

July 2023

## Can do

**Don't hold back good when you can help. Proverbs 3:27 (NirV)**



**Dear Friends,**

Welcome to new readers who have joined the mailing list in the last month or so. We appreciate your interest and your prayers on our behalf to our good, kind and generous God.



We are encouraging guests at our events this summer to look for ways to be kind and helpful to one another. Isn't that what we should all be doing, not just this summer but all the time? The exciting news is that we have seen results – love in action.

In France two young women held the hands of a guest to support and encourage him as he struggled to walk along the street. People shared food, took time to appreciate each other's artwork, picked up litter and helped to clear up after our morning celebrations.

Having a disability does not prevent people from being kind; a smile from a profoundly disabled person can light up a room with joy. The world would be a much better place if everyone followed their example. As the apostle Paul said, "Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ." Ephesians 4:32 (NCV). This is something we can all do.



## Sunshine

Thank you for praying for the week in France with Spring Harvest Holidays. The evening speaker, Ruth Morgans from Woody's Church in Bristol, gave brief, interactive talks with just one learning point – anyone would think she'd attended our Know and Grow training!! It was a joy to have Luke Bacon, a vicar from Chatham, leading worship once again. The staff team and guests commented that the atmosphere was very special, with God's presence almost tangible and quite unlike anything experienced in other weeks of the season (not that he isn't at work then too!).

The theme for our morning CEI celebrations was Boats in the Bible and it showed us that God has purposes for our lives, just as he had purposes for Noah, Jonah, Peter and Paul. Rick, worship leader and CEI trustee, wrote a sea shanty with a verse for each day and 'What shall we do with the drunken sailor?' has never sounded so good!

As usual, the holiday presented a great opportunity for leisure, relaxation and fellowship as well as Bible teaching and worship. The karaoke evening is the highlight for some and this year was no exception, especially with the unusual choice of Nessum Dorma sung by one of our guests!

Plenty of hot sunshine made the outdoor pool the obvious place for many and the weather was broken just briefly by some heavy downpours. The holiday attracted five new people as well as two whom we had not seen since 2019, and the regulars. It made a lovely group of twelve, each with their family or carer. Why not think about joining us at **LPO in 2024 from 3-10 June**? There are discounts available if your group includes someone with a learning disability.



### Summer preparations

While many are thinking about summer holidays, Janneke and Rosey are tying up the loose ends for the Keswick Convention and this year's challenging theme of 'Human'. There will be more to say in the next newsletter but, for now, your prayers for them, the team and guests would be appreciated. Pete and Christine will be delighted to say hello to anyone who visits them at the exhibition in Base Camp.

**2023 festival dates** – where CEI runs accessible parallel programmes.

- **Keswick Convention (week 1 only)** 15 – 21 July at The Pencil Factory, Keswick, Cumbria. Free admission so 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. Discounted day tickets for CEI contacts only are available via [Day Ticket Booking Form](#) or go to <https://form.jotform.com/231432349147353>.

### Training

Email [info@counteveyonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveyonein.org.uk) for a place at one of the workshops in our diary below, or enquire about hosting one in your own church. Most of our training engagements take place between September and March so why not think about how we might work with your church then?

We can tailor training for your particular needs, but our flagship training is the growing suite of **Know and Grow workshops**. They are for everyone, whatever their involvement with adults with learning disabilities, for those who 'only' make the tea but also for church leaders. We hope you like the new names we have given to two of our workshops:

**Know & Grow 1 Longing to Belong** covers all that churches need to know about learning disability and how to be welcoming and accessible, including how to set up and run a small group.

**Know and Grow 2 Life Matters** addresses sensitive but important issues and how we can support people with learning disabilities:

- relationships

- healing
- mental health
- death, dying and bereavement
- boundaries

**Know and Grow Makaton** (pilot) is fun and informative, equipping people to communicate and worship using simple key word signing.

**In case you didn't see this last month, we have two additions to our range of undated accessible Bible notes:**

- What is the Gospel? 31 Bible reading notes about this vast subject – £4.50
- Hope – five Bible reading notes originally written for Virtually Keswick 2020 – £2.00

Don't forget, we have a wide range of Bible reading notes, 'Prospects' worship albums on CD, DVD, MP3 and MP4, teaching resources, t-shirts, polos and hoodies and much more – all available by post or at the summer festivals.

Enquire or order at [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk). We add the cost of postage and packing and ask for payment by BACS transfer or cheque (details will be supplied).

The **New International Readers Version (NirV Accessible Edition – New Testament only)** has large, clear print, plenty of 'white' space (actually, light grey) and line drawings. We generally carry stock with us but you may find it easier to purchase from Bible Society at <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/search/NirV%20accessible%20edition%20softback/>



### Friends with CEI

Churches/groups, individuals, couples and families can sign up free of charge although regular donations are appreciated. Ask for an application form at [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk).

**Thank you** for supporting CEI. Your prayers, messages and financial gifts mean a lot to us. We can't thank our anonymous donors personally but we are very grateful.

- **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.
- **CCLI** Don't forget to include 'Prospects' songs in your Church Copyright Licence (CCLI) reporting.

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

Sat 1 July – Know & Grow Longing to Belong, St Barnabas Church, Cheltenham (PW,CW)

Sun 2 July – Cornerstone Church, St Albans morning service & CEI Group (PW,CW)

Thurs 6 July – CEI core team day, Newbury (All)  
 Sat 8 July – Trustees' meeting – Zoom (All)  
 Sats 15–22 July – Keswick Convention wk 1 (CEI programme and exhibition – All)  
 Thur 24 – Sun 27 Aug – Connect Festival, Shepton Mallet (CW,PW)  
 Fri 25 – Mon 28 Aug – Awaken Festival, Lincoln (RJ,JK)  
 Sat 23 Sept – Know & Grow Makaton, Sudbury (JK)  
 Sat 30 Sept – Know & Grow Longing to Belong, Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay (CW,PW,JK)  
 Sun 1 Oct – All-age & all-ability service, Upton Vale, Torquay (CW,PW)  
 Sat 7 Oct – Know & Grow Longing to Belong, Countess Free Church, 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 11 Nov – Know & Grow Makaton, Oxford (JK)  
 Sat 18 Nov – Know & Grow Longing to Belong, St Thomas' Church Hall, Cambridge (RJ,JK)  
 Sun 3 Dec – CEI Christmas Celebration, St Nic's Newbury and livestream

## Prayer and praise

1. Thank God for fun, safety and for the Holy Spirit's work at the holiday week in France.
2. Pray for our celebrations at Keswick, Connect and Awaken.
3. Pray for good health and safety, especially when travelling
4. Pray for the amazing volunteers who join our teams.
5. Pray for fruitful conversations at the Keswick exhibition stand
6. Pray for churches and groups as they share the good news of Jesus with adults with learning disabilities, supporting them in their faith journey.
7. Pray that Know & Grow Makaton will be signed off by the Makaton Charity.
8. Pray for our trustees, Rick, Keith, Janet, Jonathan, Maryanne and Val, soon to be joined by a new treasurer (tbc).
9. Pray for more workers to join Rosey, Janneke, Pete and Christine.

## And finally ....

**God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us. Give him glory in the church and in Christ Jesus. Give him glory through all time and for ever and ever. Amen. [Ephesians 3:20 \(NirV\)](#)**



**If you are thinking of supporting financially, thank you.**

**Donate to Count Everyone In at [www.give.net/20280624](https://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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