

ACT news and reports

NQTs and student teachers

The first national conference specifically for Christian student teachers and NQTs took place at Trent Vineyard Church in Nottingham on Saturday 17 March 2007. The event was entitled *Called to teach? Equipped to teach?* 26 people attended: eight student teachers, nine newly qualified teachers (NQTs) and nine experienced teachers (all of whom were there to lead workshops or otherwise help out on the day).

The conference was organised by ACT with the support of Scripture Union, The Stapleford Centre and TISCA (The Independent Schools Christian Alliance). A special word of thanks is reserved for Naomi Burton, ACT Local Contact for Nottingham, who booked the venue, made all of the catering arrangements, enthusiastically publicised the event across the city and was a wonderful conference host. Her hard work was greatly appreciated by all.

The day started and closed with a time of prayer and praise. After this act of worship it was time for a talk by Trevor Cooling, Director of Transforming Lives. At lunchtime delegates were free to mingle and chat and to peruse and purchase materials made available by ACT, SU, Stapleford and TISCA. Then came three workshop sessions boasting a cornucopia of topics. Hugh Bradby talked about *Teaching overseas* and *Teaching in the independent sector*. Geoff Brown gave tips on *Starting and running*

a Christian group in school. Trevor Cooling's seminar was called *Being distinctively Christian: how does my faith make a difference to my classroom teaching?* Scott Fellows led two sessions: *Offering pastoral support that really works* and *Light-hearted reflections from a Christian Ofsted Inspector*. Tim Irwin also led two sessions: *Working effectively as a supply teacher* and *Job applications and interview skills*. Rupert Kaye answered questions about *Christian approaches to challenging behaviour and classroom management*. The day was drawn to a close with a gentle time of prayer and praise.

The next two national annual conferences for Christian student teachers and NQTs will be held on Saturday 8 March 2008 and Saturday 7 March 2009 respectively.



Buy books online

The homepage of the ACT website now includes two new commission-earning links (one to www.Amazon.co.uk, the other to www.Eden.co.uk).

So, next time you go online to buy a book or a DVD, please start at the ACT homepage. Every purchase made after clicking through from the Amazon or Eden links on the ACT website helps to generate commission for ACT.

A 'Quiet Day' in Dagnall

On 3 March 2007 Rupert Kaye led a Quiet Day at All Saints' Church in Dagnall, near Dunstable. Six people attended.

This was a day for teaching assistants, teachers, headteachers and others working in education to step back from the hurley burley of 'doing' and make time for 'being'. The Quiet Day included times of guided meditation based on passages of Scripture, prayer and creative opportunities to respond to God by writing a prayer, poem or letter, or through drawing, painting or collage.

ACT behaviour events

Christian approaches to challenging behaviour and classroom management is proving to be ACT's most popular training day. The two most recent events were hosted by Merseyside ACT and Plymouth ACT on 20 January 2007 and 24 March 2007 respectively. Rupert Kaye led both days.

The Merseyside event – jointly hosted by Andy Langton (ACT Local Contact for Liverpool) and Tim Irwin (ACT Local Contact for St Helens) at Bridge Street Chapel in Liverpool – was attended by 20 delegates. The Plymouth event – hosted by Richard Simpson (ACT Local Contact for Plymouth) at Hope Baptist Church – was attended by 26 delegates.

ACT Saturday events

Cost: £15 for all members of ACT, ACT Scotland, ACTW or NIACT. £25 for everyone else. The course fee includes lunch, afternoon tea, other refreshments and all course materials.

Booking: Please photocopy and complete the booking form at the bottom of this page and post it to the ACT office, attaching a cheque payable to 'ACT', by the closing date indicated. Please use a separate form for each event you wish to book a place on.

Time: All of the Saturday events listed here start at 10.30am and finish at 4.30pm.

Saturday 26 May 2007

Hosted by ACT Scotland

Christian approaches to classroom management and challenging behaviour

Led by: Rupert Kaye (ACT)

At: The Eric Liddell Centre,
15 Morningside Road, Edinburgh
EH10 4DP

Closing date for bookings: 16 May 2007

Saturday 30 June 2007

Hosted by Nottingham ACT Group

Making a difference: how to be a positive Christian witness in your school/college workplace

Led by: Rupert Kaye (ACT)

At: Trent Vineyard, Easter Park,
Lenton Lane, Nottingham NG7 2PX

Closing date for bookings: 20 June 2007

Saturday 22 September 2007

Hosted by Merseyside ACT Group

Preparing for Advent and Christmas in Key Stages 1 and 2

Led by: Alison Harris (*Barnabas*)

At: St Luke's Church, Knowsley Road,
St Helens WA10 4DE

Closing date for bookings: 12 September 2007

Saturday 22 September 2007

Hosted by Sutton ACT Group

Making a difference: how to be a positive Christian witness in your school/college workplace

Led by: Rupert Kaye (ACT)

At: Church of the Good Shepherd,
Queen Mary's Avenue, Carshalton
Beeches, Surrey SM5 4NP

Closing date for bookings: 12 September 2007

Saturday 6 October 2007

Hosted by NIACT

Christian approaches to classroom management and challenging behaviour

Led by: Rupert Kaye (ACT)

At: High Kirk Presbyterian Church,
65-71 Thomas Street, Ballymena
BT42 6AZ

Closing date for bookings: 26 September 2007

Saturday 13 October 2007

Hosted by Yeovil ACT Group

Offering pastoral support that really works

Led by: Scott Fellows

At: The Park School, The Park, Yeovil,
Somerset BA20 1DH

Closing date for bookings: 3 October 2007

Saturday 3 November 2007

Hosted by Plymouth ACT Group

Take a break: a quiet day for Christians working in education

Led by: Lucy Moore (*Barnabas*)

At: Hope Baptist Church, Peverell Corner,
Peverell Park Road, Plymouth PL3 4QG

Closing date for bookings: 24 October 2007

Saturday 10 November 2007

Hosted by Newham/East London
ACT Group

Christian approaches to classroom management and challenging behaviour

Led by: Rupert Kaye (ACT)

At: St John's Church, Broadway, Stratford,
London E15 1NG

Closing date for bookings: 31 October 2007

BOOKING FORM

Please complete in full and return this booking form to *ACT, 94a London Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 1NX* no later than ten days prior to the date of the event. (We need to know by this date in order to confirm catering arrangements.) Bookings cancelled seven days or less prior to the event will not be refunded.

I wish to book a place on the following Saturday event:

Date of event: _____

Hosting ACT Group: _____

I am a member of:

ACT ACT Scotland ACTW NIACT

I enclose a cheque (made payable to 'ACT') for:

£15 £25

Please tick as appropriate

Name: _____
Please print

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

I work at: _____
School / College name

I am a:

teaching assistant teacher other _____
Please specify

My dietary (or other) requirements:

vegetarian vegan gluten free other _____
Please specify