



H&DCYC

Newsletter

February 2022

It's been far too long since we were able to send out a newsletter, but it is great to be able to share news and update everyone on Hants and Dorset Christian Youth Camps. Forgive us for the rather basic format of this newsletter, but it's perhaps more important to be in touch. Hopefully, we may be able to improve the presentation as time goes by.

Summer 2021. For the second year running the Covid pandemic forced the cancellation of our summer camp programme. It was with a very heavy heart that the decision was taken and with camper bookings very high it seemed such a shame. Discovery Camp was heavily oversubscribed, but in truth it was the right thing to do under the circumstances.

H&D Family news.....

Despite the lack of summer camps it is lovely to hear people's news. So here are a few highlights.

New arrivals: Congratulations to Fraser and Emily Dougan and the arrival of Ralph



Frankie Dougan on 23rd July. Fraser has recently served as a trustee for H&D and Emily is one of the founding members of the Inheritance Team. Maybe summer 2022 can be Ralph's first camp 😊

A summer of weddings and engagements, our congratulations to:

Liam Wareham and Victoria who tied the knot on 24th April.



Liam and Victoria

Sam Cook and Hannah Vaughan who become Mr and Mrs in July.

Joe Cook and Stephanie Lake married in August.

Kyle Ingram and Sarah Snelson married in September.

Emma Vaughan and Joel Lines met at Inheritance in 2019 and have recently become engaged.

Pete Francis and Anna Johnston have also become engaged.

And congratulations to Victoria Maslin and Joshua White who became 'Mr and Mrs' in Sept 2020.

H&D People In each newsletter we want to share the story of some of the people who give so much to H&D. In This edition we thank Ron Layton for sharing his story and his work on Explorer Camp. Here is his story.....

The Gift of H&DCYC. One Sunday morning, just over 20 years ago, I was on my knees at church praying. The church

was inviting members to pray for God to show us what talents we have and how they can be used.

At that time my business was very demanding, so scheduled commitments were impractical, even arranging a holiday.

So while I was praying a man stood up at the front of the church asking for helpers at a kids camp.

Now, I love camping. It was for just one week per year. Also, had I enjoyed running football teams for boys.



It was as if God had tapped me on the shoulder and said here you are, Ron, an invitation that covers everything you want.

How could I refuse?

So when I turned up at my first camp, I expected to be asked to do general chores or drive a minibus. To my horror, I was told I was a T.O. To which I said "What is T.O.?"

When I was told it meant taking care of 6 boys, I wondered what I had let myself in for.

Anyway to cut short a very long story. Thanks to the prayers and support of the camp leaders I and the boys in my tent survived that first week at Explorers and every other week in the following years.

At the end of every week, I am tired out but totally satisfied.

God's gift to me was an invitation, an offer that has rewarded and blessed me in so many ways.

To see God's hand working in the lives of young people and in the lives of the leaders and the helpers in H&DCYC is a reward greater than I could ever have imagined

H&D Trustees. Having completed his term as a trustee Phil Baul has now stepped down as a trustee. Phil's wisdom, experience, and perspective have been a huge benefit to the trustees, as has his real heart for the ministry of H&D, and despite his dreadful sense of humour the trustees have asked Phil if he would continue to join meetings in an advisory capacity. He has graciously agreed to do this.



Mike Brook has now stepped down as Chair of Trustees. He will continue to serve H&D as a trustee and treasurer. It is difficult to underestimate the contribution that Mike has made to H&D. His ability to bring people together, refine organisational structures, create financial planning, establish a written constitution, and update our charity status. Behind the scenes, Mike has transformed the organisation and as a result, we find ourselves in a strong position in terms of our various teams, our financial outlook, and most importantly a real unity. Mike, thank you. Dave Cook had agreed to take on the role as chair, and the trustees have also agreed to look to appoint two further trustees over the next 18 months.

Thanks too for the work that Jenny Cook has undertaken as treasurer and the development of the financial systems. Jenny is now stepping down from this role and Mike Brook will become the treasurer.

Financial gifts have always been important to us as an organisation and have helped us to keep the price of camp as affordable as possible. Over the last couple of years, the monthly giving scheme and one-off gifts have been hugely important as we have no other income sources, and yet running costs need to be met regardless of the lack of camps. Thankfully we have come through the pandemic in a good financial state, so thank you. Long may the gifts continue! You can view the H&D financial accounts on the charity commission website, [here](#). (N.B The accounts for last year will not yet be available on the site)

Moving Forward: The overall leaders and trustees have been working together in shaping the vision for our camps over the next few years. We will be able to update you on the outcome of this work in the late spring. Needless to say for all the three camps the primary aim for the coming year is to work with their team of leaders and plan for next summer in the belief that camps 2022 will indeed be able to run. There are challenges in this process as there is such a long gap since the last camp, but the overall leaders have a huge amount of enthusiasm, drive, and commitment. We are in a very good place as we look forward.

1. For our key leaders as they plan ahead and look to build the leadership teams, and promote the camps to children, young people, and young adults.
2. For the trustees as they continue to focus on the 10-year vision for H&D.
3. For our great 'Team' of leaders, and their commitment to camp 2022.
4. For our campers.

Summer 2022 here we come.....

You can book a place on one of our camps through the website [here](#).

Be part of the Team.....You can join one of a leadership Teams [here](#).

