

## Autumn News & Prayer Letter 2014



### 16 Year Anniversary Call Numbers Continue to Increase

As in previous years, our calls continued to increase over 2013's record numbers. A total of 3238 callers were helped by Crossline Hull over the past 12 months despite, due to a variety of situations, a lower number of listeners being available. Calls to the other Christian partners in the National Christian Helpline also continue to increase, with a growing number of calls for agreement in prayer. It never fails to amaze us as to how people living in this relatively cramped island may have multiple face-book friends but have no one close to pray with, or indeed talk to! - We pray for our callers situations and we also thank our dedicated team of listeners for their willingness to devote their time and energy to be there for the hurting people.

### Free Christian Listening Course in February 2015

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, finances have been very tight at Crossline limiting our ability to recruit and train new listeners.

**The Jerusalem Trust**, (part of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts) along with **All Churches Trust** (Owners of Ecclesiastical Insurance Group) have kindly made grants available to help with funding further training courses and help to maintain the office space.

The National Christian Helpline is currently losing around 40% of calls due to the sheer volume. Bringing new listeners into the organisation has therefore become a major focus.

We are therefore pleased to report that due to the added funding we are planning a one day training event in February 2015, as well as continuing our ongoing training of current listeners.

The course, named '**The Importance of Listening**' is an introduction to Christian listening and will be held on Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am. till 4pm. and run by Acorn Christian Healing. (Venue to be announced)

We will forward further details and posters in our winter newsletter. (For details please e.mail or call the office 01482-610054)

We still have continual financial needs, to send a one off gift or set up a standing order and become a Crossline Angel our bank account details are;

**CROSSLINE (HULL) - Account no :- 64613076 - Sort Code 05 05 15.**

### Crossline at CRE event in Manchester

As part of the National Christian Helpline we manned a stand at the recent Christian Resource Exhibition in Manchester. We were encouraged by the number of visitors and interest and handed out 500 leaflets. We are in touch with a number of organisations who are interested in our services including Street Pastors and The Salvation Army. We also have people who are interested in setting up Crossline satellite offices in the North West to increase our listener numbers. The kind grants we received will help us to achieve this!

### Save a Tree & cut our Costs



We currently mail around 130 Newsletters four times yearly with an additional 150 going by e.mail. With postage costs increasing and to reduce this cost, we are hoping to send more Prayer/Newsletters electronically.

To receive future Prayer/News by email just email [prayer@crossline.karoo.co.uk](mailto:prayer@crossline.karoo.co.uk) with your full name and in the message line type 'email please'



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Dear Prayer Partner,

**Harry Potter and The Missed Generation!**

Our Christian handbook, *The Bible*, despite being a best seller is missing a whole generation of people. Surveys for the Bible Society found almost **3 in 10 young people were unaware the story of the birth of Jesus came from the Bible**. A similar number of children had never read or heard about the Crucifixion, Jonah or Adam and Eve. Half did not recognise the story of Noah's Ark as coming from the Bible and **46% of adults thought the Harry Potter books were based on stories in the Bible!**

The report was based on a poll of 800 children aged 8 to 15 and about 1,100 parents and revealed a generation of children with little knowledge of the most important stories forming the basis of Christianity, and parents who often knew little more.

Interestingly, 80% of the parents who responded saw the Bible as a source of good values for their children. Dr Richard Chartres Bishop of London said, "Too few children have the opportunity to hear and reflect on what this life-changing book contains"

An attempt by the Bible Society to take a 50 foot whale into the royal parks this summer and give an enactment of Jonah was refused by the council as being too overtly religious!

It is a desperately sad situation and once again minimalises Christianity and its incredibly positive message for the World. --- Yes everyone is busy and instead of the traditional bedtime story, children are left to play on their ipad's or contact friends on facetime.

**Mark 4 : 19 states, 'but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.'**

Are your children, grandchildren or friends part of this missed generation? What a great opportunity we have this Christmas to pass on a bible, bible story book or nativity DVD. This Christmas let's all put Christ back into Christmas.

*As this is our final newsletter of 2014, may we take this opportunity to wish all our prayer partners a blessed and peaceful Christmas and happy New Year..*

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A new app 'Bible Bedtime' from the Bible Society is available free for phone or tablet scan the code below.

Apple



Android



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- I am interested in Telephone Listener Training.
- I enclose my donation to support the ministry of Crossline.
- Send me information on Covenanted Gifts or Gift Aid.
- Send me information on the bus advertisement sponsorship.
- Please add our church to your prayer support list to receive your quarterly prayer letter.

Name .....

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel No..... Church.....