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Forthcoming

Discipleship Training
School (DTS)
Gatherings

The next DTS
Gathering is in the
Olympic venue of

London
5–12 November 2011

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

Coventry
17–24 March 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.

Word on the streets

A key part of the Forever vision is to establish long-term teams in Olympic cities. Last month we planted our first team in London. We find out what it's all about.



“We’ll be working with women involved in prostitution,” says Lucie Barnsdale, *Forever’s* Social Justice Coordinator and leader of the new team, “particularly those in the brothels in the East End.”

“But we’ll be working in the human trafficking area as well. When a country hosts the Olympics tens of thousands of people come in, fuelling a demand for sex workers. That leads to trafficking

on a huge scale. For the London Games, lots of the trafficked women are from Eastern Europe. They come because of poverty and they’re looking for opportunities: they’re conned by pimps with promises of a better life and money. But there’ll also be girls from across the world, and even the UK – girls in London schools who get pimped and trafficked.”

Esther’s House

“I’m only 21 and don’t have huge lots of experience. So I joined Azalea, which works with women involved in prostitution in Luton. Azalea runs a drop-in centre and outreach programme; I’ve been able to learn from them and their leadership.”

Out of this training, Lucie is setting up a similar project in Stratford, called



House mates ... Lucie and Sarah

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Editorial

This issue has a touch of history about it.

On the one hand, we see how history can be helpful in informing our prayers, particularly when we are praying about a city such as London, whose history stretches back through the millennia.

On the other hand, Steve Sullivan, one of the grandees of YWAM England, gives us a real sense of the history of YWAM over the past 40 years of Olympic outreaches, and some of the amazing things God has started as YWAM has obediently stepped out to do evangelism at the world's premier sporting event.

As a result, it feels so right to be able to report about Esther's House, *Forever's* first new team in London, in the same issue. This is history in the making, backed up by our new staff profiles, one of whom is a member of Esther's House, the other being someone who is working with us to learn all about how to coordinate an Olympic outreach, with an eye to the Rio Games in 2016. Let's step out and make history together!

Social Justice and the Olympic outreach

Want to get involved in the Social Justice area of the Olympic outreach? To find out more, contact *Forever* on info@forever2012.com or visit www.forever2012.com.



Esther's House, with *Forever* team member Sarah Willson (see page 5 for more on Sarah). "Esther is such a representation of God's heart for women," comments Sarah. "She was so obedient to God, so humble, and had such dignity. All things we want for the women we will work with." Esther's House is a partnership between Azalea and Youth With A Mission (YWAM); Azalea provides the skills and policies and YWAM the support. But every locality is different, so ministry in Stratford will look different to that in Luton.

"With the Olympics being in Stratford, the Police will clean the streets regularly," remarks Lucie. "So our project may be more brothel-based or working with existing women on the streets. We will work with the Street Pastors scheme and the Police, and link up with other projects in London.

"I plan to be here long-term, to see Esther's House fully up and running. I'd love to start a drop-in centre and then a tea-shop where the women who've successfully gone through the exit programme can work for a salary."

Currently, as well as the two *Forever* full-timers, Esther's House also has two part-time volunteers interested in helping. "Ideally, we'd have about six full-time and six part-time people," observes Lucie.

The bigger picture

Social justice is much broader than prostitution and trafficking though. "Social

justice covers many areas," notes Sarah. "Homelessness, abuse and violence, living below the poverty line, teenage pregnancies, the environment ..." YWAM already has a team in the Earls Court area of London, working with those on the margins of society, but there's room for more.

Short-term opportunities

Social Justice normally requires long-term commitment, especially in the prostitution and trafficking areas. Short-term work in Social Justice is difficult, but there will be some outreach opportunities during the Games next year.

The Salvation Army has no church in the Stratford area, but wants to develop one. "It wouldn't be a church that fits into a traditional mould," explains Lucie. "It would be for those on the margins of society. Short-term teams that come next year can get involved in that. Other areas for short-term outreaches could include going onto the streets at night and doing street evangelism and street prayer-walking, and serving the churches in Stratford."

Beyond Stratford, Social Justice outreach possibilities include helping with homeless projects in Manchester, teenage mums, refugees in Newcastle, and working with those on the margins of society, and raising awareness of the trafficking problem.

The short-term helping towards the long-term: *Forever* in a nutshell.



Get in on the act

Interested in Esther's House? The team needs people – not just to work with the women, but also good administrators, prayer networkers, and people to raise awareness of the trafficking problem. Contact Lucie on lucie.estershhouse@gmail.com.

Citius, altius, fortius

Steve Sullivan draws on his wealth of experience to remind us of what God has done through past Olympic outreaches – and to encourage all of us to get involved in next year’s Olympic outreach.



I heard a well-known minister talk about the secret of good preaching, “What’s in it for me?” He said I should put myself in the place of the listeners and answer that question for them. It made me think of next year’s Olympic Games outreach and wonder what’s in it for me, and God, and us, and what will motivate me to get involved and recruit a team, or lots of teams!

What’s in it for God?

What on earth might Jesus get out of it? He wants more people to join His family. Some years ago some of us got together to pray and invent some new strategies to re-evangelise Europe. We were brilliant. Seldom have such amazing strategies been hatched, rarely have we come up with such clever ideas.

In the midst of the discussion, one guy who had been quiet for a while asked if he could add

something: “Can I tell you how our dear heavenly Father feels about the lost people of Europe.” He cried, we all cried, we had forgotten what it was all really about. During the Olympics, many people are going to meet with God and join the family, and our Father in heaven will be happy. Isn’t that the most important thing?

What’s in it for us as YWAMers?

Since Munich in 1972, God has used the Olympic Games outreach to open new opportunities for YWAM and to present new challenges to rise to. We often describe YWAM as an organisation that does new things in new ways. Historically, the Olympics have been occasions during which some of the biggest new things and new ways have begun.

So many people were coming to the Olympics outreach in 1972 that we needed somewhere to house them. God provided Schloss Hurlach. So many people had to fit into the castle that some of the dormitory rooms had three levels of wall-to-wall bunks. That was our first permanent location in Germany and the work grew out of there. Some years later, a team from Hurlach moved to Austria to start the work there. Also at the ’72 Games was a small outreach team



At the Games ... YWAM’s Olympic outreach in Atlanta, 1996

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London: a multicultural city

London is a multicultural city, with over 300 languages spoken on its streets.

There are also at least 50 non-indigenous communities with 10,000 or more residents in the city. They include:

- Afghanistan
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Cyprus
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Guyana
- Hong Kong
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Kenya
- Kosovo
- Lebanon
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden
- Tanzania
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turkey
- Uganda
- USA
- Vietnam
- Zimbabwe

Source: 2001 Census and DMAG Update 2006

That’s lots of outreach opportunities to different ethnic groups in London.

Praise

- There are over 200 people coming to the DTS Gathering in London. That makes it the biggest Gathering by some distance.
- We have a number of volunteers who want to come to help the **Forever** core team for a few months next year.
- People are signing up for the **brick by brick** online prayer calendar for 2012.
- Two people have signed up to help in the Prayer area next year.
- **Forever** has had a number of financial gifts of around £1,000 in this past month.
- We are getting a steady flow of outreach teams applying to come next summer.

Prayer

- For our other potential new team plants, that plans and talks proceed well.
- That those planning to bring outreach teams will be full of faith for team members and funds.
- For more churches to embrace the outreach opportunities offered by the Olympics.
- For ongoing strength and blessing on our partner organisations, particularly More Than Gold and Megacities.
- For blessing on and protection for the **Forever** team – health, finances, travel, and spiritually.
- For finances for the **Forever** project, and particularly favour in the trust applications we have made.
- For new staff to join our focus areas, especially Youth and Children.

from Norway. They came to the Games, and afterwards some visited the team that had begun in England and returned to start YWAM in Norway. They continue to be one of the larger teams in Europe.

The next summer Olympics outreach was 1976 in Montreal, Canada, and YWAM's work began in that city as a result. The Olympics after that in Moscow suffered a boycott and several nations, including the USA, did not compete. Because it was still under strict Communist rule it appeared that YWAMers weren't there because open evangelism was prohibited. But there were many YWAMers there on outreach and from that the challenge to evangelise the Soviet Union got a huge boost.

No Longer Music (NLM), YWAM's band from Amsterdam, travelled extensively throughout the Soviet Union doing gigs and starting 'fan clubs'. For a time it was one of the most popular foreign bands in the Soviet Union. The fan clubs would get together and read fan letters from Dave Pierce, the band's leader. Some say the letters seemed more like



Pictures: YWAM England

We were there ... the Torch Relay at the Los Angeles Games, 1984

Bible studies than fan letters! Thirty years on, NLM is still going strong, still reaching out to youth around the world. 2011 has seen the band touring the Middle East and Eastern Europe, including countries such as Iraq, Turkey and Kosovo.

So come to the Olympic outreach, and despite (because of?) the difficulties and challenges, God will use you during the outreach. But He might also take the opportunity to get you involved in starting something much longer-lasting and, dare I say it, world-changing!

Part 2 of this article will appear next month.

Be impacted. impact others.

iMpaCt uK DTS

2012
ANNUITY - AUGUST

16 weeks of worship, prayer, workshops and classes
13 weeks of outreach in Olympic locations

Forthcoming YWAM schools with an Olympic focus

For more information, contact dts@ywamharpندن.org ... www.ywamharpندن.org ... +44(0)1582 463300

Staff bonuses

The Forever team continues to grow. We asked two more of our newest recruits to introduce themselves.

"I love England and am excited to participate in outreach at this significant time."
- Sarah Willson



"Hi, my name is Sarah Willson, and I am from Maine, USA.

"I am joining Lucie in the Social Justice Team. We are living right in Stratford, London, close to the Olympic Park. My heart is to fight human trafficking and to show those in sex work that they are valued and loved. The Olympics historically cause a large swell in their host city of human trafficking for the purpose of forced prostitution, and I want to work to prevent this if possible and help those ultimately affected.

"Also, human trafficking and prostitution ministry within YWAM in the UK is still very small, and this is one of the only teams working in the area!

"I am passionate about the value of unity between multiple churches and organisations to make a positive impact in Britain, and I am excited for new ministries to spring up in England centred on loving those on the fringe of society (like sex workers).



"I really want to see hundreds of people using their skills to reach out to the nations that will be in the UK."
- Abel Pereira dos Santos

"Hello. I'm Abel Pereira dos Santos. I am from Cel. Fabriciano, Brazil.

"I am serving in the General Missions and Service area. I will be working in the **Forever** office two days a week, and helping out in the More Than Gold office in London three days a week. I will be particularly involved in the matching of outreach teams to host churches.

"One of my goals during this next year is to learn as much as possible as I help mobilise, network, and place teams as well as individuals to the outreach opportunities before, during and after 2012 Olympic Games, so that I can continue with the ministry in my country before, during and after the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games."

"I really like the idea of leaving a legacy that will remain long-term after the Games have finished."



When is a country a country?

How do we gauge which nations or countries are participating in the 2012 Olympic Games?

The United Nations (UN) has 193 member states and recognises 204 nations.

As far as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is concerned, only nations that have National Olympic Committees (NOCs) can participate in the Games. Currently, there are 204 NOCs, though not all NOCs are also UN nations.

Some anomalies include:

- Puerto Rico, Guam and US Virgin Islands have an NOC and can therefore send athletes, but are not actually a country or nation (they are unincorporated territories of the USA).
- Similarly, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands have NOCs but are British overseas territories.
- The Netherlands Antilles was dissolved in 2010; though the IOC withdrew its membership as an NOC, it can send athletes to the 2012 Games as independents competing under the Olympic flag.
- Kuwait is currently suspended as an NOC.
- Nations such as the Vatican and the Marshall Islands currently have no NOC.

As of mid-October 2011, only 133 NOCs actually have athletes qualified for the 2012 Games.

Meet the whole team ...

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



Prayer-walking in London

Did you know ... ?

The arms of the City of London includes the Latin words "Domine dirige nos", which translates "O Lord, direct us."

London comprises 32 boroughs – though the City of London is not a borough. The five Olympic boroughs are Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets and Greenwich. The bulk of the Olympic Park is in Newham. One-third of the Olympic events will be held in Greenwich.

Praying in London is much easier if you know what you are praying for. Forever Prayer Coordinator Hayley Bullen describes a prayer-walking tour.

One of my hopes for this coming Olympic season is to see more people prayer-walking Olympic cities and venues. Mark Williamson, a friend of mine, lives and works in London and has a real passion to see people praying for his city. Mark has a wealth of knowledge about the city and has been leading prayer-walking tours around the central city in the

evenings for whoever has a heart to pray for London. So it seemed like a great partnering, for teams of people going into London to pray and learn and see what God is speaking, while also having the huge blessing of someone guiding and explaining the historical and spiritual aspects.

The **Forever** team has been in twice now. Both times have been so encouraging. I've personally learnt a lot about London and Westminster, and not only has my heart been touched by the city, but I also have a better understanding of what and how to pray effectively.

These walks are open to everyone, so keep an eye on the Forthcoming Prayer Events page (www.forever2012.com/forthcoming_prayer_events/) of the **Forever** website to find out when the next one is happening. Come join us as we pray for London.



Stories from prayer-walking in London ...

Hayley reports: One of the interesting things that I learnt was that the beginnings of modern democratic government in this nation were actually born from the church, quite literally. The people who wanted a "voice for the people" started meeting in a section of Westminster Abbey to talk and pray, and then ended up moving across the road to the current site of the Houses of Parliament.

London City (also called "the square mile") used to have 96 churches. Over 50 still remain in some form. St Dunstan-in-the-East suffered a fate typical of many of London's churches – destroyed by 1666 fire, rebuilt by Christopher Wren, destroyed in the Blitz and now turned into a garden. Just a peaceful place to sit.

Next month ...

Report from the DTS Gathering in London



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Forever is a ministry of YWAM England & Wales and YWAM International. Reg Charity No 264078. Forever is a partner with More Than Gold.

