



# Happy New Year from CNI Network!

2011 has been an incredible year for the work of CNI Network. Highlights of our year are now available in our **2011 Annual Report** which is available on-line at our web site - [www.cninetwork.org.uk](http://www.cninetwork.org.uk) . We encourage you to spend some time reading this and be encouraged at all the amazing things God is achieving through volunteers within local projects across the UK.



CNI Network Annual Report 2011

The **MakingTheDifference.tv** web site now has 8 of the broadcasts available. The series features founder of Street Angels - CNI Network Paul Blakey MBE interviewing people around the difference that is made within the lives of individuals and the wider community through initiatives run by the church. Series 1 features Derek Baker (Arun Angels), Steve Brock (Stockton Town Pastors), Trevor and Helen Bendrien (chair of CNI Network, FGBMFI), Tony Buck (CICS), Natalie Collins (Restored) Sarah Digby (Watford Street

Angels), Stephen Elphick (Bedford Street Angels), Laura Woodfine (Youth and Church Link Worker). These programmes will also be aired on Revelation TV and on-line at [www.makingthedifference.tv](http://www.makingthedifference.tv) . It is also hoped to make them available to radio stations as a radio podcast. Series 2 will be filmed at Moggerhanger Park in February with plans for a travelling road-show later in the year.

We are starting to make more use of the **Blog** page on our web site as a place for news of all that Christian groups are achieving in the night-time economy as well as general night-time issues - do please include the Blog on your local project page and send articles to include.

Congratulations to **Adam and Becky May** who married in December. It was an unforgettable day and CNI wish them a happy future together...



Stockton Town Pastors have been patrolling the town's town centre area on a Friday and Saturday evening for more than two years now, offering care and compassion to those who are enjoying or working in the night time economy. Our presence has been greatly appreciated by everyone, whether it is the police, council staff, those in direct need of our help or those who just want to come over and have a chat.

We have now been asked by the police and council if we would be able to provide a presence in **Yarm**, a small town two miles away from Stockton, on a Wednesday evening. A local club offers a 'Cannonball' night which is attended by students from Newcastle, Durham and Teesside universities and campuses, resulting in some becoming vulnerable at the end of the night.



Steve Brock (pictured here cutting the first birthday cake!), Stockton Town Pastors coordinator, is currently working with the council, police and local churches to see if there is a way of us providing that care. We are also praying for direction and discernment that this is where He wants us to be, and we would be extremely grateful for your prayers ahead of a meeting planned for 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd January 2012, where local churches will discuss the matter further.

Stockton Town Pastors send our thoughts and prayers to all of those other street angels projects across the United Kingdom, and wish you every blessing for 2012.

Paul attended a day in London looking at the future of policing in England and Wales. On 15th November 2012 people are set to vote for who they would like to see as the regional **Police and Crime Commissioner**. This office will be held for four years and will hold responsibility for:

Appointing the Chief Constable and holding them to account; Producing a 5 year Police and Crime Plan; Setting the annual policing precept component of the council tax and the annual police force budget; Co-operating with the Criminal Justice System; and working with partners and funding community safety activity by making grants to partner bodies.

A key factor for projects such as Street Angels is that funding will not be ring-fenced (as it is currently through the Safer and Stronger Communities section of a local authority) which may have an impact on funding for your project.

Partner engagement events are taking place across the UK and we encourage you to attend the one in your location:

Jan 24th Lancaster; 25th Crewe; 31st Birmingham; Feb 1st Leicester; 2nd Derby; 7th Portsmouth; 8th Reading; 9th London; 21st Ipswich; 22nd Cambridge; 23rd Leeds; 28th Exeter; 29th Swindon; March 1st Cardiff; 6th Newcastle; 7th Manchester; 8th Llandudno. Details are yet to be finalised.

More information on the events is at [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/) and a good document to read is on-line at [www.clinks.org/publications/briefings](http://www.clinks.org/publications/briefings)

2012 is a massive year in terms of this country becoming the international focus. With the Queens Diamond Jubilee, the Torch Relay and the Olympics alongside established events such as Edinburgh Festival there will be many opportunities to serve and welcome our guests.

A great place to start the year is with **prayer** (and make 2012 a year of prayer!) There are several prayer resources available including from More Than Gold at [www.morethangold.org.uk/your-church/prayer](http://www.morethangold.org.uk/your-church/prayer) and HOPE at [www.hopeprayer.org.uk/welcome/pray-for-the-new-year](http://www.hopeprayer.org.uk/welcome/pray-for-the-new-year). The CNI Prayer Resource is available at [www.cninetwork.org.uk](http://www.cninetwork.org.uk) and is a great tool to use as a prayer focus for the night-time economy. Throughout the year there are opportunities for prayer including the Torch Relay where we can pray for the light of Christ to impact communities and the 100 days of peace during and after the Games which is a call to pray for peace on our streets.

Plans for **Games Pastors** are now well under way and CNI are encouraging volunteers within local projects to sign up to show love and provide assistance around London during July and August. You can find more details and complete an initial application form at [www.morethangold.org.uk/service/games-pastors.html](http://www.morethangold.org.uk/service/games-pastors.html). As part of this More Than Gold are holding a "Get Set" tour across the UK - this is on: 4th Feb at Crawley; 25th Feb Cardiff and Reading (tbc); 3rd March Stoke-on-Trent and Bath; 10th March Wolverhampton and Holy Trinity Brompton; 17th March Greenwich and Gateshead; 24th March Barnsley and Weymouth; 31st March East London and Bolton (tbc); 21st April Glasgow and Stevenage; 28th April Belfast and Nottingham.



**Windsor Street Angels** are set to launch on 12th February with 18 volunteers already trained and ready to hit the streets. Beth Tash has also worked on **Leeds city centre Street Angels** who are planning to launch 27th January. Please pray for these new projects and all those involved.

On 17th December and upon the request of the local police, **Hartlepool Town Pastors** extended their patrols to cover the whole of the town centre area in order to capture the night time activity around all major bars, clubs and restaurants. Again please pray for the amazing team of volunteers who are making the difference in Hartlepool...

**NightLight** projects in Northern Ireland have agreed to support the formation of CNI Network region Northern Ireland! Pray for John and Marilyn Luke and the 30+ projects - [www.pcinightlight.org](http://www.pcinightlight.org)

#### **Connect:**

##### **Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/cninetwork](http://www.facebook.com/cninetwork)

##### **Twitter**

[www.twitter.com/cninet](http://www.twitter.com/cninet)



##### **Web and Blog**

[www.cninetwork.org.uk](http://www.cninetwork.org.uk)



##### **Phone and E-Mail**

07725 501465 (Paul)

[hello@cninetwork.org.uk](mailto:hello@cninetwork.org.uk)

#### **Pray:**

Please pray for: the work of CNI Network; local projects and the amazing work of volunteers; creative ways to make a bigger impact in our nation; More Than Gold in the run up to the Olympics especially the Games Pastors stream; our vision for 2012...

#### **Praise:**

For all that is achieved week in and week out (see the Annual Report!)

#### **Support:**

##### **Web**

[www.wehelpedu.org.uk](http://www.wehelpedu.org.uk) - details on how to give a scrap car, give as you shop online and online giving.

##### **Text**

DUCK22 £amount to 70070

##### **Stop 'n' Go Lock**

A new product giving 10% of profits to the work of CNI Network - [www.stopngolock.com](http://www.stopngolock.com)

**From BBC News web site - 21/12/11:**

More than 60% of people believe excessive drinking is causing problems near their homes, a poll by three of Britain's leading churches suggests.

The Methodist, Baptist and United Reform Churches commissioned a Yougov poll which asked 2,132 people in the UK whether alcohol was causing trouble in their neighbourhoods.

Overall, 61% of those polled said there were alcohol-related problems within walking distance of their homes or at local shops, with 6% saying it was a major problem.

The churches have now added their voices to those of leading health professionals who want the UK government to put a minimum price on units of alcohol.

Ruth Pickles, the vice president of the Methodist Conference, said the churches wanted to minimise the harm alcohol caused in British society. "The churches have long had an interest in the effect alcohol misuse has had on society, and most particularly on the most vulnerable members," she said. "We want a minimum unit price - not a minimum cost price which is what the government has agreed.

"We're asking for a realistic price, as are many other organisations that are concerned with either health or the other ill effects of problem drinking."

"In one area of Hastings in East Sussex, residents told the BBC a group of 15 youngsters were causing trouble. "They usually sit up there doing their courting or drinking or smoking or whatever they do - but we leave them alone," one man said.

"Then they started vandalising the place, started banging on our doors. We went down to the police station - the police came, they picked up the four bigger boys and went to their school, they sorted out the youngsters."

A conference will look at alcohol pricing in February Sgt Dave Townsend, of Hastings Police, said the use of social media meant young people could avoid police easily and officers had spent the year chasing them around the town.

"We had a real problem at this supermarket, where they will just stick around the entrance with maybe £10 in their pockets and they will wait for a single adult to come along and they'll give them the £10 and say to them 'will you get me some cider or some lager?'

"Invariably, that same person will come back, give them a few cans of lager or cider and keep the change."

In the quiet Nottingham suburb of Beeston, a Christian organisation called The Street Angels patrols the streets at weekends, engaging with groups of teenagers who meet in parks and shopping centres.

Nigel Adams, who co-ordinates the group, was surprised by the high number of people polled who said excessive drinking was a problem, as those on the patrol had found fewer alcohol-related problems than they expected to.

"In the nine months we've been doing it we've seen very few people that are really intoxicated and causing trouble as a result," he said. "Our own perception has been changed really by doing this."

Meanwhile, some local councils and health authorities are keen to see a minimum unit price and say it will reduce the amount the NHS spends on alcohol-related problems by billions of pounds.



The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) is trying to draft local laws to introduce a minimum price of 50p per unit of alcohol in shops.

Alan Higgins, director for public health for the association, said alcohol had stayed relatively cheap in relation to other goods. "Fixing a minimum price per unit of alcohol would be an effective means of pricing alcohol to such an extent where it would deter young people particularly from drinking excessively, but also the people who are the hardest drinkers," he said.

"It would have an effect there which would limit alcohol consumption but would have a very limited effect on the moderate drinker."

The association is hosting a conference on the issue in February and has asked other local authorities and churches to attend.

However, Gavin Partington from the Wine and Spirits Trade Association, said there was "no evidence" to support the idea that a minimum price unit would be effective. "There is on the other hand ample evidence to suggest that it will actually prove regressive," he said.

"It punishes the poor... it's those who have least money to spend who will see the greatest impact on their weekly purchasing... and it does nothing to tackle the problem. I just think it's misguided."

The Home Office said it was already taking action over the price of alcohol. "This government is committed to reducing the social harms associated with excessive alcohol consumption by ending the sale of the cheapest alcohol," a spokesperson said.

"We will soon introduce new laws to ban the sale of alcohol below the cost of duty plus VAT.

"Meanwhile, we are continuing to consider appropriate ways of strengthening the ban in order that alcohol-related health and crime harms can be further reduced."

Love Your Streets week of love - 11th - 18th February... What can you do to make a difference in your community - street clean up, get involved in a local project, call in on elderly neighbours...



[www.loveyourstreets.org.uk](http://www.loveyourstreets.org.uk)



Moving forward into 2012 **Street Angels - CNI Network has a big vision** - this includes:

\* To work out the logistics for becoming a national charity with national trustees with local branches (at the moment Street Angels - CNI is part of the work of Halifax Street Angels).

\* To produce more MakingTheDifference.tv programmes to showcase the amazing work of local projects and partner organisations.

\* To see more local projects launched across the UK and to make links with more partners.

\* To strengthen the links with local projects - to offer the big picture vision of the amazing things God, in partnership with volunteers and projects, is impacting the UK and Australia with.

\* To be a key part of the Games Pastors strand of More Than Gold which plans to see 1000 volunteers mobilized to be Street Angels around the Olympics (sign up - [www.morethangold.org.uk](http://www.morethangold.org.uk))

\* To run more Love Your Streets initiatives to encourage social action and to promote initiatives such as Big Lunch and community Olympic events.

\* To increase our finances so we can do more and not be held back by lack of finance.

\* To roll out the training package developed by Steve Brock from CNI in Tees Valley across the UK.

### **From Oldham Chronicle:**

CHRISTMAS angels are coming to the aid of clubbers in Oldham town centre over the festive period. Dealing with drunks and clearing up booze bottles and vomit is all in a night's work for the Street Angels volunteers.

The six-week pilot scheme sees the hardy band of 15 helpers in force from 11pm until 3am on a Saturday night. And the plucky team is poised for its busiest weekend when revellers flock to the town centre for celebrations on the last full weekend before Christmas.

The scheme, by Oldham's town-centre chaplaincy, is backed by Oldham Council and Greater Manchester Police – and works closely with St John Ambulance. Volunteer, Reverend Jean Hurlston, who is Ashton Sixth Form College's chaplain, has seen similar initiatives successfully launched in Slatybridge and Bolton.

She said: "We are not preachers. We are there to keep people safe and demonstrate genuine pastoral care. Volunteers are not only from the church, there are people of all faiths involved.

"We provide brews for those who need to sober-up, support anyone awaiting transport, collect empty bottles to avoid injury and simply spend time talking to people."

The highly-visible trained group

are based at the St John Ambulance mobile centre in Yorkshire Street.

Inspector Melita Worswick, head of town-centre policing, called the Angels "invaluable stars".

She said: "Their impact has proved vital, as they allow the police and door staff to deal with the crime and disorder side of things.

"For example, if you have got an intoxicated woman who has lost her shoe, it takes the door staff's time and then they are moved on to the police to help them get home – so the Street Angels free-up time for us to focus on crime."



When the project finishes after the New Year, the group will pause for review before hopefully continuing as an on-going support. They are attempting to find funding or donations for a building to provide a "cafe" and warm clothing, as they spend hours on the cold winter streets.

Anyone who would like to help with donations or become an Angel – subject to the relevant CRB checks – should email Rev Hurlston at [jeanhurlston@btinternet.com](mailto:jeanhurlston@btinternet.com).

Wed 4th Jan - Paul and Beth Tash speaking at Adel Ladies Luncheon Club, Leeds.

Thu 5th Jan - Adam leading a day in Bedford with David Wilson from More Than Gold as part of Shine for Jesus prayer initiative.

Fri 6th Jan - Adam is speaking in Biggleswade to Churches Together who are considering starting Street Angels

Mon 9th Jan - Adam is sharing the vision of CNI with Bishop of Stepney

Tue 10th Jan - Paul at Community Franchising launch event in London

Wed 18th Jan - Paul in London to look at recruitment of More Than Gold Games Pastors

Sat 21st Jan - Adam, Becky and Sarah Digby are visiting clergy to discuss starting Street Angels in St Albans

Mon 23rd Jan - new Trustees of Street Angels - CNI Network charity / company limited by guarantee to meet in Stockton to work through the details of this (to input into this email

[paul@cni-network.org.uk](mailto:paul@cni-network.org.uk))

Thu 26th Jan - Paul and Adam in London at More Than Gold Games Pastors meeting and the CARE Culture and Faith Institute Lecture by Matt Baggott on Policing and Security.

Fri 27th Jan - Paul and Jean Blakey in Leeds for the launch of Leeds city centre Street Angels with Beth Tash

Sat 11th - Sat 18th Feb - Love Your Streets Week of Love - what can you do to make your local community a better place for others?