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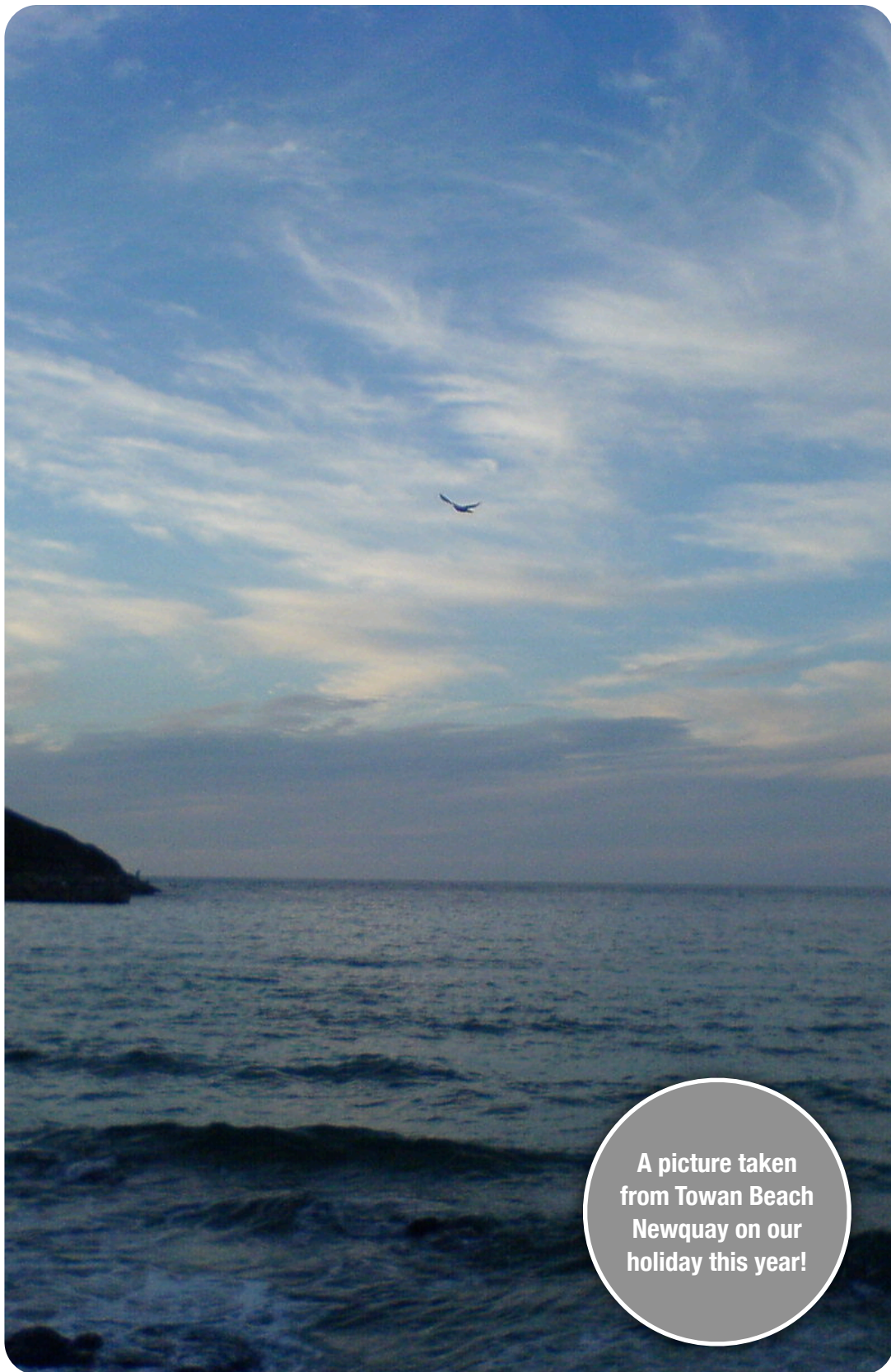
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A picture taken from Towan Beach Newquay on our holiday this year!

IN THIS ISSUE -

Find out what I'm going to be doing over the next few months. And some of those objectives.

Outreach in the park and how we can continue to reach young people.

Some prayer ideas and how you can get involved as we move into the next year.

NEW TERM NEW BEGINNINGS

What's been going on and what's in store...

I hope and trust that you've had a great summer. I just seems to have flown by and already we've getting back into the swing of things. For our young people, they've had the long wait for A - Level and GCSE results, but finally now they have them they can move on to the next huge step in their lives so please do pray for them.

For Lou and I it's been a mixture of work but also a seemingly overdue rest as we spent a week in Newquay surfing and chilling out. It's funny for us when we go on holiday because that's often the time when God can get through, usually through what we're reading, so I recommend if you haven't read it already then get a copy of The Heavenly Man, it has shaken me to my core.

As has another book Contemplative Youth Ministry, my prayer life has been enthused and strengthened and I feel revitalized... Well that's enough about me enjoy the rest of the newsletter and please do keep praying for us.

YOUTH WORK >>>>

On Friday the first I started my third year of full time youth ministry and my third year at Christ Church. It's a good time to reflect on what God is doing and where he is leading and on one of my many searches on the internet I found this really helpful article which I thought you might like to read and be encouraged.

Firstly some statistics:

- Churches in Scotland, Wales and Northern Island employ 7000 youth Workers.
- 44% of the youth workers are female
- 87,000 church attendees are involved in youth work or youth ministry in their church

- 225,000 young people attend church youth groups and a significant number of those are actively involved in church

- over 57% of churches DO NOT provide any activity, club, fellowship or other provision specifically aimed for young people

THE BIBLE BIT

Romans 12:4-6 and
1 Corinthians 14:22

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to us.

Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel the gifts that build up the church.

The role, gifting and ministry is vital to the life of the church. Research has demonstrated that churches with an employed youth worker are significantly likely to have a strong and growing sense of belonging. In addition, people attending churches with youth workers are almost twice as likely to be involved in church based evangelism activities.

Given that God has blessed his Church with a rich diversity of gifts and talents for the building of his Kingdom, how can we best support those called to this high calling, specialist area of ministry. What can we learn about what it means to support, inspire and encourage young people and young adults in their faith?

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/alove



Faithfulness
not just
results...

Park Outreach >>>>

Many thanks go to all of you who prayed or gave in some way to help towards the Park Outreach Initiative.

If you were around Lake Meadows throughout the Summer you couldn't have helped but see all the young people and activities that were going on there. It was on one of my many walks through there on the way to church that I felt a strong prompt from God to ask me what I was going to do about it. As I prayed and talked around with other people it seemed God was confirming it and so we took some steps of faith to go into the park and get alongside the young people.

Some of the time our efforts were rained off but for the most part we had some successful conversations. It's always hard to measure that type of ministry, but what I found was that because of the schools work that I'm involved in, it meant that I already knew some of them. I also didn't know what to expect, but I felt that God was asking us to be faithful and not just concerned about the results.

Youth Worker Objectives

Over the next term I'll be:

- Building on existing relationships by being in Mayflower and Billericay school.
- Developing a strategy for Outreach among 14-25's age group
- Working with leaders on the Volunteer Covenant Scheme.

Prayer ideas :

- Speak to the youth workers and leaders and find out what their prayer needs are, personally and for the young people they work with.
 - Commit to pray for 2 or more young people through the year.
- Serve the youth work that is happening in church, by prayer, time, money or other resources.

If you have any questions about what we are doing or to know to pray for, or similarly want to get involved in some way please come and speak to myself or the other leaders that you know of.

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