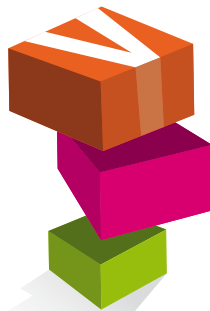


cpas

# VENTURES

Life changing holidays for 8-18s



update autumn 2010

[ventures@cpas.org.uk](mailto:ventures@cpas.org.uk)



**God's goodness  
at Bakewell**

Growing in the faith

**Summer scrapbook**

Celebrate what God  
has done!

**The best week  
of my life!**

Going deeper into the Word

# LIFE Changing

**'...being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves...'**

Colossians 1: 11-13, *TNIV*



# Inheritance secure

Several years late I've finally got around to writing my will. It was a sobering experience but now it's done I can start all those extreme sports which I'd previously been holding back on! Knowing that I've taken appropriate steps to secure the financial future for my children is reassuring even if their inheritance will be small. Central to the will I've written with my wife are our wishes as to how our children should be brought up should we both die. Now, whilst this might not be the most cheery start to this issue of the Ventures update, securing an eternal future for children and young people has been central to the work volunteers have undertaken this summer. And it's vital work if we are to ensure a generation can share in the inheritance which through God's grace is theirs to accept.

Enabling children to share in an eternal inheritance is only possible because of what Jesus Christ achieved for us on the cross. So of course it's been reassuring for me to see leaders on Ventures working hard to communicate the message of the cross to children and young people in appropriate ways on my visits this summer. This work

is not easy as of course the message of the cross needs to be carefully presented. But it is a testimony to our leaders that they invest considerable time and energy in the preparation of their talks. Leaders have also ensured that they live out the message of the cross in their faithful and generous serving of children and young people.

We've been gathering feedback from members. One of the questions we asked was: 'What's the one thing you'll always remember about this Venture?' It's been encouraging to see some answer that question with the answer: 'The night I became a Christian'. This kind of feedback gives us assurance that our work is not in vain. Many children and young people will now share in the inheritance of the kingdom of light and your support, prayers and donations has made that possible..

**David Hart**

Director of Ventures and Falcon Camps

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Hart', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

# God's goodness at Bakewell

**Cathy Norris has been leading on Ventures for more than 20 years, but this year's Bakewell Venture threw up some new challenges.**



Without some of their regular team of leaders, Cathy is glad to report back that 'God is good' and provided for them in amazing ways.

She said: 'It was a real privilege serving at Bakewell this year. We had four young leaders leading for the first time but they were amazing, all willing to serve God and made the transition from being members to leaders really well.'

'God drew us together as one group of people with one vision for the Venture, serving together and sharing the story of the Bible with members. A quick tour from Genesis to Revelation showed us that God chose us and, because we go our own way, sent Jesus to put us right with him. We wanted members to be able to meet God through these stories.'

Bakewell is a houseparty Venture for 11 to 14-year olds, which includes outdoor

activities such as rock scrambling, abseiling and orienteering. Most of the members come as part of youth groups at various churches across the country.

Cathy continued: 'We have a good mixture of church and unchurched members, so we always ensure that the Venture is a safe place to find out about Christianity. It's ok to ask questions and nobody is made to feel out of place because of what they do or don't believe.'

'It is always wonderful on a Venture to see young people growing in their understanding of God, and getting deeply engaged with the Bible. We had some who took the step to becoming a Christian for the first time, and so many members were really touched by God's love and forgiveness.'



'Each year we see members return having taken real steps forward in their faith. It is also really encouraging to see members and leaders go on to serve God in other ways, seeing them mature and do amazing things away from the Venture as well.'

# Ventures summer scrapbook

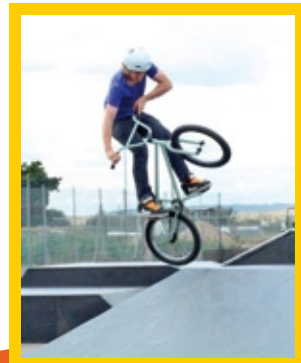
'I wanted to say a big thank you to everyone at Ventures and especially those at Danehill 3. My daughter came back on Saturday and said she had a wonderful time. She thought that the leaders were awesome, which is high praise indeed from a 13 year old! She loved everything about the holiday – the location, the activities, the worship. The best thing was that she said she felt closer to God which is just the icing on the cake.'

**Angela, parent of Venture member**



'We had a brilliant time at Bredon 1 this year. My personal highlight was a teenager who had been invited by a mate to camp. At the start of the week he knew little of Jesus; he left trusting in Jesus as his Saviour. Praise God!'

**Matt, Venture leader**



'We had an all-male group so decided on the theme of "being a man for God", as we follow after the real man of Jesus. The lads threw themselves into everything we did, with loads of BMXing, skateboarding and time with God. Everybody was willing to be creative in the spiritual elements of the week, including standing in the sea to pray for their friends.'

**Pete Hillman, leader of Xtreme Sports Venture**

'It was really good because I've gone to church all my life but have had doubts but this has really showed me that I should believe!'



'I became a Christian. I like chatting to God now although I'm a bit self-conscious.'

'I found the teaching from Thessalonians very helpful and I was reminded of the fantastic grace that God shows in loving me, who is such a great sinner.'



When I got home all I wanted to do is share the good news about Jesus, and I have been reading my Bible every day which I wasn't before.

'I was blown away when we did the parable of the prodigal son. When I saw what passage we were doing I was like "Aw, this is going to be boring, everyone knows what this is about – I'm not bad like the prodigal son, so it doesn't really apply". Yet, the guy explained about the second son, how he is often overlooked, and how it shows that Jesus came not only for "bad lost people", but "good lost people" too, and then that actually made me realise again how sinful I am, how I think I'm getting on fine, and yet I'm actually being horrid to God, and yet he still waits for us each day to come back, and when we do, he welcomes us joyfully with open arms – what have we done to deserve that from the creator of this universe? It's amazing.'

# One of the best weeks of my life!



Thanks to Andy who emailed [ventures@cpas.org.uk](mailto:ventures@cpas.org.uk) after attending Kingsmead 1 to tell us what an amazing time he had! We'd love to hear your stories too, so please get in touch with us!

'The week itself was one of the best weeks of my life! From the very start, I felt welcomed and emerged in various activities, never having a dull moment all week!

'The leaders are all amazing people, with lots of enthusiasm and a good sense of humour! They are also some of the best people I have heard for delivering talks to young people, and should all be praised for their talents!

'The food on camp has definitely got to be noted. The cooks are some of the most friendly people I know, and they definitely cook some great food (especially the brownies – they are the best brownies I have had in my life).

'In the 14 teachings, four seminars and six Bible studies we had over the week, I have learned so much. The seminars greatly expanded my knowledge on the Lord's Prayer, and the teachings opened my eyes to so much I didn't know before; each leader having a different style and approach to teachings was very effective! Also, the Bible studies were done very well, helping to expand my knowledge on Jesus and giving me an opportunity to lead a Bible study!'

Andy, aged 16,  
Venture member Kingsmead 1

## Help a child attend a Venture in 2011!

Many children are unable to attend a Venture because of the price. We keep fees as low as possible but the pressure of rising venue, food and administration costs has a knock-on effect on the price of Ventures.

Please do consider making a donation to the Ventures bursary fund so that we can make more bursaries available for families who would otherwise be unable to send their children on a life-changing Ventures holiday.



ventures@cpas.org.uk  
www.ventures.org.uk

# Can't wait?

**As the 2010 summer Ventures season ends, we're already thinking ahead to next year!**

There's a new DVD in production, and next year's brochure is being prepared as we write. Please contact the Ventures office at [ventures@cpas.org.uk](mailto:ventures@cpas.org.uk) if you'd like to receive copies, and check the Ventures website – [www.ventures.org.uk](http://www.ventures.org.uk) – for updates and to book your place as the holidays become available.

And, if you know a young person who just can't wait until next summer, tell them they don't have to! There are a number of Ventures taking place in the spring. Have a look at some of the things on offer:

'My daughter is already excited about next year's Venture! Thank you for the great experience she had this year which means she and her friends are already planning next year!' Parent of a Venture member

## 2011 Spring Ventures

### Ski Switzerland

Days on the slopes skiing or snow-boarding, and evenings filled with fun, food and meetings with worship and Bible teaching. A great week for both experienced skiers and beginners.

### Broads' Cruise

Learn to sail on the Norfolk Broads as part of a crew within a flotilla of yachts. Journey down windy rivers, relax with new friends and beware the odd pirate! Find out about the extraordinary difference Jesus makes to your life.

### Bridgewater

Develop your creative worship skills through drama, dance, music or visual skills. Also enjoy sports, activities, meeting new people and worshipping God in a fantastic fun-filled few days.

### Haslemere

With Quasar, bowling, football, basketball, music, frisbee, swimming and loads more, Haslemere is an amazing place to meet an awesome God.

See you next year!



Find us on  
**Facebook**

You can become a fan of Ventures on Facebook by clicking the 'like' button on our page. Search for 'CPAS Ventures' and follow us for regular prayer information and news.

Please help a child attend a Venture in 2011!

Please return your completed form together with your donation to:  
**Friends of Ventures,  
CPAS, FREEPOST,  
NAT14853,  
WARWICK CV34 6BR**



**Thank you**

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Tel \_\_\_\_\_  
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*giftaid it*

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