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Forthcoming

Discipleship Training
School (DTS)
Gatherings

The next DTS
Gathering is in the
Olympic venue of

Coventry
17–24 March 2012

The next DTS
Gathering after that
is in the Olympic
venue of

Glasgow
27 October–3
November 2012

All DTSs, YWAM
staff, YWAM
associates and
friends are welcome,
for a day or more, or
for the week!

For more
information, contact
Rossie at Rossie@forever2012.com.

London calling

Rebecka Larsson reports on an amazing week of knowing God and making Him known in the heart of London.

I still feel like a child on Christmas Eve every time I see the Olympic stadium. Just thinking of the historic event that will happen in London in a few months excites me. All the preparation, all the people, all the media, all the thrilling sports moments, and all the chaos.

All of this will happen just around the corner from where **Forever** hosted the latest Discipleship Training School (DTS) Gathering. To see God move, to have over 200



people gathered to know God and make Him known on the streets of London though prayer, community work, sports, and arts for a week was amazing!

Learn and do

The DTS Gathering in London was for many reasons the most exciting one so far. It was the biggest, both in terms of people but also in terms of how many YWAM schools participated (nine). As one of the purposes of the Gathering is to equip and train people in

evangelism we had times of teaching

"Evangelism has become less scary for me, because now I've tried and been very practical ... great outreach prep, definitely!"

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every day, plus worship and intercession. It was powerful to pray for London at the beginning of the week, and it definitely set a foundation.

The week was key for us as a **Forever** team in preparation for next summer. This was a mini-Olympic outreach week, with opportunities to do outreaches and see how everything worked, what we need to change and develop to reach out to London in a relevant way. Among the outreaches we tried were sport, dance, art events, hot chocolate and sofas in a park, “say one for me” prayer, treasure hunting, picture hunting, light a candle, homeless ministry and prayer walks. During the outreaches, we got more of a feel for the people, the culture, what was going on and God’s heart for the place.



Building for the future

In terms of networking we were able to meet pastors and church leaders in London and see them in action in their ministry, hear what is on their heart and learn how we can serve them. They could also experience how a mission team could plug in to serve their ministry.

Another positive outcome was building good relationships with the local council (Tower Hamlets). When the council workers saw our project and how we served the community, they offered help for future outreaches.

Good sports

My highlight was the sport outreaches –



seeing how God used young people to reach out with His love and truth. It was amazing to see so many different ways to share God.

Here’s one example. A group of nine of us took a football and

walked to a park outside a college. After playing for ten minutes a group of students joined us. Two of us had a good conversation with a Muslim guy about life and beliefs. The conversation continued the next day and before

we left we were able to pray for him and speak words we felt God had for him. He was amazed by our life stories about God’s love, mercy and forgiveness and he was a bit overwhelmed after we had prayed for him.

An amazing week of experiencing God’s impact in London; this is just the start of what God wants to do. Roll on the summer of 2012!

“So many people had great experiences with evangelism – it was so encouraging!”

“The Friday morning ministry time changed my life!”

“I feel that these weeks are very anointed in seeing people realise more of who they are in Christ.”

“It was a very impactful week.”

A fuller report on the London DTS Gathering will be available on the Forever website soon. Check out www.forever2012.com/latest-news-press/.



“God did some deep healing of wounds in my heart and reaffirmed my calling.”

Citius, altius, fortius and beyond

In the second part of his article, Steve Sullivan continues to look at how God uses outreach to large events such as the Olympic Games to push YWAM into new things.



In each of the Olympic outreaches since 1972 people went and while there God spoke to them about going back and staying. YWAM in Germany, Norway, and Canada are just three examples of how people came to do an Olympic outreach, and ended up doing far more.

The question is, how many people at the Olympic outreach in London next year are going to hear God say, “Come back to the East End of London and tell the locals about the love of God, plant a few churches”? How many will have an encounter with God and go back to their own countries to tell their friends and family and neighbours about Jesus?

World Cup launch

It wasn't an Olympics, but in 1978 there were so many wanting to

travel from Europe to Argentina for the football (soccer) World Cup outreach that God put it into our hearts to buy a ship in Italy to ferry them all there. We bought an Italian cruise liner and christened it the *Anastasis*. In the end it wasn't ready in time for the World Cup but it was the rebirth (*anastasis* = *resurrection*) of YWAM's ship vision.

Today, we see every major YWAM centre in the world encompassing both the university vision (University of the Nations) and ship ministry (Marine Reach). Large outreaches continue to challenge us, change us and give us new tools to reach the parts of the world that are so far untouched by Jesus' love. So much of the unreached world lives so close to the coastline that it is genius of

God to suggest we should have a fleet of sea vessels to reach them.

We have been involved in more outreaches than these, and each one has stories to tell of how people came to Christ and how some got a call from God to join in the movement.



In the shadow of the stadium ...
YWAM's Olympic outreach at the Munich Games, 1972

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Editorial

As we come to the end of 2011, we are reaching the halfway point in this two-year season of Olympic outreach. So it is great to be able to report from our first major outreach in London, and to hear (albeit briefly) about lives transformed and communities impacted. As Steve Sullivan comments in his article looking at the YWAM history at the Olympics, that's what it is all about – seeing God move and change lives. In the end, nothing else matters.

Statistically, we have seen nearly a thousand people come on outreach with **Forever** this year, from 59 nations and territories – a good prelude to the many thousands we look forward to coordinating on outreach in 2012. The greater numbers, greater opportunities and greater challenges ahead require more staff and more prayer. So it is wonderful to be able to introduce three new **Forever** staff, and also to have a reminder about **brick by brick**, our 24/7 online prayer calendar.

Even if you can't join us on actual outreach next year, you can still join us in prayer!

Praise

- The London DTS Gathering was a great success. Thank God for the week, and for the amazing churches that we partnered with.
- We have a number of volunteers who want to come to help the **Forever** core team for a few months next year.
- People continue to sign up for the **brick by brick** online prayer calendar for 2012.
- Outreach teams continue to apply to come next summer.
- Praise for the way our team has grown in number – amazing staff to help carry the load of this UK mission year!
- Thanks for the encouragement of seeing the team plants that have happened and are being planned!

Prayer

- That we would see our team finances increase to allow us to engage fully in all we need to next year.
- That the Christmas season would be refreshing for all we are preparing for the Olympic outreach in 2012.
- For athletes and their families – safety and provision as they train and organise to come to the UK.
- That many would capture a heart for prayer in 2012.
- For our potential new team plants, that plans continue to move forward.
- That those planning to bring outreach teams will be full of faith for team members and funds.

Expect the ...

So, what can we expect from God during the London 2012 Olympics?
Answer: the unexpected.

We can't know what God might do and challenge us to do when we get together. But it's likely to be big. There will be thousands of YWAMers, local church people and others demonstrating and speaking of the love of God to the millions of people who will be there or will be passing through London and the other Olympic host cities during the Games. How many will come to know God through Christ's message and how many participants will hear God say, "Stay in London" or "Go to France"? What else might God say to us? "Your goal of 1,000 evangelism teams in Europe is too small, think bigger?"

To see part 1 of this article, please visit www.forever2012.com/latest-news-press/ and download the November 2011 newsletter.



Walk of faith ... outreach at the Munich Games, 1972

What's in it for us?

We can see people come to Christ and perhaps be there when we rise to the new challenge God has for us. Citius, altius, fortius is the Olympic movement's motto – Faster, Higher, Stronger. How much more do these words apply to our efforts in the Olympics and beyond? If it makes God happy in a world of pain, count me in!

Stories from our Olympic outreach past

At the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver YWAM organised events for children whose schools were closed during the Games and worked with local churches who opened their doors to create community centres with free internet access, cafes and friendly faces. The creative arts were also well represented with free concerts and street performances.

Media Discipleship Training School
Location BANBRIDGE, NORTHERN IRELAND
1 March - 17 Aug 2012
Vision YOU can be part of this exciting vision to see media and technology used by God to spread the Gospel
Outreach London Olympics in August 2012

The Media DTS is run by Voice Of Peace, a media ministry of Youth With A Mission Ireland

For more information, contact info@voiceofpeace.org.uk ... www.voiceofpeace.org.uk ... +44(0)284 0622445

Forthcoming YWAM schools with an Olympic focus

Staff bonuses

Forever continues to build in staff numbers. Three of the latest recruits introduce themselves.



"It's a privilege to be part of something big that is determined to make an impact and leave a story." - Rebecca Vargas

"Hi, I'm Rebecca Vargas, and I am from Durango, Colorado, USA. I am a member of the **Forever** Arts Team. I have a particular passion for dance."

"I'm excited to be helping encourage teams around the world to be a part of the 2012 Olympics and to use their talents in London for this exciting season. I also hope to be a part of bringing vibrant life to what it means to use art to glorify Christ.

"I want to see bold and prophetic statements made through creative means throughout 2012. My hope is for people to be inspired and encouraged to pursue excellence in their creative field."

"I am passionate to see a brown cheese factory started in England for us Norwegians." - Bjarte Buene

"Hello. I am Bjarte Buene, and I am from Kverneland, Norway.

"I have joined the Newcastle **Forever** team. I want to see Christian people to see and believe that God can and will use them. That they will experience a personal God who speaks to them. I am passionate to see people touched by the Holy Spirit, and experience God's love for them.

"I was in Newcastle last October and then I got a heart for the city and I felt that God was telling me to come back."



"I love using sports as mission, and I want to see thousands of people's lives changed during the Olympics." - Lisa Hurst



"Hello, I'm Lisa Hurst, and I am working part-time with **Forever** and part-time with Inspire, the sports ministry at YWAM Harpenden.

"I am from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA. My role within **Forever** is helping with Sports Coordination.

I'll be doing lots of connecting sports players and teams with local churches in London.

"I want to see youth use their talent and passion in sport to reach out to the lost. I have served with various schools within YWAM, including starting a Soccer DTS in Tennessee. I love working with these schools because I love watching God change lives."



Nations on the Olympic outreach

As we reach the end of 2011 and the halfway point in the **Forever** Olympic outreach project, it's exciting to report that we have seen 951 people join us on outreach so far. Here are the nationalities (59):

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Colombia
- Congo (Brazzaville)
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- England
- Estonia
- Ethiopia
- Faroe Islands
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- India
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kenya
- Latvia
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Namibia
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Portugal
- Rwanda
- Samoa
- Scotland
- Singapore
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Uganda
- UK
- Ukraine
- USA
- Venezuela
- Wales
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

To see the whole **Forever** team, go to www.forever2012.com/meet-the-team/.

Quotable quotes

Athletes who participate in the Olympic Games can be a rich source of inspiration. Here are a few quotations from down the years:

"Pressure is nothing more than the shadow of great opportunity."

Michael Johnson

"Winning is great, sure, but if you are really going to do something in life, the secret is learning how to lose. Nobody goes undefeated all the time. If you can pick up after a crushing defeat, and go on to win again, you are going to be a champion someday."

Wilma Rudolph

"God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure."

Eric Liddell

"Never put an age limit on your dreams."

Dara Torres

"As a sportsman, I accept being beaten. Everybody tries to be a winner but only one in a race will win. It's fun to win. But I don't find unhappiness if I lose."

Kip Keino

"Friendships are born on the field of athletic strife and the real gold of competition. Awards become corroded, friends gather no dust."

Jesse Owens

"If you dream and you allow yourself to dream you can do anything."

Clara Hughes

A call to brick by brick

Former international president of YWAM John Dawson gives a call to arms for the Olympic outreach and the online prayer calendar for 2012.

Dear All,

This Northern Hemisphere's summer will witness the nations together at play during the Olympics. We used to gather all of Youth With A Mission to the outreach events. Those were the days when we were small and not encumbered by the stewardship of thousands of programs worldwide.



The Olympic season is very important, however and all who can come should come. Everybody everywhere should pray. Why? Because the nations visually interact on the athletic stage, even totally alienated nations. Every four years we get a visual stimulus for a new generation of believing youth, a reminder of the nations beyond their own borders.

This time the backdrop is the UK, a nation with one of the most significant historic contributions to missions. We need prayer leadership. We need a prayer strategy or we could end up watching with detached curiosity like Jonah watched Nineveh instead of seizing the moment in intercession.

Thankfully a 24/7 prayer project has emerged. They're calling it 'Brick by Brick' and I recommend it to you.

Your brother,
John Dawson,
International Elder, YWAM

Stories from our Olympic outreach past

At the 2010 Winter Olympics, together with the organisers and allies of the "Buying Sex is not a Sport" campaign, YWAM volunteers stood silently in opposition to the demand for paid sex. They stood in strategic locations outside strip bars, brothels and the entrance to the ice hockey games, wearing shirts and holding signs reading, "Buying Sex is Not a Sport". The groups had two appointed speakers, to explain what they were doing if anyone asked.

