

ISSUE OF THE MONTH: LOVE

As you know, I've written a few articles recently, such as reports on New Wine and the Chellington weekend; and I've been asked to have a regular slot with the title 'Issue of the month'. Pretty snazzy huh? This is the 1st one so if you have any suggestions as to what you think the next issue could be then don't hesitate to contact Andy P, Chad or myself. (Wade) The aim of the slot is to not tell you what you should or shouldn't be doing, tell you what's right and wrong or to force my opinions onto you but to bring up thought provoking questions. Eeeeeeeeeek! I hear you say.

Okay! So LOVE... The big L word. What does it really mean? 'The Penguin English Dictionary' defines it as... *a strong feeling of attachment, tenderness and protectiveness for another person.* Sounds fancy eh?

Well, there are many different types of love... passionate love (love for a husband/wife or partner) love for family members and friends and God's love. But are they all the same????

Everyone wants to feel loved - everyone wants that feeling of someone looking at them and knowing that they are truly loved. Whether it's by a friend, partner or family member - each holds an important yet different kind of love. Unfortunately, sometimes the love we hold for others deteriorates. For example, relationships - falling out of love with someone or having someone fall out of love with you is painful and heartbreaking experience. Whereas, God loves us unconditionally- no matter what we say, think, be or do. So, does this set apart God's love????

I think that love is such a great thing and there are many verses in the bible which reinforce this...

Song of Songs 8 v 6-7 ... **Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death, it's jealously unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot sweep it away.** (Although some may say that the woman who is saying this in the Bible is referring to her lover I think that this verse could also be applied to God's love.)

1 John 3:15... **For this is the message you heard from the beginning: we should love one another.**
1 Corinthians 13 v 1-13 (This is too long to type out but is an awesome verse so check it out.)

Anyway, some advice... Love is indispensable... love is who you are so be the love you are.

Youth News is brought to you by RACY
(Rushden Area Christian Youth).

To submit items, or ask for it to be e-mailed to you each month, please e-mail
youthnews@whitefriarschurch.org.uk

The God bit: Dan Fall

At the September PnG I didn't have a job. My interview in St Neots before the summer had gone well but I didn't get it. Over the summer I had the fact I didn't have a job looming over my head! After a few phone calls I managed to get another interview, it also went well, but after several weeks of thinking and praying, I had to turn down the offer. By this point it's mid- September and I'm shouting at God, "What do you think you're doing! Don't you know I **need** a job! That last one was perfect! What am I going to do?!"

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'.

'Ok, so why don't you tell me a few of those plans God?' 'Park Road Baptist Church are still looking for someone'. So, I had a chat with Michelle, had an interview and now I'm the youth worker for PRBC. God knows what he's doing; he created the entire universe, he's more than capable of helping me.

Sometimes we can get so worked up about **our** plans for the future and what **we** want to happen that we forget that God's already got it sorted. We start to worry and do more harm to ourselves than good. Read Matthew 6:25-34, it tells us that we don't need to worry, that God will take care of us if we just let him. Help is always there, you just have to ask for it. I handed my job hunt over to God, twice he led me somewhere but said no. It was hard for me to listen to that, but you have to remember God's plans are better than anything we could ever imagine, so we must trust in him. If you need help in something, ask, talk to your youth leader; your minister; your parents; your teachers; your friends; Jesus.

RACY presents...

YOUTH NEWS

Issue 137: November 2008



Left: **This Band Called** at the DEN

Below: **The Steels** at the DEN (with random local females)



Above: Former US Secretary of State, Colin Powell plus African band – **not** at the DEN

THE DEN: About 2 weeks before half term the DEN was on. The DEN is a place where people get the opportunity to see their fav bands play or see new bands play. This month we had two great bands play. The first band to play were **This Band Called**... they were really great bearing in mind they only knew the day before they going to be playing!!! WELL DONE GUYS!!! After they played everyone got a break from mad dancing!!! Most people gathered in the tuck shop room for a chat, game of pool and a well deserved drink and some sweeties!!!!

The second band to play were a Christian band called **The Steels**. They are from Northumberland and had only just come off their US tour. It was great to see a heavy metal Christian band play. Dan was especially glad by bowing at their feet which looked odd but that's Dan for ya!!! and so were the girls for different reasons!!! They were really awesome!!! If you were disappointed that you didn't get to see them play, then don't get too upset!! They're playing in Kettering on the 8th November. They were the only two bands to play so after they both played and after some more mad dancing and head banging and jumping around everyone went either to the tuck shop again or to the stall where The Steels were selling merchandise – and Lizzie, Ashleigh, Tammy and Angela were the first at the stall. Everyone had a chat with each other and about half past ten people were being threatened that if they didn't leave then they would have help tidy up!! Well you can guess how quickly the hall emptied!!! All in all everyone had a great night dancing, singing along, catching up with people and generally having a ball!!!

Till next time, Cheerio –
Lucy (Jekyll) xx

Auntie Agnes's Advice

Question: If it's OK for a couple of very very well paid TV comedians to leave obscene rude messages on someone's answer phone, why can't I – on Russell Brand's grandmother's, for example?



Answer: Because it's NOT OK for Russell Brand and Jonathan Ross to do so – or for a BBC producer to chose to broadcast such things. Even most fairly young children already know that things like that are wrong, and so I won't use up much space here explaining why, other than suggesting that you look at Bible passages such as Matthew 5: 1 to 10 and Philippians 2: 14 to 18 to get an idea of how we should behave towards other people. But it does seem worth pausing to think what this sort of thing tells us about organisations that we're meant to be able to trust, such as the BBC. On one hand, we're called to pray for those in authority (1 Timothy 2:2), and that might be said to include the BBC. But we're also meant to



continuously try to look at the world through God's eyes and be happy with the things that are pleasing to Him, and sad at things that aren't (which could well include our own behaviour at times, in case we get too

used to pointing the finger at others). And it seems likely that God is quite unhappy whenever He sees anyone - including BBC performers and producers - going away from what is good – whether that's about rude phone messages or lying to Blue Peter viewers last year about the winning entry in the cat-naming competition. It may be that the BBC partly brings these problems on itself, by advertising its jobs in papers whose readers are more likely than the population as a whole to have abandoned traditional Christian ideas of decency, but you can at least try to make a positive difference, by taking part in a BBC survey about the TV and radio services that it provides to young people. You can do this simply by going to <http://www.bbcyoursay.co.uk/intro> at any time until 16 December.

Have you visited
the RACY
website recently?

It's at
www.racy.org.uk.

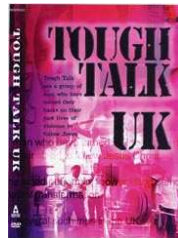
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER?

Passion & Glory will take place at 7pm on **Sunday 2nd November**, at Rushden Mission Church

10th to 16th November:
**Northamptonshire
YMCA Week of Prayer.**
See

www.northamptonshire-ymca.co.uk

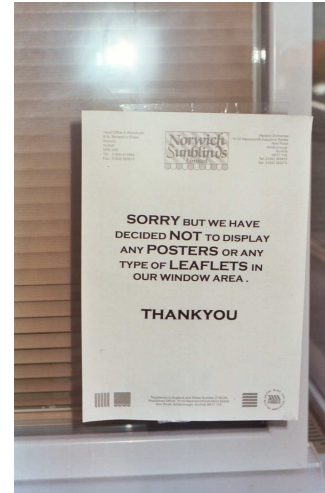
**Saturday 22nd
November: Tough Talk**
(Christian weightlifters)
**will be in Thrapston
from 7.30pm**
Details on
01832 734991.



Christmas lights get turned on in Rushden High Street on **Sunday 30th November** – and Youth News printer Steve Voss will be playing some African carols. Also **special youth-led service at 3pm at Rushden Salvation Army (Church Street)**, to which all young people are welcome

The December Passion & Glory will be at 7pm on **Sunday 7th December**, at Rushden Mission Church.

WHAT A WEIRD & WONDERFUL WORLD!



Poster of the month: seen in a shop in Norwich, Norfolk, a notice saying that **no posters of any type** are being displayed in the window – with the notice itself being on a poster in the very same window...

Thought of the month: If a 'fun size' Mars bar is a lot smaller than a normal one, the way to total happiness must be to not have a Mars bar at all.

Dawdling-related statistic of the month: a survey showed recently that 52% of people are slowed down on their way to work by people walking very slowly, leading to an average of 82 wasted hours per person per year. The fact that over a million people belong to the Facebook group: **"I secretly want to punch slow-walking people in the back of the head"** shows that many such delayed people are also angry, and potentially violent. But what's the Christian response to all this? Aren't we meant to show patience? Or are the ditherers to be criticised for not realising that they are getting in the way of their fellow humans? And aren't we meant to be good stewards of time, as well as money, and so not waste any of it?

RECIPE ZONE

Here's perhaps the most basic recipe ever in Youth News:

Goat's milk

Ingredients: goat's milk

Method of preparation: buy it.

Using goat's milk is also said to have some benefits, Steve Voss reports. In particular, it's meant to clear your sinuses within a few days (if they're blocked in the first place). And it's meant to be good at clearing up various skin conditions.

