

SIZEWELL HALL CHRISTIAN CAMPING & CONFERENCE CENTRE

The management team consists of Victor & Meg Jack, Mark Beaton, Graham Brown, Ivan Fenning, Steve Fenning, Ted Jack, Colin Rushbrook, Matthew Warnock and Mervyn Wood.

In this issue we have asked both Mark Beaton and Steve Fenning to tell us a bit about their work and involvement with Sizewell Hall. Steve on the right of the picture, has just joined the management team.

Focus on the Management Team

Introducing Mark Beaton

Mark is a property solicitor and looks after the legal aspects of the work of the Hall. He lives in Suffolk and is married to Paula, also a solicitor, who he met through the Christian Union whilst at College. They have two young children. Mark has been a member of the Management Committee since 2003.

"It is a great privilege to be involved in the ministry of the Hall and to be able to see God working in the lives of the many people who visit the Hall and who are connected with it. The legal work of the Hall is so diverse - from agreements for the use of the African Village to general alterations at the Hall"

Mark and his family worship at Parkview Chapel in Botesdale. They host a home group, help lead services and Mark organises regular Men's breakfasts. Mark and his family really enjoy their church weekend away at the Hall. In free time at weekends they enjoy walking, socialising and just spending time together as a family.



Sizewell Hall in 1859

Last year Sizewell Hall had 6220 visitors throughout the year, this represents an increase of just over 200 on 2005.

Please continue to pray for the work here and the managers as they cope with the increase in numbers and the obvious extra work that that involves.

We are truly blessed in that every weekend of the year is fully booked and in March we will commence the African Adventure, (this year there will be 15 such groups). The hall is then virtually fully occupied until the end of October.

Please encourage your Church leaders to include some time **Praying for the Summer** and in particular Sizewell Hall in your services on :- **Sunday 18th June**. More information about the work of CCI and the **Pray for the Summer** initiative can be found on the CCI web site at :- www.cci.org.uk **Nationally 50,000 young people will attend a CCI centre.**

During the Summer School holidays @ Sizewell Hall approximately 400 young people will be camping. A further 180 young people will be on organised holidays in the Hall as well as church family groups.

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Executive Advisor Victor Jack
Resident Managers

Paul & Carol Golding, Peter & Lynne Warnock

Some Prayer pointers are:- Safety, Good weather, Changed lives, Fun for the young people, Good health and Spiritual growth.



Introducing Steve Fenning

It was only a few months after Bobby Moore held the World Cup aloft at Wembley that Steve Fenning was introduced to the world! Being born a farmer's son, everything pointed to him joining the generations of Fennings before him in working the land... but life took a different turn at 19 years of age when he quit agricultural college (after one whole term!) and joined The Saltmine Trust for three years, gaining experience in schools work and evangelism around the UK.

At 21, he returned to Suffolk to work part-time with his Church at Brockford and part time as an evangelist. Steve (and his first wife, Sara) initiated the start of a new Church in Mendlesham in 1992 and 14 years on, he is still leading this growing church (MCF) which now meets in Debenham.

Steve is the proud dad of three children - Sam, Alice and Rachel and following Sara's death in 1999, is now happily married to Sarah. He is a sports fan and an optimist, frequently visiting Portman Road in the hope of an Ipswich victory and passionately following English Cricket! He dreams of one day having a golf handicap below 20 and being able to watch Sky Sports at home in HD!

Steve has a real heart for the work at Sizewell having frequently visited the Hall since he was 8 years old and over the past 17 years has regularly spoken on youth camps and Church weekends there.

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March 2007 Issue 3

Various comments in the book of Memories.

Thanks so much this is a Special place! Annabel.

I have had a great time as usual brilliant memories of fun, fellowship over many years. Josh.

I have had a fabulous time, I hope to come with new people to experience what I have. Mary.

I have had a wonderful week and I can't wait to come next year. Joyce.

Sizewell is that Special Place, set aside where Jesus speaks to us; whether under canvas or In the house. The grounds too and the ever present sea all give us refreshment & inspiration. Suzanne.

Sizewell Hall is an awesome place, stayed here 15 times. God's presence is surely in this place. Nathan.

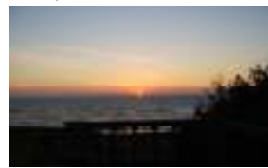
I have had a fab time here. Coming to Sizewell has had an impact on my spiritual life. I felt like a lost lamb before I came. Loise.

A spiritual place where you can walk a few inches above the ground. Peaceful fulfilling and extra special because of God. Anna.

Sizewell is a special place to take time to be with friends and Jesus.

I love Sizewell. Jess.

Another great weekend- we thank God for providing Sizewell. A home from home. Mandy & Andrew.



'A Challenging Year'

A demanding but rewarding year. The last 12 months, since our last newsletter, has been one of the busiest and most encouraging years since the work at Sizewell began in 1975. More people have stayed on the premises and more projects have been planned and completed than in any previous year. As we look back we are deeply grateful to God for His continuing faithfulness and the fellowship of an increasing number of people who have come to love this special place by the sea.

New projects completed. In order to comply with the Government's Disability Act it became necessary for us to think seriously about how we could care for those in wheel chairs as well as those who found the stairs difficult to negotiate. Three essential tasks have now been completed.

A new **disabled toilet** has been built and the ground floor toilets have been refurbished.

A lift to include both floors has now been installed in the corridor near the kitchen. This has been a huge task for our managers to undertake, and we are deeply grateful for the willingness of the whole team involved for the extra time and energy they gave to see the job completed.

The collage of pictures on the inside page, only tell part of the story.

It has become necessary to move from a single phase to a **three phase electric supply**, in order to cope with the extra demands made by the lift and all the extra equipment that has been installed over the years.

Further improvements to some bathrooms and toilets are going to be necessary to assist our disabled friends. We also hope to add further facilities to the children's play area near the car park.

More people coming to stay. Over 6,000 people of all ages have stayed in the Hall and on the camp site or been involved in the African Adventure during the last 12 months. While this has created much more work for our staff at the Hall, we are all thrilled by the numbers of people coming under the influence of God's word and strong Christian leaders. The comments from the book of memories give some indication of how people have had their lives impacted and transformed by the presence of God in this place. Everywhere I go I meet individuals who speak of becoming Christians at Sizewell, being baptized in the sea, being restored from past failures, sensing God's call to Christian ministry and having their marriages renewed.

Financial needs all met. The three new projects, quite apart from the increased costs of running Sizewell Hall, were a challenge to us all on the Council when we committed ourselves to go ahead with each one. It is wonderful to be able to report that as a result of God's faithfulness and the support of His people all our costs have been covered. This has been a great encouragement as we have witnessed these steps of faith being honoured by the Lord, whose hand of blessing has been on this place over the last 3 decades.

Your prayers are still needed. We are very conscious and deeply grateful for the many people who pray regularly for the work at Sizewell. We are privileged to see the result of those prayers. We must not be complacent and we would solicit your prayers even more for this coming year, which promises to be busier than ever. Please continue to pray for the Council, our managers and all who come to stay at Sizewell Hall.

Victor Jack, chairman.



Victor & Meg

'African Adventure' Update CYM



Richard Blake-Lobb is CYM's Youth Specialist and is also the African Adventure coordinator for CYM.

Rich joined the team last Autumn.

"It is a privilege to be part of such an exciting and innovative project that means so much to children and teachers alike. I think I have the best job in the world teaching about God, Africa, team building and self esteem in the beautiful surroundings of Sizewell. What could be better than receiving words of thanks from children who have achieved things they didn't think possible and from teachers and even parents who notice positive changes in the children too. We challenge the children at the end of a week at African Adventure to see if they can raise money to buy water filters for families in Mozambique, through Samaritans Purse, and when we hear of individual's raising enough money not just to buy one but 6 filters you can only imagine our excitement."

Rich (aka Dakori)



"African Adventure seemed like a really great idea to me and I was really looking forward to getting a taster of it at the beginning of my GAP Year. I got this taster very early on and had the pleasure of being on the first day of a week for a school in September. It was

great to see all the kids arrive all excited and looking about to see what I can only guess was a totally new place to them.

As the day progressed onto the team building exercises it was a real joy to see how the teams the kids were put into did actually get better at working together even in the short time they were doing the activities. Also the quieter kids got a chance to shine and come out of their shells a bit which was really amazing to see.

It was really great to chat to the kids at lunch time about all the things they had done during the day and what they were hoping to do later on in the week. Talking to them about their hobbies and interests was a great way of getting to know them and interacting with them to build up a relationship for the rest of the week.

The response from the kids when they got back from the week was awesome with comments including: **"Thanks again for the fantastic time"**, "The cycling was so fun I could do it over and over again!", **"I wish I could reverse time and do it all again."**, "It was the best school trip I ever had" and the inevitable food comment **"I also enjoyed the fantastic scrummy food!"**. This response has opened doors for me as I am now in doing a bit of teaching assistance in this school and am able to keep relations between the school and CYM open."

Dave Burnham (aka Jaar) CYM Gap Year Volunteer



Ben Askew (aka Unyaka) CYM Gap Year Volunteer

Report on the installation of the lift

The collage of pictures will hopefully give you an idea of the work involved in installing the lift at the Hall. It has been an exciting challenge to organise and in turn to carry out the various aspects of the work in between weekend groups.

The team of those who helped with the work included Mark, an architect who did all the design work with the Local Authority and QAL, the lift engineers.

In the construction team we were very blessed to have Philip & Martin completing the major aspect of the construction work. (If you want any work completed they are the boys!) As you see they are not afraid to get themselves dirty! We are grateful too to others who volunteered, Dave and Anna, yes we did have ladies who helped! Michael, a fireman who had time to spare and Brian, who is an excellent concrete technician! Contract Plumbers and Electricians completed the team.

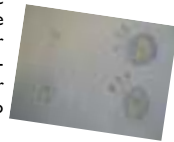
We were very grateful too for the team at the Hall who worked very hard during the programme of the work. Each week the thick layers of dust had to be cleared ready for the new group coming into the Hall.

A big thank you too to all who gave financially to enable the project to be paid for out of gifts received. Already groups are finding the lift a real blessing.



"It's not long now until African Adventure kicks off again with CYM and Sizewell Hall bracing themselves for a deluge of school-children eager to participate in the program. The winter period when African Adventure shuts down has provided an opportunity to do some follow up with schools. The GAP year volunteers at CYM have been able to provide two schools that attend African Adventure with classroom assistance in order that we might have the chance to solidify the connections. We have found that this not only allows to build upon relationships but also to establish some new ones with the children who will visit African Adventure next year and possibly beyond.

We can also see the impact that African Adventure has had. While it is obvious to see that children enjoyed themselves, it is also rewarding to discover that they have learnt something from the experience. In most cases that involves placing a great value on teamwork but also highlights the problems of many African countries. Talking with some of the kids reveals that African Adventure is an experience that they remember fondly and will continue to do so for many years to come."



A photographic collage of the work involved installing the lift at Sizewell.

