



NEWSLETTER Number 7

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FOUR MONTHS LEFT TO THE END OF THE YEAR!

The summer may be a 'dead time' for many enterprises, with so many people away on holiday, but it has been all go in the Clean Slate office. Our postbag has carried a steady flow of news of how the campaign continues to make an impact in many parts of Britain. In this newsletter we report some of this news.

We also paint a picture of what lies in store for the rest of the year. As the autumn progresses, we believe that the approaching new millennium is going to be much more in focus for millions of Britons. This gives us an increasing chance to make the idea of 'cleaning our slates for the new millennium' widely known.

Thank you for all you have done to spread the idea to people you know. Please continue to feed in news from your part of the country – and fresh stories of people cleaning their slates.

Edward Peters, Campaign Chairman

NEW LEAFLET AVAILABLE

A new shorter leaflet has just been printed – an additional resource to spread the message through the autumn. A copy is enclosed with this newsletter, and further copies are available from this office. We still have more than 10,000 copies of the 'Clean Slate Guide' available, as well as 20,000 copies of the new leaflet. **Please use whichever you prefer with people you want to inform.**

PERSONAL RESPONSES

"The effects of [this campaign] will undoubtedly benefit many people well into the new millennium. Your efforts have inspired me to reflect upon my own life and any marks on my 'slate'. In addition, I intend to encourage others to follow suit and join those who have committed themselves to contribute in a positive manner to the new millennium." (An ambassador to the UK)

"I shared with our Bible Study group and - Praise the Lord! - as a result there has been a healing and reconciliation of a breakdown in relationships between two church families." (Anon, Newcastle)

And something a little different!: "I am pleased to say that my soul is in pristine condition and I most fortunately have no need to start with a clean slate." (Anon)

SCOTLAND

The seven Scottish patrons of the campaign have signed a letter sent to all 129 members of the new **Scottish Parliament**, commending the campaign as something of value for Scotland. All local councillors in the Strathclyde region will be receiving a similar letter soon.

The Director of Education for **Glasgow** has offered to distribute information about the CSC to all the schools in his area

Life and Work, the monthly magazine of the Church of Scotland, is carrying a short item on the campaign in its October edition.

OXFORD

The Lord Mayor of Oxford, Cllr Val Smith, has given her official support to the idea of a special '**Clean Slate Week**' in Oxford, and is seeking the backing of the City Council. It is hoped that this special week, which will probably be held from November 29 to December 5, will unite many communities to do something positive for the city.

Edward Peters is speaking about the idea to the two **clergy chapters** of the city during September, pointing out that the week is being held during the second week of advent because of the natural link with the theme of repentance in the run up to Christmas.

Meanwhile the Lord Mayor also signed a letter which has gone to **all 400 schools in Oxfordshire**, commending the campaign. Her letter enclosed a copy of the special programme of study for use in primary schools, developed by the staff of Edward Feild Primary School in Kidlington, just outside Oxford.

WALES

Patrick Rohde writes: "Just two nights ago I was called to my feet at the Llandudno Churches Together meeting to speak about the CSC. I was able to outline my own decision to pray daily for a friend with whom my relationship has been clouded for 25 years. I was able to report that the cloud is being lifted without anything being said and we are starting to work together positively. The President of our group thanked me and said, 'Leading by example'. I have duplicated copies of the half-year report to get around to the clergy who continue to show interest."

The campaign will feature in a special event in Cardiff on October 24th, climaxing the 'One World Week' there, and being held in the Temple of Peace. Around this time, Cardiff Central Library will launch a major display about the campaign.

BIRMINGHAM

Campaign Chairman Edward Peters has been invited to speak at a special event being organised in the city by the Birmingham Council of Faiths on November 28th.

NEWCASTLE

Hari Shukla has arranged a fund-raising dinner in a hotel in Newcastle on September 19th. The venue is being given free. Once the food costs have been covered, Hari hopes that there will be a sizeable sum raised towards the campaign, as well as giving an opportunity to inform many more people in the city about the CSC.

MEDIA NEWS

One of our patrons, Neville Nagler, Director General of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, gave a **radio interview** about the campaign on July 1st on BBC Greater Manchester Radio's weekly Jewish programme. Mr Nagler writes: "The programmers were obviously very keen to have some discussion about the campaign because they reinstated the interview after an earlier one had been cancelled owing to a clash with one of Manchester United's recent football finals! They interviewed me for about five minutes about the general nature of the campaign and its particular relevance to Jewish people. I hope I was able to.... give a highly positive plug for the campaign."

Rev Joe Cotterill has written in the *Abingdon Herald* about the CSC. He describes how he was recently invited to a reception at the Japanese embassy where an emissary of the Japanese government gave an apology to ex-POWs for their ill treatment during World War Two. Rev Cotterill

FINANCE

During July and August, there were dozens of small gifts towards the campaign. We are very grateful to all who have contributed. No gift, however small, is insignificant – they all play an important part in carrying the campaign forward.

Last week a gift of £1,000 arrived, which enables us to meet our commitments (including the bill for printing the new leaflet) during September.

We estimate that a further £3,000 will be needed to carry us through October, with the increasing travel and outreach envisaged.

was asked to respond. 'Two days earlier,' he writes, 'I had seen a notice of what is called the Clean Slate Campaign. ... I suggested to this gathering of ex-POWs and Japanese that perhaps the time had come to launch such a campaign for our particular situation. But it could also be a great help for all of us in some of our personal relationships, where a clean slate would give us a new start. Why not try it?'

The *Kidlington Calendar*, a monthly round up of local news, carried a whole-page editorial on the campaign.

Other articles have appeared in the *Bournemouth Echo*, the *Newbury Weekly News*, and the *Sidcup & Blackfen Times*.

CSC COMMITTEE

We are delighted to welcome Mark Vening to our executive committee. Mark has replaced Mark Markiewicz as YWAM (Youth With A Mission) representative. He is soon moving on from his position as base manager for YWAM's Harpenden HQ. The CSC committee meets fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon in London. Please send us your ideas!

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Half-year report, January-June 1999
- Programme of study for use in primary schools
- Bible study notes
- Stickers, posters and leaflets

Please write or phone in to our office for any of these resources. And don't forget to visit our website and tell others about it!