

Thank You

Ted Maughan would like to thank everyone who called in to see him during his recent 'At Home' afternoon. The visits were much appreciated.

An exciting and varied programme of special events is lined up for DRBC this autumn.

Celebrate Harvest

On **Sunday morning 28th September**, we will be celebrating harvest with a special All-age service, the first of three planned for this 'term'. The publicity is already out for the service, so please make good use of it to invite friends and neighbours, contacts and colleagues – of all ages – to the service.



Jens Rahmann and Sietske Bouma are planning a distribution of water bottles in the centre of Gateshead the day before the service as an expression of kindness to passers by, in the spirit of **Matthew 10.42**. *If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.* Please let them know if you would like to help with this water bottle distribution.

An Evening with Dave Glover

Over the past five or six years, our autumn programme has featured a major evangelistic outreach event. We have enjoyed visits from Trevor Rowe in 2004, for an evening of magic tricks; from Syd Little in 2005, for an evening of entertainment and testimony; from Jane Kitson and Derek Minto, in 2006, for a Geordie evening; and from Gillian Gartry, last year, for a night of Christian songs and testimony. These events have been specially designed to those who would not normally attend a church, but who may be interested in finding out more about the Christian faith in a relaxed and appealing way.

This year, we have invited Dave Glover to join us on **Saturday evening, 11th October**. It is evident from Dave's website that he is a man of many talents! (See www.daveglover.net for details).

Dave trained at the Lebanon Bible College (now closed) in Berwick upon Tweed. For seven years, he served as the North East Director of *Open Air Campaigners*. This was followed by 12 years working as an itinerant evangelist, after which he took up a role with *Crusaders* for four years as an Area Development Worker. Dave is now back with the Open Air Campaigners, as their National Director for the work in Great Britain.

Dave has always seen his ministry as one of serving the local church. *"As an evangelist, I want to help people get to know the Lord Jesus Christ and to discover His unique purpose for their lives."*

One of the hallmarks of the OAC ministry over the years, and one that I share, is a highly visual approach to presenting the gospel. Be it through sketch board and paint, puppets, illusion, balloons, overhead projection or video, it has always been my opinion that one in the eye is worth two in the ear! The Gospel will always be the most wonderful message in the world but often people are not listening because of the way in which it is presented. The best message deserves the best in presentation. In OAC, we aspire to be the best that we can be for God!



*Put a **sketch board** up in any public place anywhere in the world and you will soon draw a crowd. In Brazil, some 200 people gathered to hear our message in downtown Rio. I have found the same to be true throughout Europe and even here on Tyneside. Sketch board evangelism was pioneered by Open Air Campaigners and has been a powerful means of attracting and reaching people for Christ the world over. Thankfully, you don't have to be Rolf Harris to do it!*

*The use of **Gospel Magic** (amazing object lessons) has opened many doors, which might otherwise have remained closed. I have spoken in clubs and pubs, on TV, in prisons, schools, ships, and in the open air. I am a member of the 'Fellowship of Christian Magicians' to whom I am greatly indebted. We organise an annual*

conference as well as regional days, and publish a newsletter. Check out their website for more information (www.fcmuk.org).

I have been using **puppets** for the last 25 years and they are loved by people of all ages. George is my ventriloquist's doll and he is well known all over the country. In schools there is always a buzz of excitement when word gets round that, "Mr Glover is here and he's got George". Then there is Pinky the rabbit and Willie the mouse, plus the most recent addition of Jake, a really cool dog complete with shades!

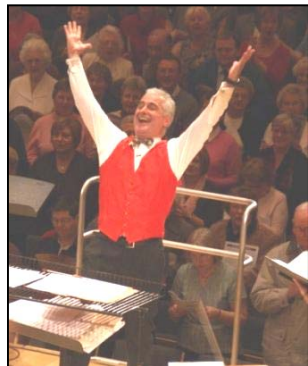


Whatever it takes to get a hearing, I'll give it a go. We are only limited by our own creativity or lack of it. The desire is not to be gimmicky, just effective! It is great to go back to a place years later to find that the message is still clearly remembered, thanks to the visual presentations used. It's even better to find many to whom God spoke, and whose lives were changed. As Paul said (1 Cor 9.22), "I have become all things to all men, so that by all possible means, I might save some."

It seems a pity that Dave Glover will be with us for only a single evening – he has so much to offer! So, let's make the most of the opportunity he will give us to invite friends and neighbours, contacts and colleagues, to what should be a thoroughly entertaining and worthwhile evening.

Prom Praise - back in the Northeast!

For those of us privileged to attend the concert given by the All Souls Orchestra in The Sage Gateshead, in November 2006, the memories will live long. What a wonderful experience it was to see 1,500 people all praising our God and Saviour in such a magnificent venue – twice over!



So, it is with a great sense of anticipation that we look forward to welcoming them back to the

northeast for two performances on **Saturday 8th November**. Once again, the orchestra will be leading us in a mixture of light classical music and Christian songs, with Joanne Lunn as their guest soloist. Rico Tice will be providing the epilogue. Many of us greatly appreciated his clear and powerful Gospel presentations as we worked through the *Christianity Explored* course he devised.



A limited number of tickets are still available from the Box Office. Alternatively, ask me, and I will see if I can obtain some from my special source!

We are greatly privileged to have some of the orchestra members join us for our **Sunday Morning Remembrance Day Service**, at **10.45am** on **9th November**. We will be making the service evangelistic, around the theme of ... remembering!

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,
descended from David - this is my gospel!**

[2 Timothy 2.8]

If you are able to offer a bed to any of the orchestra members for the Friday and Saturday nights of that weekend, please let me know. We will be looking for 12-15 beds in total.

Don't mention Christmas - yet!

I have only got as far as November and have almost run out of space to tell you about the advent and Christmas special events we have planned. But it's best not to get too far ahead of ourselves. Let's seize all the opportunities the Lord gives us before then to share the Gospel with friends, neighbours, contacts, and colleagues – young and old and everyone in between!

David Hunt

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