

cpas

THE CPAS SUPPORTERS' MAGAZINE

Connect

**Sharing Jesus in a
Pandemic World**

**Life to the full
for 8-18s**

**New Resource:
How to Nurture a
Faith-Sharing Culture**

SPRING-SUMMER 2022



CPAS is an Anglican
evangelical mission
agency enabling
churches to help
every person hear and
discover the good news
of Jesus Christ.

Cover image: CPAS Falcon holiday
volunteer leaders at the 2022
conference, see page 5.

CPAS
Sovereign Court One (Unit 3),
Sir William Lyons Road,
University of Warwick Science Park,
COVENTRY CV4 7EZ

A company limited by guarantee
Registered in England no 2673220
Registered charity no 1007820
Registered office at address above

.....
Copyright CPAS 2022. All rights
reserved. Permission is granted for the
reproduction of text from this publication
for CPAS promotional use only. For all
other uses, please contact us.

Unless otherwise stated all Bible
quotations are taken from the New
International Version (NIV).



Contents

04 CPAS in Brief

News and prayer updates from across CPAS' ministries.

06 Life to the Full for 8-18s

Stories of faith and blessing from Venture and Falcon holidays.

11 Celebrating Her Majesty's Faith

Platinum Jubilee year of celebration of our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen.

12 New Resource: How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture

Inside our new resource, to help church leaders nurture the ministry of evangelism.

14 Sharing Jesus in a Pandemic World

Many people have opened up to spiritual things in new ways. How can we respond?

16 Reaching Children Where They Are

How our unique residential weekends are giving school children the chance to explore Jesus.

18 Supporting CPAS

Ways to support CPAS' vital work, so that many more can find faith in Christ.

0300 123 0780

www.cpas.org.uk

supporter.relations@cpas.org.uk

The Power of Jesus' Peace

JESUS CAME AND
STOOD AMONG THEM
AND SAID, 'PEACE BE
WITH YOU!'

JOHN 20:19

Graham Archer,
Acting General Director



Welcome to the first edition of Connect, our new supporter magazine. Prayerful supporters like you are incredibly important to CPAS, so I hope you enjoy finding out what we're up to.

I have been re-reading the account of the passion from John's Gospel and my breath was taken away by this simple transition:

'... the disciples were together, with the doors locked for **fear** of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ... The disciples were **overjoyed** when they saw the Lord.'
(John 20:19-20)

From fear to joy, and all it took was the presence of Jesus and his words of peace. He needed them to be at peace in order to deliver his next line so he repeated himself: 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And then he breathed the Holy Spirit upon them.

Church life can get so complicated, especially given the impact of the pandemic, and growing unrest in Europe. I take my proverbial hat off to every lay and ordained leader who has been trying to navigate a way through. Fear has stalked our chancels, but Christ has continued to speak peace, in order to keep on sending us, as the Father sent him.

Amid all the complexity of rotas and policies, tech and systems, Jesus comes to us in peace, and sends us to the lost in his power and his love.

So I pray that he will come to you and to me, banish lingering fear and show us again how to be and carry his great good news.

God bless

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Graham".



CPAS in Brief

LEADING IN EVANGELISM

Since launching in 2021, Leading Evangelism Learning Hubs have helped over a hundred church leaders think through how to nurture the ministry of evangelism within the life of churches and congregations.

We're excited to now start this with a fourth group, with gatherings online to enable leaders from across the UK and Ireland to participate and engage in a process of deep, long-lasting change which will help their churches reach people for Christ for decades to come.



GROWING YOUNGER LEADERS

Spring sees the relaunch of Growing Leaders – Youth Edition. This fully revised course is designed to equip 14-18 year olds to lead in the way of Christ, at a time when many have stepped up to help with leading online events and other roles within churches, schools, clubs and sports teams.

FREE LEADERSHIP WEBINARS

Our monthly free leadership webinars continue to be much-valued by church leaders from across the country. Our most recent event, titled How to Encourage People to Step Up in an Era of Stepping Back, was attended by over 350 leaders. The participants said:

- 'God bless you for supporting the kingdom at this time – never more needed.'
- 'Wonderful! Lots of ideas to take away, especially thinking about younger people and teenagers being encouraged to join in with their gifts.'
- 'Thank you for this shared experience and the useful tips. I really valued this session.'



FALCON HOLIDAYS FLY

Falcon holiday overall leaders met in person for the first time in two years, to share ideas for reaching children experiencing challenging circumstances, and changing their lives through fun and faith-filled holidays.

The 29 volunteers joined CPAS staff and speakers on a cold February day in Leamington Spa. Sessions brought fresh insights about safeguarding, worship, programme planning, team motivation, and the practicalities of getting children booked up for the time of their lives.

Everyone welcomed the chance to learn with, and from, specialists and fellow volunteers and left full of inspiration for keeping Falcon holidays flying.



You prayed. God answered!

LEADERS APPOINTED AT CHURCHES IN VACANCY

Thanks to the faithful prayers of supporters and God's abundant provision, ten churches have been delighted to welcome new Christ-centred, mission-focused leaders already so far in 2022, including Farmborough in Somerset (Guy Martin-Scott), Abinger and Coldharbour in Surrey (Kia Pakenham) and Lenton in Nottingham (Garreth Frank).



Graham Archer at the licensing of Guy Martin-Scott

TWENTY NEW LEADERS STARTING ARROW LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

'The Arrow Leadership Programme is a significant investment, setting leaders aged 25-40 up for a lifetime of Christ-centred, effective missional leadership. Thank you so much for praying for the right applicants, and for us as we sought God's will back in January.

'We're thrilled to have 20 leaders now beginning the new programme – may God bless them and use them for his kingdom.'

Jo McKee, Arrow Programme Manager



Life to the Full



'FALCONS HAS
GIVEN ME SO
MUCH. AS A
LEADER, I TRY
TO MAKE SURE
EVERY CHILD
LEAVES FEELING
LOVED BY JESUS.'



I HAVE COME
THAT THEY MAY
HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE
IT TO THE FULL.

JOHN 10:10

Stories of faith and blessing from the world of Venture and Falcon holidays. Leaders and parents share the impact they've seen as children and teenagers grow and flourish through this life-changing ministry.

I went on my first Falcon holiday when I was eight, with the local church.

Mum was a new Christian, home-life wasn't picture-perfect, and previous holidays had been in a borrowed caravan – this felt so different, and I had the best time.

The leaders made me feel safe and accepted, and I experienced Jesus in a way that felt so much more personal than in church. I cried at the end of that first week because I didn't want it to end.

'I went back every year, and Mum started volunteering too as her faith deepened. I found the leaders were such an inspiration – they made the Bible come alive for me, and their warmth and joy was contagious.

'As a teenager, I came adrift from faith, and got caught up in some difficult situations. It was a very hard

time. But in my mid-20s, Mum got ordained. I went to the service, and the Holy Spirit almost literally drove me to my knees. I was being called to put my messy life in order, and to turn to Christ.

'The following year, I was back at a Falcon holiday, this time as one of the team. I had such a strong foundation to draw on, from all those early years with inspiring leaders. I've been a leader for a few years now, along with my wife Rachel. I'd met Rachel at Mum's church and seen her helping Mum with children's ministry, so I was delighted when Rachel volunteered for the Falcon team.

'She led an evening reflection about faith, and some of the kids were really moved by what they heard. I knew I wanted to get to know her better, and



Luke on a Falcon holiday as a youngster

I'm delighted to say that it worked, because we married two years later!

'Falcons has given me so much. Having been where they are, I can empathise with the kids – I can tell them this is their opportunity to take a week off from whatever difficulties they have at home. I try to make sure every child leaves feeling loved, by the leaders – and by Jesus.'

Luke, Falcon leader



VENTURE HOLIDAYS OFFER 8-18S THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE FRIENDS, TAKE PART IN INCREDIBLE ACTIVITIES AND EXPLORE LIFE WITH JESUS.



‘Thank you so much to the Venture leaders for helping our 17-year-old son grow in such a significant way in his faith. He came back from the holiday with a whole new attitude. He said the Venture revitalised his faith with honest truth through the talks in the main meetings, and the down-to-earth dorm leaders helping make things clear.

‘The smoothie making, roller disco, prayer and praise, music and chance to deepen friendships were highlights too! After the holiday, my son and a group of his friends got together for a mini-reunion in a London park, and they have also kept meeting for a weekly online Bible study.’

Amanda, parent

‘As a parent, it was a huge encouragement to see my 10-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter build up their knowledge of the Lord’s word, and have fun whilst doing it. They loved the water park, paddle boarding, the atmosphere, meeting new people and hearing funny stories from dorm mates.

‘My children heard Jesus-centred talks and got to see Christians outside of their home church living their lives for Jesus and modelling life walking with Christ. To anyone thinking of supporting Ventures – what a great way to serve, to help shape the adults of tomorrow to live in the world for the glory of Jesus.’

Kate, parent



INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? FIND OUT MORE
AT WWW.VENTURES.ORG.UK/VOLUNTEER



**FALCON HOLIDAYS
ARE DESIGNED TO
SUIT CHILDREN
AND TEENAGERS
WHO MAY FACE
DISADVANTAGE
OR DIFFICULT
CIRCUMSTANCES IN
THEIR DAILY LIVES.**

‘Thom started coming on CPAS Falcon holidays on the Yorkshire coast when he was still in single digits. He’d struggled with school, particularly reading, and found it hard to make friends.

So to join a Falcons holiday, with games, great activities, and the chance to get to know other children in a safe and fun setting – it was an incredibly rewarding experience and he came back year after year.

‘Thom’s family weren’t Christian, and the holidays became very important to him as a place to learn about

Jesus. His faith grew with every holiday and as he approached adulthood, he realised he longed to hear more of God’s word to him.

‘The Covid-19 pandemic made attending church difficult for Thom. But he persevered with his faith, listening to God’s word on his phone, and reading the Bible at home, helped by a friend from his Falcons group. And a church family has now asked him to help out with their youth group, recognising the huge impact he can make on young people.

‘Thom has also become a volunteer team member for Falcon holidays and it’s wonderful to know he’ll inspire the next generation of children, by sharing the good news of his own journey to Jesus.’

Feedback from a Falcon leader



Prayers

Ventures & Falcons

The children taking part in Falcons today, who face challenging circumstances in their daily lives. Pray Falcons will have a deep, long-term positive impact on them, like it did for Luke and Thom.

We'd love to reach at least 3,000 young people this summer! Pray for more bookings in April-June, and pray God's blessing on each of the 70 holidays taking place in July and August.

Praise God for our fantastic volunteer leaders. Pray for the new leaders serving for the first time this year, and the overall leaders as they co-ordinate their volunteer teams and prepare for the summer.

Pray that more parents like Amanda and Kate will see their children grow in faith through the opportunities Ventures gives to explore Jesus, and see the Christian faith modelled.

**YOUR SUPPORT IS
CHANGING YOUNG
PEOPLE'S LIVES
IN JESUS' NAME.
THANK YOU.**

PLATINUM JUBILEE

Celebration of Faith & Service



Her Majesty the Queen, Patron of CPAS

We praise God for our patron Her Majesty the Queen's 70 years of faith and service, and offer our warmest congratulations in this Platinum Jubilee year of celebration.





New Resource

How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture

CPAS has just launched a new resource offering 77 creative ideas to help church leaders shape the culture of their churches to be more evangelistic.



Launched at the 2022 New Wine National Leadership Conference and an online live event

How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture by James Lawrence was launched in March at the 2022 New Wine National Leadership Conference, and at a live online event. The book is part of a suite of resources to build a community of leaders growing together in the practice of nurturing evangelism.

‘So many local churches have forged new links with their communities during the pandemic, and are now asking: “How can we share our faith

WHAT IF
EVANGELISM
WAS A MINISTRY
OF THE WHOLE
CHURCH, NOT
JUST A FEW?

in an appropriate way through these networks?’, said Graham Archer, Acting General Director.

‘We feel God has called us to offer this important resource to the Church at this time, so that every child, adult and young person has the chance to hear the wonderful good news of Jesus.’

The book, and related resources, webinars and videos, are drawn

'WE'D LOVE TO GET THIS INTO THE HANDS OF AS MANY CHURCH LEADERS AS WE POSSIBLY CAN... WE COULD SEE MANY, MANY PEOPLE COMING TO FAITH IN CHRIST.'



from the experiences of local church leaders across the country whom CPAS works with.

Graham said, 'We want to get this into the hands of as many church leaders as we possibly can. If every church leader was inspired by just one of these ideas, and implemented it in their church, we could see many, many more people coming to faith in Christ.'

Please pray



for the thousands of leaders who have received this book. Pray they will find it inspiring, and that God would guide them towards the right ideas for their context, that many may come to know Christ.



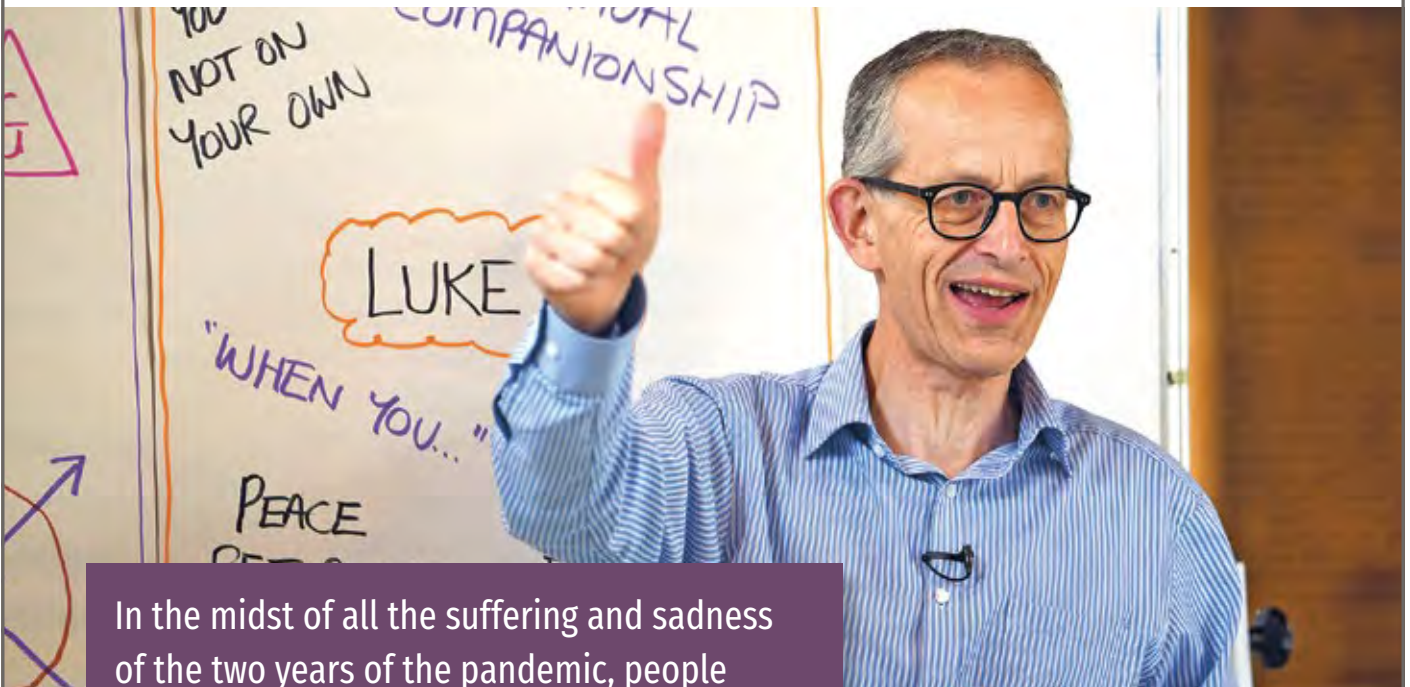
THANKS to a generous anonymous donation, we are thrilled to be able to give *How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture* as our gift to 3,000 leaders of Anglican churches, Fresh Expressions and church plants in the UK and Ireland.

Find out more at WWW.CPAS.ORG.UK/FAITH-SHARING



Leadership Insights

Sharing Jesus in a Pandemic World



In the midst of all the suffering and sadness of the two years of the pandemic, people have opened up to spiritual things in new ways. How might we best share the good news of Jesus today?

There is some good news. No. Not that 'good news'. We'll come to that later. This good news. In the midst of all the suffering and sadness of the two years of the pandemic, people have opened up to spiritual things in new ways. Not everyone, of course, but a significant number of people, and, perhaps surprisingly, especially the 18-35s¹.

Why? Some had life norms challenged through interruption and are reassessing priorities. Some faced mortality for the first time. Some are shaken by the turbulent political and environmental disruptions.

Some are amazed at the way churches have served and cared for communities through campaigns like Love Your Neighbour. Some dipped into online church and liked what they saw. Some engaged with churches offering hope in the midst of a dark time.

¹Savanta ComRes study 29 Jan to 7 February 2021

The pandemic has brought a season of openness. How long this will last we don't know; so how do we make the most of it?

Many of our models for sharing our faith are based either on the world of crusades from the 1950s, or the course-based approaches of the 1990s. Both were appropriate for their time, and many have come to faith through them, but perhaps they don't work quite as well today. 2022 is a different world; some would say a post-Christendom world, and all would say a pandemic-impacted one.

For example, in the 1950s the UK's dominant culture was based around a guilt-justice worldview. In this context, speaking of guilt and forgiveness of sins made sense. But today many people's worldview is more oriented around shame and honour. This is particularly true amongst Gen Y and Gen Z, connected with the rise of social media. In this culture, morality is perceived as less about right and wrong, and more about inclusion and exclusion. Perhaps we might draw on reconciliation as a key theme for communicating the gospel, and the acceptance of Christ whose love covers over shame?

And this is where we get to the really good news.

THE GOSPEL IS
LIKE A MULTI-
FACETED
DIAMOND. IT
CONNECTS
WITH EVERY
WORLDVIEW,
EVERY
PERSON'S
EXPERIENCE,
AND EVERY
GENERATION.

The gospel is like a multi-faceted diamond. It connects with every worldview, every person's experience, and every generation. Our job is to try and turn the appropriate facet towards those we encounter.

Even more good news. Our mission partners have been doing this for centuries. Living in shame-honour cultures (as well as fear-power ones), they have worked out how to share the gospel, how to engage people with the appropriate facet of the diamond. We can learn from them, and resource ourselves for sharing faith today.

Good news: people are increasingly open.

Good news: the gospel is like a multi-faceted diamond.

Good news: we have insights into how to do this.

Question: are we wrestling with the best way to share the good news today?

James Lawrence

Want to go deeper?

The 3D Gospel by Jayson Georges is a short introduction, and **Effective Intercultural Evangelism**, by W.J. Moon and W.B Simon offers a more thorough analysis.

Reaching Children Where They Are



Anna Shaw, School Ventures Development Officer, shares how these unique residentials are giving children the chance to explore Jesus.



Since launching in 2016, we've welcomed 854 school children aged 8-10 to School Ventures, which are weekend residentials for Church of England primary schools, helping pupils investigate the core claims of the Christian faith through accessible teaching resources such as The Case of the Empty Tomb (based on Luke's Gospel). Each residential is for three or four schools, bringing 10-15 children.



There is nothing like School Ventures for giving children space to ask their questions and interrogate the Christian faith for themselves. And it goes far beyond the residential – as schools connect with local churches, this naturally leads to them supporting one another with the spiritual development of children. We've seen schools start Bible clubs, joint church and school prayer and RE days and even School Ventures reunions for pupils.





We're keen to develop this further and help churches be more intentional about building pathways for ongoing discipleship for the children and families.

With so few children now present in many church communities across the country, it is vital that we meet children where they are. We need active partnerships between churches and schools, offering children's ministry opportunities beyond Sunday mornings.

As we embark on a new season of School Ventures, I'd really value your prayers for this vital ministry.

Please pray that the 15 School Ventures we have planned for 2022 would go ahead, and that pandemic-related uncertainty would not be a barrier. Please pray for more dioceses and churches to catch the vision. And please pray a special blessing on the 854 school children who have been introduced to Jesus on School Ventures so far. Thank you!

ON SCHOOL VENTURES, CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN FUN, ACCESSIBLE WAYS.



Anna Shaw, School Ventures Development Officer

Supporting CPAS

CPAS supporters are part of something wonderful! Do you long to see people across the UK and Ireland hear about Jesus through local church ministry? Ways to give, pray and serve.



WAYS TO PRAY



Pray for CPAS' vital ministry every day with our free quarterly prayer calendar. Download from **www.cpas.org.uk/pray** or contact us to receive a printed copy by post.



Follow us on PrayerMate (available on iOS and Android devices) or Twitter for daily prayer points straight to your phone.

CHURCH GIVING

Give one-off or regular gifts as a church by phone, cheque or by contacting Mark Henderson (our friendly Churches Relationship Manager) on **mhenderson@cpas.org.uk**. We also offer free materials to help you spread the word.



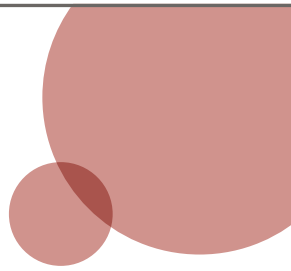
GIVE NOW



Inspired by our work? Give right now at **www.cpas.org.uk/give**, call 0300 123 0780 (9am-4pm Monday to Friday) or send a cheque payable to CPAS to the address on page 2.

REGULAR GIVING

Regular gifts are fantastic because they help us plan ahead, so we can be as effective as possible in enabling local church mission. Contact **supporter.relations@cpas.org.uk** to set up a Standing Order to give monthly, quarterly or annually to CPAS.



Crafting for Christ!

'I have supported CPAS for more than 40 years – I feel CPAS is such a blessing to our

country and produces such fruitful evangelists. I enthusiastically support Falcon Camps, as my heart goes out to disadvantaged youths within parishes. I feel Tim Friend [Ventures and Falcons Principal] and his team are doing a splendid job in youth evangelism.

'In my spare time, I love to produce seasonal decorations, knitting in winter, sewing and other handicrafts or Christmas decorations. Whenever we have a church fair, I take the opportunity to sell my craft items to raise money for CPAS.'

Thank you Anny! Anny's stall raised £200 during the Big Give Christmas Challenge. She is a member of Holy Trinity Church in Poulton Lancelyn, where she shares news and prayer requests from CPAS, and encourages support.

THANK YOU ANNY!
ANNY'S STALL RAISED
£200 DURING THE
BIG GIVE CHRISTMAS
CHALLENGE.



LEAVE A LEGACY

By leaving a gift to CPAS in your will through your solicitor, you will be helping many men, women and children come to faith in Jesus beyond your own lifetime. Help us to continue our essential kingdom ministry for generations to come.

Prefer Large Print? We also offer CPAS updates in a large print format. Please email info@cpas.org.uk or call **0300 123 0780** to request this.





New Resource



How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture

Small shifts, big changes. Make evangelism a normal part of church life... and see people come to faith in Christ.



'IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR NEW ENERGY AND CREATIVITY TO NURTURE A CULTURE WITH EVANGELISM AT ITS CORE, THEN THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU.'

The Rev Kate Wharton,
Vicar, Roby

Find out more at
WWW.CPAS.ORG.UK/FAITH-SHARING