Event) 25 – 28 August at Lincolnshire Showground, Lincoln. Details and how to book at <https://awakenevent.uk/>



## Resources available by post

Our list of resources includes:

- Accessible undated Bible reading notes:
- 'Prospects' worship albums on CD, DVD, MP3 and MP4
- Holy Communion service booklet
- Two teaching series – more will follow
- T-shirts, polos and full-zip hoodies available in Sapphire Blue, Burgundy Red and Charcoal Grey, all with the CEI embroidered logo and a range of sizes

Enquire or order at [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk). Payment, to include a charge for postage and packing, can be made by BACS transfer or cheque (details will be supplied).

The **New International Readers Version (NIRV) – Accessible Edition** has large, clear print, plenty of 'white' space (actually light grey) and simple line drawings. At present only the New Testament is in print and is available

at: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/search/NIRV%20accessible%20edition%20softback/>



## Friends with CEI

The CEI family continues to grow and is a source of mutual support and encouragement. Churches/groups, individuals, couples and families can sign up free of charge although a commitment to annual or monthly donations is appreciated. Ask for an application form at [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk)

**Welcome** to the large number of new subscribers this month. We hope you find items of interest and are prompted to pray for CEI. See also <https://www.counteveryonein.org.uk/> and we'd love to hear from you at [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk)

**Thank you** for supporting CEI. Your prayers, messages and financial gifts mean more to us than we can tell you.

- Don't forget that any of the 'Prospects' songs used by your church or group should be included in your Church Copyright Licence (CCLI) reporting.
- You might like to support CEI by buying from the wide range of greetings cards available from CEI friend Tua Phelps-Jones at <https://www.flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/tuaphelps-jones>
- **Give as You Live** is one way to donate to CEI at no extra cost to you – see link for your online shopping at the foot of this letter. **Please note that Amazon Smile is no longer operating and support for chosen charities from Amazon has ended.**

## Looking ahead (RJ = Rosey, JK = Janneke, CW = Christine, PW = Pete)

Sat 1 – Thurs 6 April – Word Alive, Prestatyn (CW,PW))  
 Mon 10 – Fri 14 April – Spring Harvest, Minehead (JK leading team; CW,PW exhibition)  
 Sat 22 April – Know & Grow Makaton (pilot), Guildford (JK)  
 Sun 23 April – 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration No Limits, Southwick, Trowbridge (CW,PW)  
 Thurs 27 April – Core team meeting, Newbury  
 Thurs 11 May – Core team meeting & Strategy discussion with trustees (core team)  
 Sat 13 May – Know & Grow Makaton (pilot), Diocese of Blackburn  
 Fri 19 May – Additional Needs Alliance team day, Birmingham (CW,PW)  
 Thurs 25 May – Core team meeting, Newbury  
 Mons 5 – 12 June – Spring Harvest Holidays CEI week (CW,PW)  
 Sun 2 July – Cornerstone Church, St Albans morning service & CEI Group (CW,PW)  
 Sats 15 – 22 July – Keswick Convention wk 1 (RJ,KJ, CEI programme and CW,PW exhibition)  
 Thur 24 – Sun 27 Aug – Connect Festival, Shepton Mallet (CW,PW)  
 Fri 25 – Mon 28 Aug – Awaken Festival, Lincoln (RJ,JK)  
 Sat 30 Sept – Know & Grow 1, Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay (CW,PW)  
 Sun 1 Oct – All-age & all-ability service, Upton Vale, Torquay (CW,PW)  
 Sat 7 Oct – Know & Grow 1, Ely (CW,PW)  
 Sun 8 Oct – Doorway group, Stevenage 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary (CW,PW)  
 Wed 8 – Thur 9 Nov – Christian Resources Exhibition (CRE), Birmingham

Sat 18 Nov – Know & Grow 1, St Thomas's Church Hall, Cambridge (CW,PW)

Sun 3 Dec – CEI Christmas Celebration, St Nic's Newbury and livestream (core team)

## Prayer and praise

1. Thank God for recent training done in Weymouth, Chessington and Horsham and pray that the enthusiasm generated will lead to effective mission and ministry.
2. Pray for our trustees, Rick, Keith, Janet, Jonathan, Maryanne and Val, soon to be joined by a new treasurer.
3. Pray that Know & Grow Makaton will be signed off by the Makaton Charity.
4. Pray for more workers to join Rosey, Janneke, Pete and Christine.
5. Pray that adults with learning disabilities will be supported in coming to faith in Jesus, becoming His disciples and helping others to follow Him too.
6. Pray for Word Alive, our guests and the team (PW, CW, Beth, Joy and Paul) that God will work through what we have planned and that we shall all meet with God.
7. Pray for Spring Harvest, our guests and the team (JK, Chrissy, Mike, Marie, Martyn, Karen, Karen and Helen) for the teaching, worship, accommodation etc. that nothing will prevent us from meeting with God in significant ways.

## And finally ....

Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us. [1 John 5:14 NIV](#)



If you are thinking of supporting financially, thank you.

Donate to Count Everyone In at [www.give.net/20280624](http://www.give.net/20280624) or directly into Metro Bank (business) account (Gift Aid form available on request) - Sort code: 23 05 80 - Account no: 33248601

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](http://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.

**\*Please note that the best times to contact the main office is Tuesday to Friday 9:30 – 5:30pm**

Every blessing,

*Pete & Christine, Janneke and Rosey*

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