

Happy Christmas!

Here we are again, another year has flown by, and as I read my Christmas letter from last year, I feel like the things I was writing about are a lifetime away!

This year began with a house move within Reading. I'm now in a rather posh part of town, which makes a nice change! The best thing about the house though is that I have a large room to myself, and the two guys that I share with are the easiest people to live with I've had in all of my ten years of sharing.



As last year, I found myself in the USA early this New Year. First of all I met up with Pete Greig, the leader of the 24-7 Prayer charity I still work for, and our American Base leader. We had a great road trip down California from San Francisco to LA, stopping off with various church

leaders to talk about what Jesus was doing in their localities, and just to spend some time hanging out. A few highlights were the coolest coffee shop on earth in Haight Ashbury, next to possibly the coolest second hand CD store, sunsets along Highway 1, seeing the movie Finding Neverland, and hanging out with Dave Ruis, who manages to be a thoroughly nice guy as well as being a Christian 'big name'.

February saw 24-7 turning five years of age. It's nothing short of a major miracle how God has used this movement of prayer, mission and justice, and we're expectant for what He's going to

do through it in the next 5 years too. Things certainly don't seem to be running out of steam! We held a big 'I am 5' celebration in London, and people came from all over the world to join with us in thanking God for all he's done through 24-7.

March saw us opening our new Boiler Room (modern monastic community) here in Reading. Having been without a permanent place of prayer for almost a year, it was great to have a base of operations again. We're not as close to the centre of town as we were, but there's a real sense that God had given us a place to be in answer to our prayers. We're hoping to move back into the centre of town at some stage soon, but that's for next years' newsletter...

In April I travelled up to York for a couple of days work with Steve Mulrooney from Youth With A Mission (YWAM). This was in relation to my biggest work project of the year, our 'Transmission' mission festival. Transmission was a five day festival with seminars and training by Christian speakers, morning and evening main meetings, an after hours programme, and over 300 people camping at YWAM's Harpenden base. I was event managing the festival, and Steve was looking after all the site logistics, so we had a lot to talk about! But I'm getting ahead of myself – more on Transmission later.



Before Transmission started in July, I had a great time with old friends celebrating Richards and Emma's wedding in May, as well as a long weekend walking in the Malvern Hills with Reading friend Amo. The panorama above was taken at the top of

Worcestershire Beacon, and as you can see, the views were fantastic.



And so back to Transmission. I don't think I've lived on so little sleep and pure adrenaline for as long as I did for the week leading up to the festival, and during the festival itself. At the end of our time, I was completely exhausted, but elated. The entire event went exceptionally well, and many people's lives were deeply impacted by their time at Transmission. On the organisational side virtually nothing went wrong, which was great testimony to the brilliant team I had helping out, mostly made up of volunteers. The

festival was definitely one of the most satisfying achievements of the last few years for me.

Not long having got back from Transmission, it was time to trek off to Germany for 24-7's yearly international gathering (just having enough time to pop to 24-7 friends Phil and Emma Baldwin's wedding first!). We started out in Herrnhut, a key place in the genesis of 24-7, where a 100 year continuous prayer vigil was kept. After discussing some of the key decisions for the movement for the year ahead, we moved on to Dresden. Dresden's a really lively city, and I had a great time meeting with friends



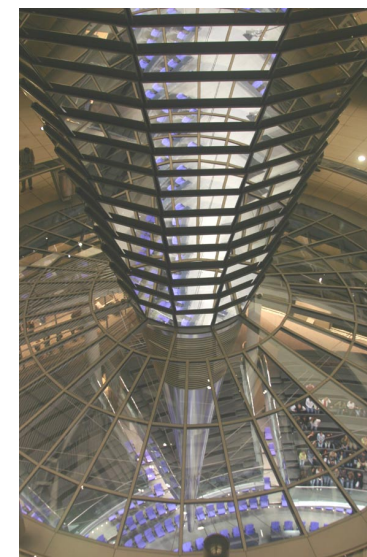
from all over the globe that I hadn't seen since the last gathering a year before. Before returning home, I took the chance of a few days leave to stay in Berlin. I'd always wanted to see the city, and I wasn't disappointed. Portland friends Sheena, Kathleen, and I were amazed at how the city has recovered from the destruction of WW2, and the new hope that fills the city after the fall of the wall.

After the international gathering, it was time to try and catch up on some work! I've had a busy final few months of the year, and I'm hoping that I've started to get on top of things again, because its been way too busy. A recent long weekend visiting friends Pob and Steph in Edinburgh reminded me how tired I am, and so I'm looking forward to the Christmas break!

I guess that about wraps it up for this year. I pray that you'd know the peace of Jesus Christ this Christmas, and a have a very happy New Year.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Pete'.



The Bundestag