



making the difference...

Lord Wei, the Adviser to the UK Government on Big Society, has offered his endorsement of the work of CNI and the hundreds of volunteers who make a difference within the night-time culture of our town and city centres.

Lord Nat Wei is a social entrepreneur, interested in social reform, and a citizen with a keen interest in developing civil society solutions to social problems. Nat advises the government on the Big Society, and serves in the House of Lords. He says of CNI:



"The increase in night time anti-social behaviour in town and city centres is deeply concerning for our communities. I applaud the hundreds of local groups of volunteers across the country who now work, week in week out, with local police to help make our town and city centres safe places for everyone."

More information and Lord Wei's blog is at www.natwei.wordpress.com

Since winning the Mayor's Award earlier this year (picture below - well done to the amazing team of Boro Angels), the Boro Angels have gone from strength to strength. There are 15 new volunteers currently looking at joining the project. Plans are underway to create a more independent management structure. Please pray for Tracey and her team and for all they do in Middlesbrough.



It is a delight to hear that Hitchin Street Angels was launched on Saturday 30th April and have become another new member of the CNI family. Welcome. Next month, Grahame Williams, who is leading this project, will be sharing thoughts on their first night. Please pray for Hitchin Street Angels over the next few weeks...

CNI along with Faithworks and Charities Parliament hosted Debating Democracy events in Halifax and Bedford around the Alternative Voting Referendum which is taking place on May 5th.



In Halifax the chair was Dave Gilpin - pastor of Hope City Church (with congregations in seven cities) author, radio and tv presenter. The panel was made up of: Linda Riordan MP for Halifax; Bishop Colin Buchanan, former Bishop of Woolwich and Honorary Assistant Bishop of Bradford; Rev. Canon Dr. Jonathan Draper, Canon Theologian of York Minster; and James Baker of the Yes to AV campaign.

After a short video (available on the CNI web site) Dave offered an overview of Alternative Voting speaking from his experience in Australia and of the compulsory voting system. Dave presented quotes from both Yes and No sides and then handed over to the panel guests to share their views and thoughts.



The evening was then opened to debate and questions from the audience members resulting in lively and passionate conversation. At the close the challenge was given to those present to carry on the conversation and to raise the issue in forums until the day of the vote on 5th May.

In Bedford over 200 people gathered to hear from the Mayoral Candidates, leaders of the main Political parties and the chair Professor Mary Malcolm - Deputy Vice Chancellor University of Bedfordshire. A wide range of issues were discussed and some lively debates were had.

More information on the AV Referendum is at www.faithworks.info/debatingdemocracy and the PodCasts are at www.cninetwork.org.uk - do listen before the 5th May vote.

Both evenings were sponsored by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and our thanks to them and the speakers / chair.



The first CNI Regional Coordinators Gathering was held in Luton in April with an aim to seek God for goals, vision and purpose for the work of CNI both now and in the future.



Left to right: Trevor Bendrien, chair of Trustees, Steve Brock from Stockton Town Pastors, Jackie Fortune from Street Angels in North East Lincolnshire, Derek Baker from Arun Angels, Major Paul McNally vice-chair of Trustees, Julian Lomas from Almond Tree Consultancy, Adam May Development Worker with apologies from Andy of Dundee Street Chaplains and Paul who was taking the photograph!!!

After “speed dating prayer” Paul and Adam shared

what CNI had achieved in the last 12 months including: links with church, politics, Big Society and various organisations; several new projects launching; and Love Your Streets.

We then looked at how CNI nationally can support the individual projects and regional gatherings better. It was agreed that funding needs to be sought to employ Paul and Adam full time to help develop the work of CNI nationally.

The group also looked at where CNI is heading. It was said that there needs to be more clarity between CNI and Street Angels with the aim to set up a separate CNI charity and structure. Ideas such as ROC Café, More Than Gold Olympics volunteering opportunities, training packages, development of an education pack and CNI Sunday pack, production of a video showing the national work and better marketing of CNI were all discussed and supported. We are also looking at sourcing flip-flops to offer to projects with www.wehelpedu.org.uk (which includes online giving) printed on them.

The two days together were a great opportunity to meet, pray and plan - the future of CNI is looking exciting!



**MORE THAN
GOLD**

On Your Marks - for the 2012 Games! More Than Gold are organising a UK road-show to help us get ready for the Olympics. On the night with a two hour packed programme you will find out:

The latest information: The latest on the Games, More Than Gold resources and activities in your area

The Torch Relay: The impact it will have on your community and the role your church can play

Community Festivals: The why and how of running a festival for your community and where help is available

Sports outreach: An introduction to the choice of sports outreach resources and guidance on how to use them

7pm refreshments for 7.30 presentation (except * 7.30pm for 8pm) - admission free (an offering will be taken) - more information and to reserve your place www.morethangold.org.uk/onyourmarks

Thu 12th May - Esher
Tue 17th May - Oxford
Thu 19th May - Wimbledon*
Mon 23rd May - Rochester
Tue 24th May - Welling*
Thu 26th May - Chiswick*

Mon 6th June - Stratford
Tue 7th June - Bristol
Wed 8th June - Weymouth

Thu 9th June - Worthing
Mon 13th June - Chelmsford
Thu 16th June - Birmingham
Mon 20th June - Leeds
Tue 21st June - Manchester
Wed 22nd June - Leicester
Wed 22nd June - Newcastle
Thu 23rd June - Cambridge
Tue 28th June - London
Thu 30th June - Nottingham

CNI is hoping to move towards a more active prayer network in terms of praying for the projects and volunteers, different initiatives and events, partner organisations and specific needs.

To help facilitate this we are keeping the Lent Alcohol Challenge Blog active and re-launched it on Easter Sunday as a **Prayer and Bible Challenge Blog**. We welcome your input into this and ask each project to nominate someone who can email hello@cninetwork.org.uk regular prayer and Bible challenges for inclusion and feed back prayer pointers to others within your project.

If you have a weekly prayer newsletter then please add us to your emailing...

CNI are also working with Jesus House and More Than Gold on Prayer Pastors to support the 2012 Olympic Games initiatives - more news on this soon (but do start to pray for the More Than Gold group as they plan outreach for next year...)

Please be part of the Big Prayer!!!

Diary and Prayer:

4th May - Adam is attending the More Than Gold Prayer Pastors meeting in London and meeting with Linda Riordan MP...

9th May - Adam is meeting the Archdeacon of Southwark, the Venerable Michael Ipgrave, and others in London...

10th May - Adam has meetings and an Institute for Faith and Culture lecture in London.

12th May - Paul and Adam visiting Christians Against Poverty HQ in Bradford.

13th May - Paul and Adam attended meetings in Sheffield...

16th May - Paul and Adam to attend the evening at church.co.uk attended by Lord Wei

24th May - Adam attending a seminar on the role of volunteers in London led by the Church Urban Fund and then More than Gold meeting with Eustance Constance from Street Pastors and Mike Freeman from Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

28th May - Paul attending Matthew and Helen's wedding (Street Angels Hull) and it is also Adam's Birthday!

31st May - Paul attending More Than Gold Chaplaincy Steering Group in London

Please pray for: *Hartlepool Town Pastors planning to launch this month; Norfolk Street Pastors and the work they do in Norwich, Great Yarmouth, Dereham and Diss; the More Than Gold Olympic countdown tour and that people will engage with the potential the Olympics bring; Pentecost Festival taking place in London 11th and 12th June and for the CNI Love Your Streets outreach; local projects such as Town Pastors, Street Angels, NightLight, Street Pastors, etc who are making the difference in around 300 towns across the UK - for those who volunteer, for finances, for the links with partner agencies, for continued crime reduction; work at various summer events such as galas, agricultural shows, community days, etc - that stewarding or information stalls will provide a platform to showcase the work of building God's Kingdom to wide audiences; the work of the Police especially on 2nd June which is the National Day of Prayer for the Police; the Waterways Safety campaign and that it will be effective in reducing death and injuries caused by alcohol and water and for the families of those who have died in this way; Paul, Adam and the Regional Coordinators as they pray, plan and work towards expanding the work of CNI.*



Norfolk Street Pastors has joined the Christian Nightlife Initiatives Network to help it continue to develop its vital work on the night-time streets of Norfolk's urban areas.

Since the Norfolk Christian charity was formed in 2007, it has been part of London-based Ascension Trust umbrella organisation for many Street Pastors groups. Over those four years, the Norfolk charity has greatly developed its work in places such as Norwich city centre and suburbs, Dereham, Diss and Great Yarmouth.

To maintain the current work, and take it on to its next stage of development, the charity's trustees now feel that joining the Christian Nightlife Initiatives Network would be beneficial.

Chairman Richard Pennington said: "The CNI is a much more loose-knit structure than Ascension Trust, which nevertheless is very helpful in networking, sharing ideas and receiving useful advice on, for example, policies and procedures.



"Our ministry in Norfolk is significantly different from that in London and from our perspective, what may work extremely well in a metropolitan borough doesn't transfer to a largely rural county. To comply with the more recent Ascension Trust requirements would significantly reduce the effectiveness of our work.



"In practical terms, this should make no difference to the wonderful work that our paid staff and volunteers do in town and city centres across Norfolk."

www.norfolkstreetpastors.co.uk

Paul (who met with Steve, Paul and Rachael from Norfolk Street Pastors in April) and Adam add a welcome - "We are delighted to welcome Norfolk Street Pastors as a new member of CNI, as we seek to be a national voice for work being done in the night time economy. As a charity, we support the work that the Ascension Trust does recognising that this is one of many models that Christians can use. We would want to reinforce the value that CNI is not about a taking over, but rather creating a collective voice. There is a strong invitation for any Street Pastor project to maintain its roots with the Ascension Trust and become a part of CNI."

Adam attended the **Church Urban Fund** annual conference in London. The keynote speaker in the morning was Lord Nat Wei who was sharing his thoughts on creating communities of transformations. Lord Wei suggested Big Society is not, and never was, a programme for cuts and maintained that strong service delivery was the key to playing an active role.

Paul and Adam spoke at the **Baptist Assembly** in Blackpool as part of the CrossingPlaces seminar - www.baptist.org.uk / Facebook page.

Several CNI linked projects are supporting the **Jackie Pullinger tour** in June. Jackie is a passionate speaker who shares from her experience of working with drug addicts and Triad gang members in Hong Kong. June 4th Woodley, Berkshire; 6th Bournemouth; 8th Coventry; 11th Stockton; 13th Halifax; 15th Swansea. More information and booking on the Blog at www.cninetwork.org.uk

This year more than ever we seem to have witnessed countless news reports about young people losing their lives in our rivers and waterways. This is not something new, it has been happening for many years, but the frequency at which it is happening is something of a concern.

A large group of people, some of whom have lost a loved one to drowning themselves, decided that we needed to take action and raise awareness about Water Safety through education and guidance. The **Waterway Safety Campaign** was created as a group on Facebook to begin with and has slowly evolved - www.facebook.com/WaterwaySafetyCampaign - anyone can join our campaign just by visiting our Facebook page.

We are all aware of our Governments attempts to curb “binge drinking” and the regular advertisements aimed at combating drinking and driving. Alcohol related drowning is an issue that has never been approached on a national scale. Our primary aim is to organise a Drink Awareness Campaign that incorporates basic water safety alongside all of these.

Many towns and cities have a river, canal or major body of water near by popular areas for drinkers. Major concerns are the newly developed urbanised areas along our waterways featuring a higher number of pubs, bars and other drinking establishments.

It seems to be a reoccurring scenario that a person may become separated from their friends after a night out and decide to walk alongside the waterway as a short cut or path home. The consumption of alcohol obviously greatly increases the risk of falling into the water. The more shocking discovery shown from statistics is that this is almost predominantly MALE. It is a natural instinct to take care of our female friends on a night out but it is the general belief that men can take care of themselves. This is obviously not true. It is important to stay together. Don't walk home alone. Always make sure you have money for a taxi/train/bus.

With the Summer months approaching the risks are increasing. We want to make this information available to everyone in the hope that we can help to save lives.



On Saturday 11th June Central London will host **Pentecost Festival** with a varied programme of events from comedy, sport, prayer, children's entertainment, fashion, debate, movies, food, music, colour, campaigning, social action, physical theatre, story telling, clubbing, ecology and more!

As part of the event, volunteers from CNI linked projects are invited to take part with Street Teams and help Love The Streets of London! By giving away sweets, bottles of water, etc we can help demonstrate love and hope for the thousands of people in London on this day. For more information, to confirm your interest in taking part or to donate money to help make this outreach happen please email hello@cninetwork.org.uk - for more on Pentecost Festival visit www.pentecostfestival.co.uk

The Billy Graham Rapid Response Team are holding a **Sharing Hope in Crisis** day aimed at those who care about our communities especially at times of uncertainty and suffering. The day on Saturday 4th June between 9am and 5pm in Hemel Hempstead, will help us with: providing emotional and spiritual care; ministry skills to help us share God's love; tools for developing a church Crisis Ministry Team.

To register and for more information visit www.billygraham.org.uk (Our Ministries - Rapid Response Team).

2nd June 2011 is designated as a **National Day of Prayer for the Police**. As key partners in much of the work locally and nationally it is important we pray regularly for our Police and the work they carry out. Some pointers for prayer are:

- That senior officers may have wisdom to direct their Forces well and have concern for all their staff
- That local Forces would be effective in administering justice, supporting victims, preventing and detecting crime, reducing the fear associated with it and building public confidence
- That officers will be kept safe and will enforce the law with integrity and wisdom especially in volatile situations
- That officers and their families would be protected from the effects of stress and know God's peace in their lives
- That Christian police officers and support staff will be strong and effective in their witness within the Police Service
- That God would transform and renew the lives of individuals and communities caught up in addiction, despair, crime and disorder
- That the Church would respond to local issues and help bring communities together with the police to tackle local problems effectively

Your Police Service needs Christians to support them in their work. Please consider linking with local Christian officers and staff to develop prayer networks and support community projects. It has been suggested in the past that people find out the names of their local Community Policing Team and commit to praying for them. Please do encourage people to pray for and support the Police - for more info see www.coact.org.uk



NEWSLETTER

www.streetangels.org.uk

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Street Angels hosted a group of church leaders from the [Evangelical Church in Aachen](#) for a Saturday morning. They met at the Food and Support Drop In and heard of how that project gives away over 100 food parcels each week and how many of the people helped have received practical and spiritual help with many of them becoming Christians with the results of freedom from addictions and bad lifestyle choices. The visitors then heard from CICS and of the work carried out in High Schools across Calderdale. Paul then talked about Street Angels and made mention to many of the other church based projects including Crisis Pregnancy Centre, St Augustine's Centre, Healing Rooms and Christians Against Poverty. Commenting afterwards one of the group said Street Angels would be needed in many of Germany's larger cities...



It was great to welcome three more guests from [Northern Ireland](#) to Halifax Street Angels. Mark and Steve from the Northern Ireland Police and Rev. Dr. Norman Hamilton, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Northern Ireland, met with Paul and Jean before joining Street Angels of volunteers in the Fairtrade Café and on the streets. It was also good to welcome Sarah and Dominic from [Watford Street Angels](#) for a night on the town (and Sarah enjoyed collecting pictures wearing a variety of hats!)



Paul was part of a group from Churches Together who met with the [Archbishop of York](#) at Trinity Academy. He joined Tony Buck from CICS and Geoff Gilling, secretary of Churches Together.

It was great to meet with [Ken Dodd](#) who chatted with several Street Angels about the work we do...



Yorkshire Duck Race Saturday 9th July 2pm Bolton Abbey



Sponsor Ducks to support Street Angels at: Neighbours Day, Piece Hall, 21st May; Halifax Gala, Manor Heath, 11th June; visit the web site or call in at Fairtrade Café, Crossley St, Halifax - £1 per duck! **Prizes include** Family Annual Membership of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Family Ticket to Halifax Festival's Pride and Prejudice...



www.yorkshireduckrace.org.uk
www.facebook.com/mgyduck



A meeting to look at the possibility of a **ROC Café** for Calderdale was well attended. ROC Café is a multi-agency approach to youth work and representatives from attended the meeting. The idea of a mobile ROC Café was suggested to help reach out to young people in areas where there is no existing youth provision. The next meeting is planned for Monday 16th May, 4pm at Holy Nativity Mixenden.

It is now a year since **Street Angels - Christian Nightlife Initiatives** became an independent charity. We have achieved much over this time including: fantastic volunteers out on the streets helping others every Friday and Saturday; organising of several major events including Big Response, Christian Resource Exhibition and AV Referendum; started to look at ideas such as ROC Café and an Education Pack; taken on HOPE Calderdale and become a central point for information sharing amongst the Borough's churches. Nationally we have: made and improved links with national Church, Police and Government networks; began to work alongside the Big Society agenda; widened the work of CNI to include and link with any activity working within the nighttime (5pm - 6am) economy; become a lead agency on initiatives such as More Than Gold; formed a Regional Coordinators group; seen over 30 new projects set up with more in the pipeline; began to meet and visit local projects; and launched Love Your Streets. All of this has been carried out with limited finances and two staff (both putting in around 60 hours per week on a part time salary)! We are now inviting people to stand with us financially by becoming Supporter Members and also inviting you to our **AGM** event on Tuesday 28th June, 7pm for refreshments, 7.15pm AGM...

Well done to those who organised the **St George's Day** event in Piece Hall - it was a great day with many fun activities - several Street Angels helped steward the event (many thanks) and had a promotional stall.



Wednesday 4th May - 2pm Paul talking to **Calderdale Bereavement Support Group** in Elland.



Thursday 5th May - 7.30pm Paul talking to **Brighouse Central Methodist Ladies Group**.



Monday 9th May - Street Angels - CNI trustees meeting, 6pm in Fairtrade Café.

Thursday 12th May - Paul and Adam visiting **Christians Against Poverty HQ** in Bradford.



Friday 13th May - Paul and Adam attending meetings with in **Sheffield**



Monday 16th May - Paul and Adam attending a **Faithworks / Oasis** event at church.co.uk with Lord Wei



Wednesday 18th May - 7.30pm Paul speaking to **Barkisland Mothers Union**.

Saturday 21st May - **Calderdale Neighbours Day** in Piece Hall - 11am - 4pm - www.calderdaleneighboursday.org - Street Angels to have a stand and help steward

Well done to Baroun and Jamie who walked the 26 mile **Long March** and raised money for Christian Aid. Also thanks to those from Street Angels who volunteered as Marshals for the event.

Teen Challenge (a local charity helping people overcome addictions) are collecting old clothes / rags - if you have any to donate call Phil on 07879 475282...

You may have noticed an increase in small bar codes like this one on adverts, newspapers, etc - they are Quick Response (QR) codes and are for use by SmartPhone bar code scanners - if you scan with your mobile it will direct you to a website, etc...



No Street Angels Friday 27th May, 9-12pm Sat 28th May

Extra night of Street Angels for the Bank Holiday on Sunday 29th May

Tuesday 31st May - Paul attending **More Than Gold** meeting in London.

No Street Angels Friday 10th June as **Halifax Gala** on Saturday 11th June - help needed to steward the procession and look after the stall.

Tue 28th June - **AGM**, 7pm.