



# Fun ways to fundraise

## Climbing Snowdon

**PF volunteers Joanne Mills and Lyn Connolly recently joined Stephen Hawkins (Regional Coordinator for the NW) in climbing Mount Snowdon in aid of Angel Tree. Jo tells all:**

Well, we did it! We actually did it! It was so much harder than I thought it would be and I now realise how unfit I am. On the journey there, Stephen decided to inform my mum and I how dangerous it was at the top and told us that the last time he did it they all had to hold hands so they didn't blow away. He also told us about accidents that had happened there, so as you can imagine we were really excited by that! Stephen said he was trying to prepare us mentally for it...

Well, we got out of the car and Stephen stepped out with his hiking boots, walking sticks, backpack etc and he really looked the part. Then we got out in our trainers and a whole packed lunch and it was obvious to the world that we had never done it before.

We started walking and for a while my mum couldn't stop laughing, then we looked at the mountain and the laughing



*Jo, Lyn & Stephen at Mount Snowdon*

soon stopped! After the first ten minutes of walking Stephen was on a mission, and by then he was carrying my mum's backpack too. Me and mum looked like we had taken part in a boxing match and we were unsure if we could actually do it or not. However, on the way up we talked about Angel Tree and it gave us a boost to remember

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why we were doing it (although we did talk about maybe doing a sponsored spa day next year instead!) We also met quite a lot of people and we were able to tell them why we were doing the climb. Anyway, four and a half hours later we reached the top and we

were so pleased with ourselves. We haven't collected all the money in yet but we raised just over £300 for the children of prisoners this Christmas!

Jo

## We were overwhelmed

**PF volunteers Catherine and Kevin recently held a music evening in aid of Sycamore Tree. Catherine tells us how it went:**

Our aim was to raise awareness for Restorative Justice and the work of PF, and to raise funds towards Sycamore Tree at HMP Birmingham.

Throughout the evening musicians performed songs that complimented the event's theme and the audience were visibly moved. They were also touched by the interview between the Chaplain of HMP Birmingham and a young man who had taken part in Sycamore Tree, as this gave a very powerful message about the impact of RJ.

We also allowed time for a letter to be read out which was written by a friend of ours who had come to faith through the work of PF. He described the complete turn around that the course of his life has taken and he emphasised that it was the work of PF that had enabled this to happen. He summed it all up by saying, "I used to work for the Queen [in prison] but now I work for the King!"



Kevin and Catherine

At the end of the evening an opportunity was given for people to donate and we were overwhelmed to discover that over £600 was raised. Organising the event was a really positive experience for us and we felt truly blessed to have been part of it.

Catherine

**Please continue to pray for God's provision for the work that we do. We can only continue to help prisoners and their families with voluntary donations. If we can help you fundraise for the work of PF please get in touch: (T) 020 7799 2500 (E) sashachipperfield@prisonfellowship.org.uk**

# Prayer



## Prisons' Week

Prisons' Week ([www.prisonweek.org](http://www.prisonweek.org)) encourages Christian communities to pray for those affected by crime and this year will take place between **20th – 26th November 2011**. This is a great opportunity for all who are passionate about the work of PF to share our story with a wider audience.

### Why not:

- Use Prisons' Week prayers in your church?
- Give a talk to local churches?
- Put up a Prisons' Week poster?
- Hand out PF resources?
- Hold an event to raise awareness and funds for PF?

**To order your resources and tell us what you are doing during Prisons' Week please contact the office:**

**(T) 020 7799 2500**

**(E) [sashachipperfield@prisonfellowship.org.uk](mailto:sashachipperfield@prisonfellowship.org.uk)**

## Pray for a prison

There are over 140 prisons in England and Wales and our aim is to reach and support prisoners in every one of them. As it stands there are 22 prisons that are without the prayer support of a local PF group and, as an organisation founded on prayer, we know how important it is for us to support each prison in this way.

PF Bedford have come up with a great idea to change this and, as a result, we propose the following challenge. We are asking PF groups in England and Wales to adopt one of these prisons in order to pray that a new PF group will emerge and begin to support that prison. Please join us in this step of faith as we commit to praying for new groups and wait with expectancy for God to provide.

The list of prisons in need of a PF group

can be found at [www.prisonfellowship.org.uk/pray-for-a-prison](http://www.prisonfellowship.org.uk/pray-for-a-prison). Please let us know which prison your group has adopted so that we can update this list. This way we can ensure that all prisons are covered in prayer and we can inform you when a new group emerges.

If we unite in our prayers we can make our vision of supporting every prison a reality.

**For more information please contact Sasha Chipperfield:**

**(T) 020 7799 2500**

**(E) [sashachipperfield@prisonfellowship.org.uk](mailto:sashachipperfield@prisonfellowship.org.uk)**

## 24-7 prayer

24-7 prayer ([www.24-7.com](http://www.24-7.com)) is an online site that encourages churches and individuals to commit to pray for 24 hours a day for 7 days a week. There are hundreds of online prayer rooms in which people take one hour (or more) each to form unbroken chains of prayer wherever they are.

Prison Fellowship has been working with 24-7 prayer in the UK to see how they could help raise support for our ministry and they have kindly offered to feature us on their site during Prisons' Week. This is a fantastic opportunity and will be a great platform to spread the word about our work. We will also be using their site to run an online prayer room where people in each region can sign up to pray for a specific day during Prisons' Week (further details to follow).

If you have a story that shares how God has answered prayer during your time as a PF volunteer please get in touch. We can send this to 24-7 prayer to generate prayer support for our work, and we hope it will inspire many others to join us in helping prisoners and their families.

To find out more about 24-7 prayer please visit: [www.24-7shorts.com](http://www.24-7shorts.com)

## PF Conference 2012

The 2012 Prison Fellowship conference will take place between **9th - 11th March 2012** at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick. Our theme is, 'Be strong and courageous - making extraordinary things happen' and we would love you to join us for a weekend full of inspiring testimonies, encouraging teaching and worship, and a variety of workshops.

The cost of the weekend will be **£125** if booked before **30th November 2011** (£150 thereafter) and this price includes meals and accommodation (Friday afternoon – Sunday lunchtime) and a delegate pack.

If individuals in your PF group are unable to meet the cost of the conference, please

consider sending a representative from your group by splitting the cost amongst your members. It would be fantastic if at least one person from each PF group could attend.

For more information or to book your place please contact Elizabeth Albery:

**(T)** 020 7799 2500

**(E)** [elizabethalbery@prisonfellowship.org.uk](mailto:elizabethalbery@prisonfellowship.org.uk)

### Confirmed Speakers:

Alexander Mclean  
*Director of African Prisons Project*

Bishop Humphrey Southern  
*Bishop of Repton*

Ian Telfer  
*Governor of HMP Kingston*

## NewWine

Thank you to everyone who visited or prayed for our PF stand at Shepton

Mallet New Wine. We had an encouraging 2 weeks of handing out resources and having great conversations about our work. We were also one of the charity recipients of their collection at the London and South East Week. Give thanks for this opportunity to raise awareness for PF and please pray for a good response to our presence at this event.



## BETEL of BRITAIN

DEDICATED TO RESTORING BROKEN LIVES

their aim is to restore the homeless and long-term unemployed people to healthy, independent lifestyles. Betel offer help to anyone seeking their support. They work closely with the Police & Probation services and with prisons nationwide in order to provide assistance for the neediest individuals in society.

If you know of somebody that could use Betel's help or would like to know more please visit **[www.betel.org.uk](http://www.betel.org.uk)** for more information.

Betel of Britain is a group of not-for-profit Christian communities. They provide free accommodation and life skills training to those in need and

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