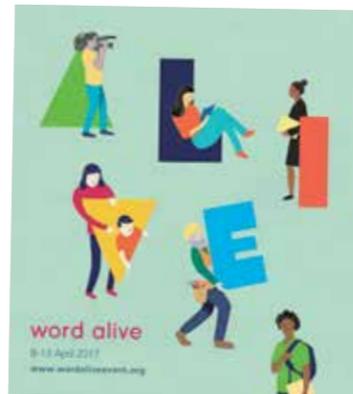


## april – Word Alive 2017

1-9 April

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRACK.

The International Student Track at Word Alive is an annual gathering of Christian international students to help prepare them to return home. It runs as a teaching program within the Word Alive conference and attracts hundreds of internationals. Please pray for the 2017 track, that it would be well attended and that it would be a great time of fellowship, studying the Word and preparation for returning home for the students.



and whose first language will unlikely be English. Pray that Peter's teaching would get across and that the Lord would be glorified in and through it.

10-16 April

### PETER TEAGLE.

The International Student Track has main meetings every day and this year the guest speaker is Peter Teagle. Peter is a Friends International Staff Worker in Oxford and is an Itinerant speaker. Please pray for him as he delivers messages through the week and engages with students from a variety of cultural backgrounds,

17-23 April

### FOLLOW UP.

Every year at Word Alive a number of internationals attend who are not Christian. For these individuals it is important that what they have learned isn't a one-off but that Christians back home can follow up with them after the event. Pray that these students would see and experience the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ and that Christians would be able to come around them and be the positive influence they need.

24-30 April

### LASTING LEGACY.

One of the key aims of the International Student Track is to prepare Christians for their return to their home country after studying abroad for a prolonged time. Continuing discipleship wherever these students live next is hugely important in their spiritual development. Pray with us for them, that they can continue to grow and be equipped and that this event would be a great step to that end.

### What is Word Alive?

Word Alive is an annual Bible conference held in Prestatyn, North Wales. It sees thousands of Christians coming together for Bible teaching and worship as well as many social activities. Within this conference is a dedicated teaching programme for international students run by Friends International and OMF Diaspora.



“The Lord is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.”

Psalm 145:18

## january – Around the Country

### 1-8 Jan

❖ **SALFORD.** Salford Globe Café started in 2011 and ran very successfully for 3 years on the University of Salford campus, with very close ties to the international office. In 2014 a sudden change of policy at the university led to us having to suddenly leave without notice. Within two weeks God provided a new venue and a local sponsor to cover the rent that was needed for our use of the new venue. The café has been going well and even increasing in numbers at this new venue. However, an unfortunate change in circumstances means that the sponsor can no longer continue their support and either a new sponsor or an alternative venue needs to be found. Please pray that God will show us the way forward. – **Sabine Stockton, Manchester Centre Team Leader**

### 9-15 Jan

❖ **CAMBRIDGE.** We are rejoicing in Cambridge in the provision of a new staff worker to replace Morvern, confirmation of Jenny staying on and a smooth transition for the team during months of significant change! As we look to purchasing a house in Cambridge to give long term sustainability to the work, please join us in praying for provision of funds and continued focus on the relationships we have with internationals. – **Josh Bell, Cambridge Centre Team Leader**

### 16-22 Jan

❖ **YORK.** The term is so full we are finding that our events often clash with

university events. York University is now putting on classes on Wednesday afternoons, which is when we run the International Bible Study, this is making it hard for internationals to come and enquire about Jesus. We are going to take another look at our schedules and make new plans. Please pray that we will find the best way forward for dates and event planning. – **Helen Callow, York Centre Team Leader**

### 23-31 Jan

❖ **LANCASTER.** Friends International Lancaster is taking some time during January and February to review some of our activities for international students. With lower numbers of students, changing demographics, and difficulty in finding local volunteers for the International Café we need to assess the way forward. We would value your prayers as we look to 'doing things differently' and communicating with local churches and to the student body. – **Elsbeth Wood, Lancaster Centre Team Leader**



## february – Around the Country

### 1-5 Feb

❖ **SOUTHAMPTON (1).** Give thanks for the many international students who will study in Southampton and Winchester in 2017. We are so grateful for the committed volunteers from across the churches who welcome international students and offer them the opportunity to meet Jesus whilst they are here. Please pray for those who have been attending iExplore (Exploring Christianity) and the optional Bible Study at Southampton Christian Union's iCafe to respond to all that they have been hearing. – **Susan Caddy, Southampton Centre Team Leader**

### 6-12 Feb

❖ **SOUTHAMPTON (2).** Give thanks for the 20-30 international students and visiting scholars who have been coming regularly to our weekly iExplore



(Exploring Christianity) evening. Pray that some will accept invitations to the Southampton CU events week 6th-10th Feb and that their hearts will be challenged to respond to all that they have been learning about Jesus over the last months. – **Susan Caddy, Southampton Centre Team Leader**

### 13-19 Feb

❖ **DORSET.** Pray for the Dorset team, now down to two since Liz moved on at the end of last term. Pray for Gareth and Anita with the extra responsibilities they'll need to cover. We give thanks to God for the many different activities for international students that are hosted by churches around the Bournemouth area - pray that the team would be able to serve and equip them well. – **Gareth Leaney, Bournemouth Centre Team Leader**

### 20-28 Feb

❖ **EDINBURGH.** Praise God for high numbers at most of our events! We regularly have more than twenty international students at Wee World Café, many of them from a Muslim background! Please pray for more volunteers to help us run the café and befriend the internationals students who come along. Please also pray for reaching out to the many international families who come to Edinburgh! We're hoping to start a wives group near one of the students' houses for postgraduate families, and we're praying for good contacts with the families who live there. – **Susi Steier, Edinburgh Centre Team Leader**

## march – Around the British Isles

### 1-5 March

❖ **NOTTINGHAM.** We are very blessed to have so many dedicated volunteers serving as part of the Globe Café, hospitality program, CAMEO, and Bible studies etc. Please pray for each one to be freshly encouraged, to have a close walk with God and to be a loving witness to the students. We still need more hosts for the Visit a Local Home programme. We long to reach more students at Trent University where it seems harder to make connections. Please pray for doors to open. – **Liz Middleton, Nottingham Centre Team Leader**

### 6-12 March

❖ **PORTSMOUTH.** We give thanks for many good conversations at iCafe, yet long to see a greater openness to the Christian faith among the international students in Portsmouth. Please pray for good numbers of students to come and join Christianity Explored, or to do one-to-one Bible studies with volunteers and for students and volunteers to have the time and desire to commit to meeting regularly. – **Clare Brooks, Portsmouth Centre Team Leader**

### 13-19 March

❖ **NORWICH.** The Monday international café in Norwich continues to attract a steady flow of students, a number of whom go on to the Thursday seeker study or discipleship group. Thank God for the fruitfulness of this ministry, for the provision of a great venue near campus, and for

the staff and team who serve the students faithfully week by week. Pray that we would creatively reach the hard-to-reach, particularly from closed countries. – **Joel Callow, Norwich Centre Team Leader**

### 20-26 March

❖ **GUILDFORD.** With the merger in Guildford of 'Christian Friends of International Students' and 'Friends International' now complete (see pages 8 and 9 of *Opportunity*) there is excitement and expectancy for what the future will hold. Please pray for 2017 to be a year of growth and unity as the ministry finishes transitioning and hits the ground running. Please pray for the Branch who is now overseeing the work. May they have wisdom and insight in all the decision making.

### 27-31 March

❖ **IRELAND.** We thank the Lord for the new partnership we now have with Christian Unions Ireland (see pages 4 and 5 of *Opportunity*). We pray that this new project would see much fruit, and that many international students would not only encounter our staff and volunteers, but would ultimately encounter the real love of Jesus Christ.

