

## Kettle & Fish News – October 2012

Recently I was honoured to be elected as Chairman of Churches Together in Sudbury & District. To be honest, I was the only candidate! Anyway, it still seems an honour! Churches Together in Sudbury seeks to unite church members and undertake projects and activities with the aim of promoting Christian ideals and faith in the area, such as Kettle & Fish staffed by folk from almost every church in the town. It's great to have a sense of solidarity and common purpose in our desire to serve God and proclaim the Christian message.

Having been elected Chairman made me reflect on how important and influential a role leaders have. It also made me reflect on the dangers and temptations associated with such a role especially those involved in the **prevalent** culture, on the hero worship that many pop stars, actors and actresses and sports personalities inspire. To retain their exalted position they occasionally cheat and mislead the public (Lance Armstrong seven times champion of the Tour de France now exposed for drug abuse) or as a result of their position they are able to exploit other people, since challenging their behaviour by those being exploited is extremely difficult (Jimmy Savile fits this category).

So, my plea is that we pray for all leaders, of whatever sort, that they will always act with integrity and that those in Christian service will uphold their principles and promote gospel values.

*Malcolm Offord*

## Our Prayers:

We pray Lord for our **Leaders**. in all walks of life:

**Government:** Lord may these diverse men and women of power exercise their gifts truly for the good of the people. Give them courage to be honest before You, strength to be truthful and wisdom beyond their experiences.

**Local Councils:** we ask Lord that you will help all those involved to be frank and open as they make decisions influencing our lives. Give them ability to count the real cost of all the decisions they make.

**Police:** We know Lord our police are working for our good under difficult circumstances. Please take control of their finances, curb the restrictions and power struggles that interfere with them carrying out their duties faithfully. May we support and respect them.

**Parents:** Lord bless them as they fight today's interferences in disciplining and the pressure of modern day advertising and media. Give them a strong love that knows the boundaries and can enforce them. Especially help them to get the balance right in their finances against the pull of 'keeping up' with what others own and do.

**Partners:** Those closest to us Lord at home, at work, everywhere. Help us value them and be for them what they most need us to be, whatever it costs in carrying out. We need Your strength and grace.

**Teachers and Trainers:** Lord may all teachers know the value of clean and honest lives. Help them 'see' the best paths to take, the right words to use to encourage and not put down those with less knowledge and really hold fast to their 'duty of care'.

**It is so easy Lord to find fault with those in positions of leadership. Help us to be fair in our judgments and extremely supportive in every possible way to Your Glory.** Eleanor