



Family Friendly Churches Trust

Committed to making churches places where all are welcome

The Newsletter of the Family Friendly Churches Trust

September 2008

Check out our website: www.FamilyFriendlyChurches.org.uk

Please feel free to print and distribute this Newsletter.

New Life for Old Laptops

Those who have been on one of our IT courses know that the trust keeps a pile of laptops for the use of trainees. In order to keep them up to date we have a policy of replacing a couple each year.

This year one of the laptops was still very usable – particularly after we had reloaded it from scratch – and so we have donated it through Sally (Mike's daughter) to a church in Malawi. Sally is World Mission Officer for Birmingham Diocese and is part of the team that coordinates the link between the Diocese and the Anglican Church in Malawi.



Above is Sally presenting the laptop to Rev'd Frank Dzantenge who is the Anglican Priest in a village called Mtumthama in the Diocese of Lake Malawi. Eagle eyed readers will notice that the free Methodist Conference bag actually makes a very good laptop bag.

Below is the orphanage in Mtumthama. We are sure that the laptop will be put to good use.



Residential Courses

The trust runs a couple of projection courses each year at Willersley Castle in Derbyshire.

The 4 day courses cover all aspects of using data projection, from installing a projector to using advanced techniques with videos and music. The course focuses on PowerPoint, but we also look at other software such as Zionworx.

The numbers on each course are kept small so that Mike can give ample time to each participant. Most importantly Ministers and Deacons can use their CDIM allowances to pay for these courses.

There are courses planned for the 24th to the 27th November, 2008 and also the 23rd to the 26th February, 2009. There are still places available on these courses.

Responses from previous courses has always been positive: "Thanks for a great course - very practical and inspiring"; "I do feel more confident about trying more ambitious things for worship"; "Many thanks for a most useful and enjoyable training session".

The courses are held at Willersley Castle, which is a most attractive venue with excellent facilities.

www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/residmmspec.htm

One Day PowerPoint Course

The trust is running a one day PowerPoint Course on October 4th at Market Deeping.

Starting at 10am the first session will be a "Thinking about a Projector" session and Mike will be talking about what you need to know before setting out to purchase multimedia technology. This session alone can save a church several 100s of pounds and can prevent churches from making basic errors.

From late morning there will be a Basic PowerPoint Course that will cover using Text, Images, Backgrounds, Animations and Transitions. It will also demonstrate a technique for copying the words of a hymn into PowerPoint quickly.

In addition it will touch on loading music and video into PowerPoint and a number of downloadable and bought resources will be demonstrated. There will also be a resources stall on the day

The day, which is led by Mike, costs just £20 per person and can be booked online at <http://www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/taapspec.htm> where there are more details.

Due to a cancellation Mike is also looking for a venue to run a similar course or the Advanced Multimedia Course on the 27th of September. If you would like to offer your church for this day, then contact Mike on Mike@Bossingham.com

September's Offer

"Sketching out the Gospel" is a really great CDrom. It contains the scripts of over 200 sketches for use in worship.



It contains a sketch for every single parable, miracle, encounter from all 4 gospels. It features scripts from both "Sketching out the Gospel" and "Stage Right" by Dave Hopwood.

The gospels are harmonised and the sketches easily performed by church drama groups.

No extra expense is involved as the CDrom includes permission to use the sketches in an amateur setting. There are different indexes that allow you to locate the sketch that you want and then you can very easily print as many copies as you need.

The CDrom is also easy to load and use.

"Sketching out the Gospel" normally costs £15 + postage, but for the month of September we are offering it for just £10.50 + £1 postage.

You can buy a copy of the CDrom through the web site, where there are also a couple of sample scripts: www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/offer.htm

Mike's Diary

Below is a list of Mike's commitments for the next couple of months. Please do pray for him. You can see all Mike's bookings on the web site.

September

- 6th Multimedia PowerPoint Course at Middle Rasen, Lincolnshire
- 13th / 14th Family Friendly Weekend for South Derbyshire Circuit
- 20th / 21st Multimedia Weekend for Altoft Methodist Church
- 23rd Family Friendly Day for the Truro Diocese
- 24th PowerPoint Day for the Truro Diocese
- 26th Available for a PowerPoint or Advanced Multimedia Course, To offer a venue email Mike@Bossingham.com

October

- 4th Basic PowerPoint Course at Market Deeping, To book a place see <http://www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/taapspec.htm>
- 11th-12th Family Friendly Weekend for the Richmond Hill Circuit
- 18th-19th Family Friendly Weekend for the Sherbourne and Yeovil Circuit
- 24th-26th Family Friendly Weekend for Cricklade United Church
- 27th-2nd Narnia TV Holiday Club for Cliffe Christian Mission at Rochester.



Kynance Cove in Cornwall – Mike's home county

You can download this picture from the web site from www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/Photos/calender.htm