

GSUS LIVE

LINX

Termly News
Spring 2020
January - April

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- Schools Focus
- GSUS Live
- Acts of Worship

LiNX 22nd Celebration



This year we thought we'd try something a little different with our annual celebration by holding it in one of the fantastic schools that we work in. St Cuthbert Mayne hosted us on the evening of Friday 22nd November for an hour of stories, worship and of course fun! James Down, headteacher at St Cuthbert Mayne, welcomed us all on the night and shared how much their ethos and focus was the same as LiNX, to work with all young people from any background and to demonstrate the love of Christ through all we do. We are so thankful for the

supporters that came along to quite literally give us their support, and we are very thankful that a number of people were willing to speak on the night about their involvement with the work of LiNX over the years.

Jane & Esther, a Brixham based mother-daughter duo, shared how they are involved at the Re:fuel drop-in and have attended and volunteered at Elevate too. They explained how

they both had so much fun making and keeping new friends, whether as a young participant or just a gregarious volunteer that is reliving her youth! Adam, another Brixham local, also



shared how he'd effectively grown up with LiNX, from attending a lunch club himself as a teenager, to now being a trainee teacher in the schools. This was great to hear about as he spoke so positively of how LiNX encouraged him during his school years. Finally was Matt, a year 12 student, who opened up honestly about some of the struggles he faced through his earlier school life. Matt told us how his faith in Jesus gave him the strength not just to get through it, but to face up to those making school tough for him and to communicate that God loved them.



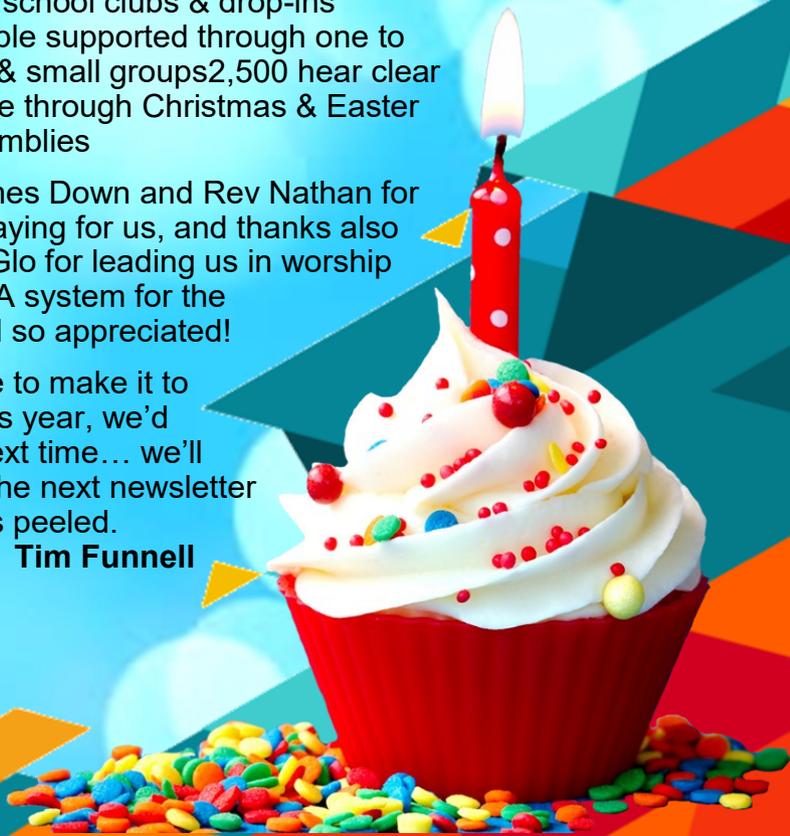
It was a real joy for me to communicate a summary of LiNX's work over the academic year of 2018-2019, sharing stats such as:

- Over 350 RE & PSHE lessons delivered across the school years
- 140 young people supported every week through 12 different lunch and after school clubs & drop-ins
- 200 young people supported through one to one mentoring & small groups 2,500 hear clear gospel message through Christmas & Easter lessons & assemblies

Our thanks to James Down and Rev Nathan for hosting us and praying for us, and thanks also to the band from Glo for leading us in worship and providing a PA system for the event. You are all so appreciated!

If you weren't able to make it to the celebration this year, we'd love to see you next time... we'll put the details in the next newsletter so keep your eyes peeled.

Tim Funnell



Schools Focus

The Spires College

The Spires College is a great school to work in as the staff are always really friendly and welcoming. They welcome our work in the school and are always keen to make the most of our experience and resources.

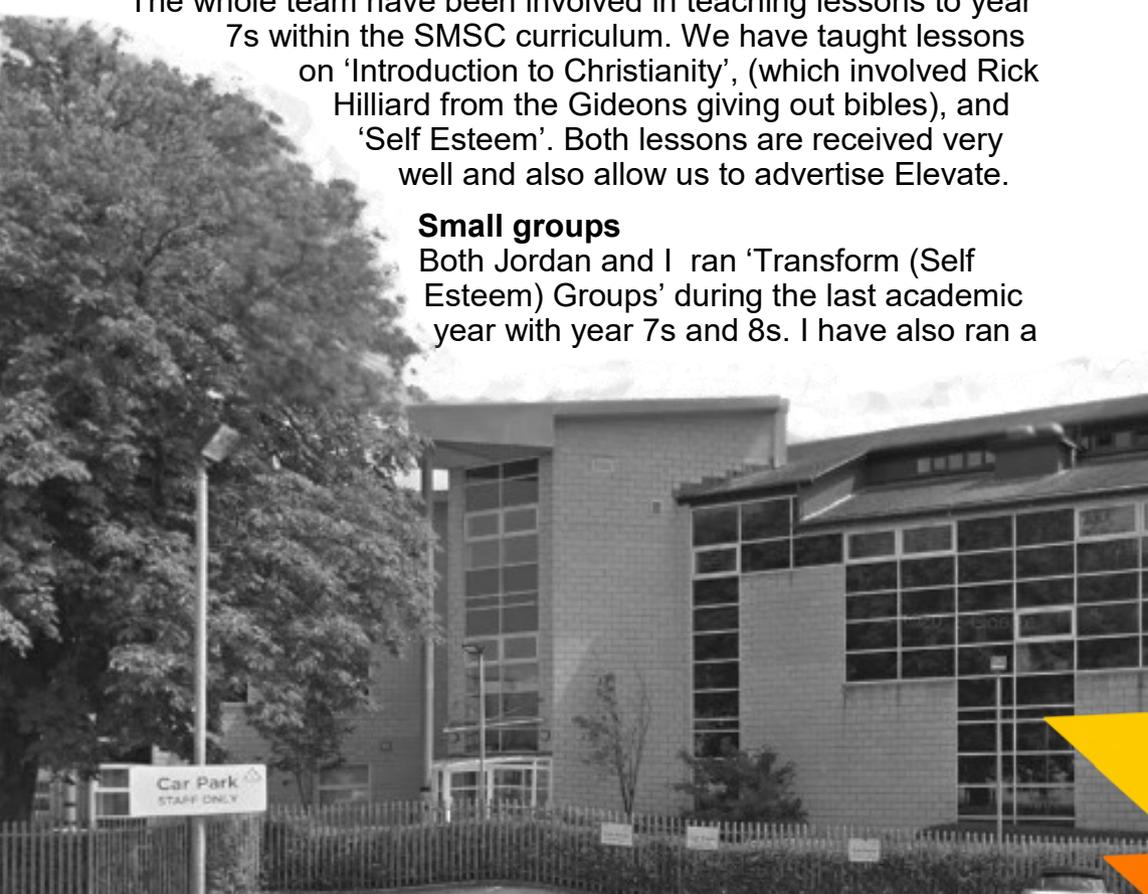
Our relationship with The Spires College (formerly Westlands) has been long and varied. Many members of the LiNX team have served there in the past 15 years and it is interesting to see how the work has changed in the school over that time. We have a great relationship with many of the staff at the school and work very closely with the pastoral heads of year. The work we are currently doing consists of:

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) lessons

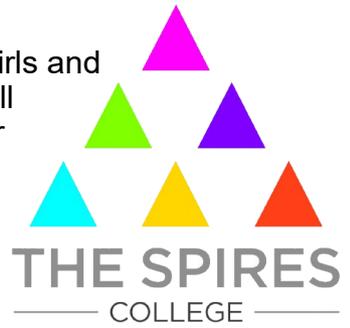
The whole team have been involved in teaching lessons to year 7s within the SMSC curriculum. We have taught lessons on 'Introduction to Christianity', (which involved Rick Hilliard from the Gideons giving out bibles), and 'Self Esteem'. Both lessons are received very well and also allow us to advertise Elevate.

Small groups

Both Jordan and I ran 'Transform (Self Esteem) Groups' during the last academic year with year 7s and 8s. I have also ran a



'Relationships small group' with year 8 and 9 girls and two 'Anxiety groups' with year 8 and 10 girls. All these groups run from 4 to 6 weeks (1 hour per week) and accommodate 6 to 8 students. The groups have been very successful and have helped the students work through difficult issues in a safe environment.



Mentoring

Philip and I both provide one to one mentoring sessions to students at the school. The sessions will depend on the student but we are working with a variety of issues including self esteem, anxiety, anger and low mood. We are there to provide one to one support to those with low level needs. Anything more serious is referred to the school counsellor or CAMHS etc.

Lunch club

I run a lunch club in the school on a Friday with the help of Joel Ward, Youth Pastor from Upton Vale Baptist Church (UVBC). The club has been running for 8 years and we have seen many young people come and go, as well as changing location a number of times! We currently meet in a classroom by the library and see approx. 10-15 students each week. They are mainly year 9 students with a few year 7s and 10s. We spend the 45 minutes discussing the big questions of life, eating biscuits and playing games (usually 'Ultimate Werewolf' as it's one of their favourites!) Over the years we have seen young people from the club come to Elevate and engage with the youth work at UVBC, so working in partnership with Joel has been invaluable. One student came to

Elevate a few years ago, then started coming to the youth club at UVBC, did the Alpha Course and subsequently decided to follow Jesus. It is exciting to see the link between school and church really working!

We feel incredibly privileged to be able to support the school in so many ways. Please continue to pray for the school, the work we are doing there and for the schools workers as we serve.

Charlie Haywood



Meet Our Trustees

To be a trustee for LiNX Christian Youth Trust is a great privilege. The role involves monthly trustee meetings when we discuss the reports we have had from the team and consider the future direction of the ministry. These meetings are, at present on Monday evenings and are informal and good natured. The role can also involve listening too, encouraging and supporting individual team members; praying in detail for the team and the work; helping with yearly appraisals; supporting the annual Celebration Evening and Elevate events and helping with interviewing potential new staff.

It is great to be involved with supporting the work of LiNX as we seek to enable the young people of Torbay to fulfil their potential, mentally, physically and spiritually. If you would like to see the young people of Torbay flourish mentally, physically and spiritually, perhaps it is something you could be involved with? If so more details are available from the LiNX office.

David Borrows



We really hope you're enjoying this term's newsletter and we hate to interrupt but could you help support LiNX right now!

To give £5 towards the work of LiNX* using your mobile phone simply text the word LINX5 to 70970.

Thank you for all your support.
The LiNX Team

* Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see www.easydonate.org

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Elevate

27th - 31st July 2020



LINX

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elevate@linxyouth.net
www.linxyouth.net
Charity no. 1067449
Company No. 3469992

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LiNX Prayer Diary

Spring 2020

January

Week Beginning

- 6th • Brixham College Self Esteem day this week.
- 13th • Please pray for the LiNX Trustees as they meet this week.
- 20th • LiNX are supporting Cuthbert Mayne on trips to Buckfast Abbey.
- 27th • Pray for the lunch and afterschool clubs taking place this week.

February

Week Beginning

- 3rd • Please pray for the mentoring sessions happening this week.
- 10th • Pray for the team as they lead various RE lessons this week.
- 17th • For a restful half term for the team, school staff and students.
- 24th • GSUS Live Trailer at Torquay Boys & Girls Grammar Schools.

March

Week Beginning

- 2nd • GSUS Live Trailer at Torquay Academy.
 - The Team are also on a retreat this weekend.
- 9th • GSUS Live Trailer at St Cuthbert Mayne School.
- 16th • GSUS Live Trailer at Brixham College.
- 23rd • GSUS Live Trailer at Churston Ferrers Grammar School.
- 30th • For the team as they take a break during the Easter Holidays.

April

Week Beginning

- 6th • For school staff and students currently on their Easter Break
- 13th • Praise God for the opportunities LiNX has in schools this term.
- 20th • Pray for Tim as he leads schools worker training with SWYM.
- 27th • Pray for the Elevate summer week as young people book on.

The LiNX Team

Please continue to pray for the team in the work they do.

From left to right:

Philip Eley
Charlie Haywood
Tim Funnell
Chris Carter
Matt Turner
Jordan Williams



LiNX's regular weekly activities in schools

Monday	Paignton Academy, Christian Union with Philip
Tuesday	Mad Moo's Milk Bar, at Paignton Baptist after School.
Wednesday	Team meeting in the morning
	Paignton Academy, Upper School Christian Union with Philip
	Torquay Academy, lunch club with Jordan
	Hele Drop In, at Hele Road Baptist after school with Jordan.
	'RE:Fuel', after school drop in at Brixham Baptist
Thursday	Torquay Girls Grammar School, Christian Union with Charlie
	Churston Ferrers Grammar, Christian Union with Philip & Matt
	Torquay Academy, Basket Ball club with Tim
Friday	Brixham College, Lunch Club with Matt
	The Spires Lunch Club with Charlie

LiNX Sundays

We love to share about all that God is doing through LiNX, so every month there will be a Sunday available that your church could have a pair of LiNX team members come along to update and encourage your church about reaching young people across the secondary schools of Torbay!

The dates currently available are...

26th Jan 9th Feb 22nd March
19th April 10th May 21st June
12th July

Contact the office to book in your church visit.

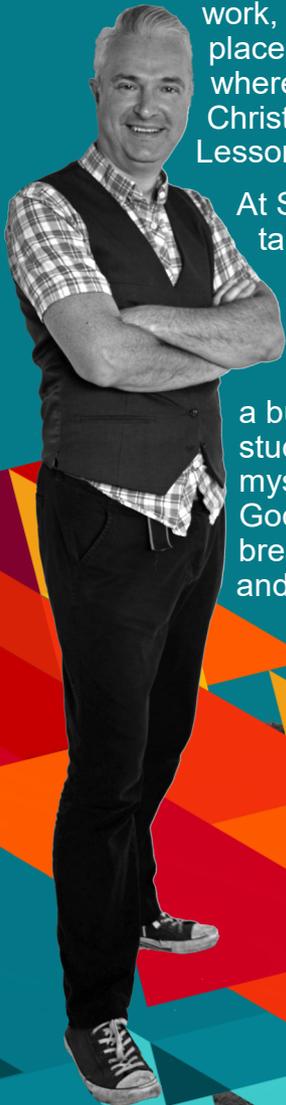
Acts of Worship at St. Cuthbert Mayne

Some of the things we do at LiNX involve building strong

relationships and sowing seeds. Then there are things

which involve a more overt presentation of the gospel. These two things feed one another. Because they know us already, the times when we clearly present the gospel are well received. In my regular work, aside from amazing conversations which take place in lunch clubs and other places, I have four times where the gospel is most clearly explained, these are Christmas lessons, Easter lessons, Grill-A-Christian Lessons and Acts of Worship.

At St Cuthbert Mayne School I have the privilege of taking a class Act of Worship every week. Each Tuesday lunchtime I visit a different class and have 20 minutes to lead the class through a short talk and prayer, at the moment I am visiting Year 9's. These 20-minute islands of focused God-time in a busy school day are a real highlight for me. Christian students, non-Christian students, seekers, staff and myself all spend a quality 20 minutes contemplating God and focussing on Him. I often start with an ice-breaker activity, perhaps a question, followed by a talk, and then ending with The Lord's Prayer. More often than not, the students join in with The Lord's Prayer, and I find this part particularly moving as we speak to God together and give Him His rightful focus.



“What gift would you give to The Queen?”

This is how I start one of my Act of Worship sessions.

“Now Elizabeth has been queen of this country for quite a long time, and in that time, she’s received some strange gifts. She’s been given a sword made from shark’s teeth, an elephant, a bottle of dog shampoo and 500 cases of tinned pineapple chunks.

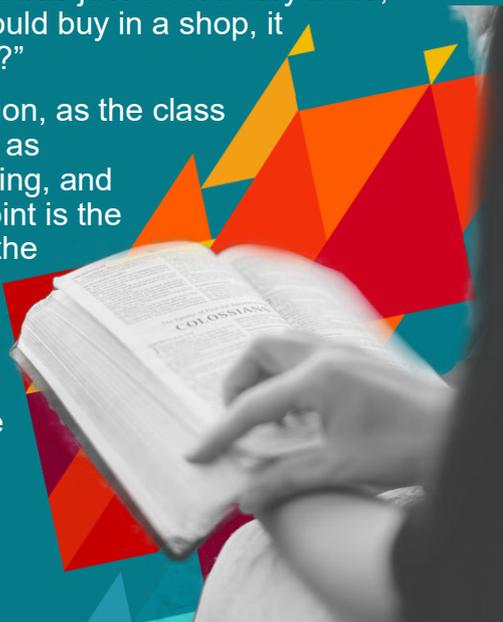
But when she was FIRST made the queen in 1953 she was given a very special gift, and the person who gave it to her said that this particular gift was ‘the most valuable thing in the world.’

THE most valuable thing in the world, what do you think it could be?”

At this point I go around the class and take a few answers. After a few guesses, someone will usually correctly guess a Bible. We also talk about what they think is the most valuable thing in the world.

“A Bible was handed to the Queen and it was described as the most valuable thing in the world. Now it was just an ordinary Bible, made of paper, the type of Bible you could buy in a shop, it wasn’t expensive, so why is it valuable?”

This is an interesting time in the reflection, as the class talk about why the Bible might be seen as valuable. We talk about it having meaning, and that it can be life changing. This last point is the one I like to focus on. I talk about how the Bible changed my life. I focus on John 10:10 and explain how this verse’s description of ‘life in all its fullness’ changed my life when it prompted me to give my life to God. After some more questions and discussion, we then say The Lord’s Prayer together.



“Hooroo” Johnny

I'm so blessed to have worked at LiNX for the time that I did! There's such a great team culture and together we saw God move massively in the lives of young people - to be part of that is something I'll always be thankful for.

For those of you wondering where I'm at now, I'm currently writing this from across the world in 34° Australia (G'day), which is pretty crazy considering that at the age of 10 an Australian pastor prophesized that I would one day speak at his church in Adelaide!

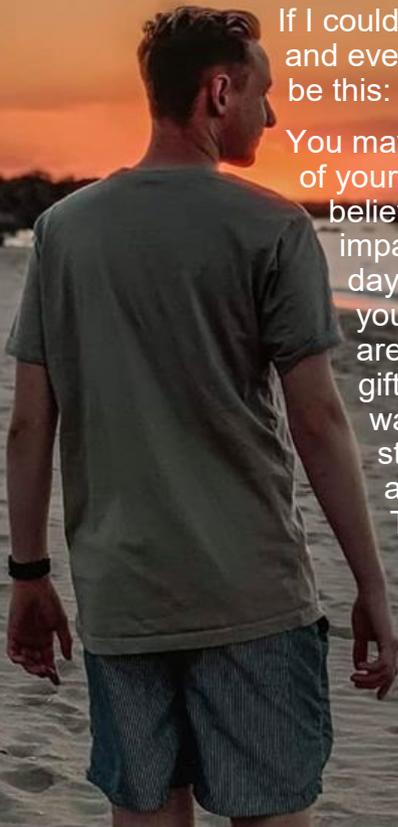
For now I'm running a marketing department, spending time with my partner's family and getting involved in local church life here too. Aside from that I'm also working on my tan, learning the lingo and teaching the Australian's a thing or two about football in a 5-a-side team.

If I could say one last thing to each and every LiNX supporter, it would be this:

You may not even see the full fruits of your giving in this lifetime, but I believe that along with all the impact we've already seen, one day there will be thousands of young people in Torbay who are better off because of the gift you gave today. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for LiNX, it's supporters and the young people of Torbay moving forward!

Johnny Watts

Note from Editor:
“Hooroo” is Australian slang for see you later... who knew!



We are so excited about working with Counties UK to bring the GSUS Live project back to Torbay schools in February and March 2020.

GSUS Live

GSUS Live is a mobile, multimedia education unit in the trailer of an artic lorry. We will be taking this trailer to six schools over five weeks and working with Year 7,8 and 9 students looking at the topics of Fear, Rejection and Forgiveness. Each class will become an 'agony aunt/uncle' to three



teenage characters facing real life issues. The students will listen to the issue their character faces then have the chance to read some of the Bible, listen to Christian music, read about a historical figure and

watch a movie clip. They will then respond to their character reflecting on the things they have heard and learnt. This repeats three times helping the students to learn how the Bible and Christianity responds to these topics.

This will be the sixth time that LiNX has had this opportunity and it allows us to share the message of Christianity with over 1500 students. Please pray that this will have a positive impact on our relationship with students, staff and the school community and we can clearly communicate the message and the students are receptive.

GSUS Live Schedule

24th February

- Torquay Boys & Girls
Grammar School

2nd March

- Torquay Academy

9th March

- St Cuthbert Mayne

16th March

- Brixham College

23rd March

- Churston Ferrers
Grammar
School



Happy New Year!

Thank you to all of you that receive and read our newsletter. We are always encouraged by the number of these sent out every term, knowing that each one is in the hands of someone supporting, encouraging and praying for the team and all that we're involved with.

We're excited for a big year ahead with the GSUS Live Trailer, more opportunities in local schools, connecting with churches and other youth provisions and the Elevate week in the summer.

However, we can't and don't do this alone we thrive because of your support and we're asking for it again in this year. If you don't already could you support us in one of the following ways, or could you invite someone else to join you in supporting LiNX.

Pray



Your prayer is always appreciated in building our work in Torbay. Sign up to receive our monthly prayer email or our Facebook page to see the latest prayer needs from the team. You'll also find a prayer guide in the middle of this newsletter.

Serve



It takes a team to make things happen and we love our volunteers. Could you support the events that LiNX is involved with. From our annual celebration evening, Elevate week, weekly drop-ins and other trips, we need your help in a variety of roles to serve and support the young people of Torbay.

Give



People who support us financially allow us to reach our mission. Whether it's a regular donation or one off gift, in person, through the bank or our new text giving service, your financial support enables LiNX to reach young people with the message and practical support of the Gospel message, enabling them to reach their full potential.

To sign up to any of these opportunities please complete and return the form opposite, and if you need any further information contact us at the LiNX Office.

We would like to be able to stay in contact with you and keep you informed of future LiNX activities and information regarding the wider work of LiNX. If you would like to receive this information please complete and return the form below and we will contact you:

NAME

(tick as appropriate)

NEWSLETTER
(by post)

ADDRESS

NEWSLETTER
(by email)

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One off donations can also be made online by visiting
www.easydonate.org/LINXGIFT

Return completed forms to:

LiNX Christian Youth Trust,
1a Clifton Road, Paignton, DEVON, TQ3 3LN

You can unsubscribe at anytime by contacting the LiNX office.



GIVING BY MOBILE PHONE

To donate to LiNX Christian Youth Trust now
please text "LINX5" to 70970 to give £5



(Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see www.easydonate.org)

A VERY LiNX CHRISTMAS!

Food Facts



- 28% of Jordans body weight is now mince pies
- Charlie ate 6.2 meters worth of Chocolate
- Matt's DNA is now part turkey!

Travel Facts



1224 Miles travelled by the team over Christmas.
Direction of Travel.... "Mostly t' North"!

Christmas Fun



328 Hours spent in Christmas jumpers
126 Christmas songs sung (none in tune)
15 Board games played
6 after dinner naps!
(all taken by one team member)



LiNX Team top Christmas films

Charlie - Home Alone
Matt - Muppet Christmas Carol
Tim - Die Hard
Chris - Love Actually
Philip - The Grinch
Jordan - Batman Returns!

LiNX Christian Youth Trust
1a Clifton Road, Paignton,
DEVON, TQ3 3LN
01803 557044
info@linxyouth.net
www.linxyouth.net
Reg. Charity No. 1067449
Company No. 3469992



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