



IMPACT REPORT

Forget the former things; do not dwell
on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and
streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:18-19

| | |
|----|---------------|
| 01 | INTRO |
| 02 | EVENTS |
| 04 | MENTORING |
| 06 | YOUTH MISSION |
| 08 | BURSARIES |
| 10 | 70 FOR 70 |

It's odd to begin a report that looks back with, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past."

Dwelling on the past can be unhelpful, but sometimes it's good to celebrate and be thankful for what God has done. We want to help you catch a glimpse of the amazing impact your generosity has enabled.

That's not why I choose these verses to open with though. At the start of 2022, we felt very clearly that God was highlighting these words to us. We prayed into them, meditated on them, and carried them with us. As the year unfolded, and as God's new plans started to emerge, we could see why these verses were so relevant.

This impact report is really just the story of new things emerging and bringing life to our work, just like streams in the wasteland.

Some new things turned out to be new old things, others were new new things. New or nearly-new, all were made possible by your generosity. Thank you so much for your continued support. It makes everything we do possible.

- Jimi Gale, Chief Executive

CONTENTS

EVENTS

a new old thing

2022 was the year where we finally restarted our houseparties, camps and events:

- 72% of our pre-Covid events back up and running
- All youth camps and student events restarted
- Youth and student events full again



This was hugely encouraging given that there had been such a long pause. Demand has bounced back immediately, as has the commitment of our amazing volunteer leaders and hosts.

2022 was about restarting well. The aim for 2023 is to get back to the exciting growth we saw pre-pandemic. There's already strong evidence this is happening:

- Biggest ever Easter Youth Camps (15% growth year on year)!
- Waiting lists for three out of five youth camps
- A new Family Houseparty starting in 2023
- 'One with Dad' restarting

Perhaps a better measure, although less quantitative, are the stories. I've just come back from visiting our most recent Easter Camps. It has been so inspiring, humbling, and joyous to see firsthand the impact these camps have. Ages 10 to 18 experiencing amazing bible teaching, worship, prayer and seminars, and of course having lots of fun and building faith-rooted friendships that will last a lifetime.

“It was clear that so many victories had been won in so many young lives, and so much spiritual growth won for Jesus.”

“They both came home so much more in love with Jesus and talking about all the very special friendships they had made that week.”

“I can testify that God has done amazing work in her life. Since Impact there has been a deeper maturity to her faith and relationship with God.”

“Before I went I thought I was a Christian and sometimes prayed. But now I know I really am a Christian.”

As I said to our Easter camps volunteers, it's no exaggeration to say that the impact of those few days will actually be measured over years and years to come!

MENTORING

some new things

- Mentoring extended to volunteers
- Guide to youth mentoring created
- Training workshop developed for mentors

We have been mentoring young people for many years now. For us this means building relationships of trust that support and encourage youth in their faith on a one-to-one basis.

We're a small team and always had more young people wanting to be mentored than we have capacity for. That's so frustrating because we know how significant these relationships are. Now we have a solution!

In 2022, we developed a strategy and process that enables volunteers to mentor young people. The same brilliant volunteers who help lead our camps, are now starting to mentor young people. It's the perfect solution because it builds on the relationships that form on events.

Before embarking on this exciting project, we needed to define and articulate our approach to mentoring cleanly and clearly. After much discussion, writing and re-writing, we created 'Seen, Know, Valued - a practical guide to youth mentoring'.



Seen,
Known,
Valued.

A PRACTICAL GUIDE
TO YOUTH MENTORING

Stewardstrust

This resource enables us to train and support volunteer mentors. We already have 10 up and running, and that number will treble in 2023!

The training workshop we have developed alongside the guide is ready to be used in other settings. We plan to offer it on our events and to churches who have a desire to encourage a mentoring culture.

Mentoring is hugely powerful and we want to share our experience and knowledge as widely as possible to maximise the impact we can have.

YOUTH MISSION

a nu thing

Another longstanding part of our mission is to share the gospel with young people in schools, youth groups and, more recently, through social media.

- 'Word of the week' engagement on Instagram has doubled year-on-year
- Total views = 12,145 (2022) vs 7,349 (2021)
- Average views per talk = 450 (2022) vs 216 (2021)
- Nu/source workshop developed and delivered

We're seeing dramatic growth in all metrics relating to our 'Word of the week' talks on Instagram. Our series have included: the 'I am's', 'the beatitudes', and 'one minute word: giving a talk in less than a minute is challenging but this series has been by far the most popular.

We're meeting young people where they are and responding to how they consume content. There are still opportunities for more in depth biblical teaching but it is amazing to provide these bite-sized snacks to keep young people going until their next full meal.

Our desire to meet young people where they are led us to re-imagine our schools work. An exciting new resource 'nu/source' was created. It is a facilitated workshop, that inspires and encourages young people to engage with the Bible themselves. The aim is to:

- bring Scripture to life for young people
- raise up and release the next generation gospel communicators, rooted in God's word

Gen Z have been described as optimistic, engaged, curious, inclusive and collaborative. Research shows they respond better to teaching from leaders who adopt a 'sense and respond' model rather than 'predict and control'. Involvement therefore lies at the heart of nu/source.

We look at a well known piece of Scripture and to lead young people along a pathway to reveal what God wants to say to and through them. The emphasis is on hearing from the group rather than telling them - we coach rather than direct. By making the framework simple and repeatable, young people can then use it themselves to go deeper in relationship.



We've led nu/source on our camps, in schools, and in church youth groups. The engagement has been much higher than with a traditional talk and we've been amazed at the contributions from the young people.

nu
source.

BURSARIES

a transformational new(ish) thing

Great gifts mean great responsibilities; greater gifts, greater responsibilities!

- Luke 12.48

In 2022, we launched the Transformational Bursary Fund (TBF) to transform young lives.

- 42 bursaries for 2023 Easter Camps
- Total cost = £7,000

We know our youth camps are transformational for children and young people in terms of their faith, friendships and character. We are passionate about sharing something so precious and powerful with as many young people as possible.



Explore was like a miracle that saved my daughter. She was lost but found God again.



Through this fund we provide discounted places for our youth camps to children and young people, who are from

low income households. It also enables us to continue our long-term commitment of offering the same support to clergy families.

We don't currently have permission to share people's stories, who have benefited from TBF but each one is so compelling. As we've listened and learned, we've become even more resolute in our belief that the fund will bring transformation. To those who receive assistance but just as importantly to the entire Stewards' Trust 'family'. We all benefit from the diversity that this programme brings to our community.

70 for 70

a new thing for an old thing

Let's finish with an old thing. The Stewards' Trust itself.

70 years ago this year, four friends left university and started this movement!

For those 70 years, we've had discipleship and relationship at our very core and the Kingdom impact over that time has been massive. Praise God!

If I'm honest though, I struggle to write this 'Impact Report' each year. Not for a lack of impactful things - there are many. My struggle is that our true impact is not measured in neat little 365 day parcels.

Last summer, a speaker was struck by the impact he could see in the lives of his friends and people on the houseparty. He asked what our 'success' was down to. Consistency! There is a consistency of commitment to walk with each other, nudging one another a bit closer to Jesus.



It doesn't sound like very much does it? Nudging one another a bit closer to Jesus. But small, consistent, incremental gains over a long period of time make a massive difference.

I could provide an inspiring list of people who have been impacted by the Stewards' Trust and what God has done through them: high profile church leaders, a well known TV personality, a modern day missionary, and even an Oscar winner! But that misses the point. There are thousands of us, leading ordinary lives, who have been impacted by this 'family'. We now try our best to nudge others a bit closer to Jesus. That, I'm realising, is what discipleship is.

The impact of disciples, making disciples is bigger than anything we can hope for or imagine. Therefore, to mark this 70 year milestone and to help ensure this vital ministry continues to grow and flourish, we've launched our 70-4-70 appeal.

We're asking the Stewards' Trust family to consider donating £70 (or a multiple of £70!) to our work. Could you consider adding £70 to your donation this year?

That's roughly £1.35 per week or half the cost of a fancy coffee each week. If 500 of us get behind 70-4-70, we can fully train and employ two more young people through our excellent Discipleship and Leadership Year.

2022 was about restarting well, in 2023 we're seeing growth return. The 70-4-70 appeal enables further growth in our Vision and Mission to grow God's Kingdom.

We think the four friends would approve!



10 volunteers trained
and mentoring

70 years

70 years of 'disciples
making disciples'



£7,000 of bursaries given



4 founding friends



450 average views per
Instagram talk



15% growth in youth
attending Easter Camps
in 2023