

## RESTORING HOPE TO A LOST GENERATION

Traditionally, the *'lost generation'* is the generation that came of age during World War I. This term was used to describe the confusion and aimlessness that existed among the War's survivors in the early post-war years.

In many ways, the current generation of children and young people can be described as a *'lost generation'*. They may not have lived through the devastation of a world war, but they are growing up with disturbing images of millions of homeless refugees shunted from country to country as they try to find a place of safety. Natural disasters are happening with increasing regularity, some of which are attributed to global warming, with dire warnings of worse to come.

In a climate of moral relativity, many have no idea how they should live their lives. Many young people grow up wondering if they will ever find a decent job or be able to have a home of their own. Competition for university places is fierce for those with the ability and resources to pursue higher education.

If confusion and aimlessness characterised the post-war generation, it is hopelessness that blights the lives of the current generation of young people. **Generation Hope** aims to restore a sense of hope by pointing young people to a reality beyond this one—the Kingdom of Heaven, and help them live as citizens of that Kingdom in this increasingly chaotic world.



### Generation Hope—the latest

Already this year, there has been an activity weekend for Generation Hope young people. More about that inside.

Hope UK's youth branch now has its own logo, Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram. A website will be developed after the annual Drug Educators' conference at the beginning of April.

Membership is growing slowly but surely, mainly by word of mouth, as we want to establish a solid base of Christian young people before rolling it out to young people throughout the UK.

If there are Christian young people in your church who might be interested in joining, ask for a Generation Hope leaflet to pass on.





## Since the last newsletter...

An activity weekend for Generation Hope young people was held over the weekend of the 12th—14th February. The event is best described by Ben, one of the young people, and by the photos alongside:

*"Before I arrived at Latimer church (location of weekend), I had mixed thoughts. Some were, "I don't think there will be many of us, what will we be doing for three days?" But I also never doubted that it would be a good time. And I was totally right, I had a fantastic stay and walked away thinking about how great the weekend was. It was fun packed and we were always doing something, whether it was praise and worship or playing football and going for night walks.*

*I met lots of new people that I didn't know before but I now know very well. I would personally say this is because of our fantastic leaders, always making sure we were interacting with each other and making sure we had a great time.*

*It wasn't only me who had a great weekend—we had a group chat on social media and everyone is constantly chatting about it. Some texts sent were 'I can't wait for the next weekend' and 'I wish the weekend was longer' or 'I miss you a lot.'*

*As well as this we took part in some very interesting sessions like: peer pressure, drug awareness, what is a drug, global persecution of Christian's, training to become drug educators and even learning your love language!*

*This was tied in with lots of fun and games which went hand in hand and made for a very enjoyable stay. I cannot wait to meet my new friends again in the next gathering we have. "*



## GENERATION HOPE –DIARY DATES

Big Church Day Out, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May (for ages 11-25)  
Keswick Convention, 30<sup>th</sup> July to 5<sup>th</sup> August (for ages 16+)  
Weekend away in Chellington, 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Oct (for ages 15+)

*Please contact Hannah Luke or Jamie Madden if you are interested in any of these events or need more information.*

# Advance Notice

## Hope UK weekend—7-9 Oct

Alongside a year-long recruitment drive for new volunteers to join our Voluntary Drug Educator Training Programme, we want to raise the profile of Hope UK by asking all our members and supporters to do something between the 7th and 9th of October to tell people about Hope UK and, if possible, raise some money for our work.

As part of this, we have developed a range of new resources (see 'Order your pack') to help you do this at any time, but especially from the 7-9th of October.

### Order your fundraising pack for use at any time...

The following packs are available to help you hold a fun event to support the work of Hope UK:

- ◆ Alcohol-free bar
- ◆ Clothes swap
- ◆ Coffee morning
- ◆ Garage sale
- ◆ Hope UK party (for Hope UK educators only)
- ◆ Sponsored event



If you would like to organise any of these events, please order the relevant pack from Hope UK at [fundraising@hopeuk.org](mailto:fundraising@hopeuk.org) or 020 7928 0848.

Packs designed especially for churches are also available to order.

Packs can be sent by post or e-mail. They are also available from our website at:

<http://www.hopeuk.org/how-to-help/gifts-and-grants/fundraising-packs/>

### Can we speak at your church?

Could one of our staff or Drug Educators visit your church to speak about the importance of prevention and the work that Hope UK does? You can book a speaker through our website or by calling our HQ at 020 7928 0848.

### WHY HOPE UK NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

We don't charge our volunteers for their 120 hours of training even though it costs us around £1,200 to train each one. After they are trained, we continue to support our voluntary Drug Educators with an annual updating conference, specialist training, resources and travel expenses. Like most charities, we rely on donations and grants to cover these costs.

## MEET AN EDUCATOR—Gloria Goyns



Gloria became a voluntary Drug Educator in 2014. She works as a cook at an outdoor learning centre and daily comes into contact with children, young people and adults including parents, and teachers. She has worked with young children in Sunday School and Boys Club and more recently as a Street Pastor where she has seen how vulnerable young people and young adults become when under the influence of alcohol.

Gloria is now passionate about doing all she can to enable young people to make drug-free choices. She is able to use her training working from Hope UK stands in outdoor settings and at health fairs in schools and universities and any other events where young people and families congregate.

“Hope UK has made me more aware of the need to help young people make good life choices by giving them the facts so that they can make informed decisions about the use of alcohol and other drugs.”

## PASSING THE BATON

This is the theme of this year’s annual Educators’ conference and AGM (now called the Hope UK weekend). It is what Generation Hope is all about—passing the baton to the next generation so that they can carry on the work of promoting drug and alcohol-free lifestyles in the context of Christian citizenship.

It is encouraging that a third of the nearly 100 people attending this year’s conference are young people and we look forward to this proportion growing year by year. Please pray for us as we meet from the 1st to the 3rd of April.



**Call, email us or use this slip to find out more**

(Spring 2016)

- Please send me information on doing sponsored events
- Please send me information about how I can become a Voluntary Educator
- Please send me a guide to making a gift in my will to Hope UK.
- Please send a regular giving form (or use the one on the back of the enclosed letter)
- Please send me information about Generation Hope

Title:

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email Address (if you are happy to be contacted in this way):

**Please return to: Hope UK, 25(f) Copperfield Street, London SE1 0EN**  
T: 020 7928 0848      E: [enquiries@hopeuk.org](mailto:enquiries@hopeuk.org)      [www.hopeuk.org](http://www.hopeuk.org)

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