

FFWPU UK: New Hope Team Scouts Out The British Coast

Michael Balcomb
May 8, 2024



This past weekend, the New Hope team gathered at Livingstone House to scout locations in the area with the hopes of hosting a fishing workshop in the UK next summer. Read more about it below!

From the 3rd of May to the 6th, The New Hope team gathered at Livingstone House on a scouting mission of the surrounding areas. The team, consisting of Simran R., Alma G., Dan G., Ian C., Clive P., Speranta G. and Ansfried M., aims to develop Ocean Providence initiatives in our Europe and Middle East region. Last summer, they held a [very successful fishing workshop in Porto](#) and since then have been meeting regularly to discuss to how to further develop Ocean Providence projects and initiatives.



Photo from last summer's Fishing Workshop in Porto. [Read more about it here.](#)

During their time here, they visited different locations along the British coast in preparation for a future workshop in the UK. They also had the opportunity to see the boats True Father gave to the UK, one of which they were able to secure funding for, to buy a new engine. Replacing the engine of the larger Good Go boat, will increase the scope of experiences which can be provided on future workshops, with the availability of fishing both out on the water, as well as on the coast.

Every day started at 5 am with an opening prayer in the Cheon Shim Won and preparing to travel to the different locations by car. While in the car, the team read HDH from God's Will And The Ocean and discussed the reading, reflecting upon the day and the purpose of the weekend. The team also discussed personal goals for the day, ranging from how many fish they planned to catch to more internal goals in preparation for the upcoming Fishing Workshop in the summer. More details about the upcoming workshop are soon to be announced!



Ramsgate, Hythe, Dungeness, Dover and Folkstone were the places which the team had the opportunity to check out and test, from which the first three have the potential to serve the purpose of a workshop very well. The perfect combination of good locations to learn, practice and challenge one's abilities. Other locations were also considered but given the short time period available, the team has yet to visit to check out.

Throughout the weekend, the New Hope team put into practice many of True Father's teachings on how to understand the fish better, how to treat the fish, how to further acquire knowledge of the different locations and gear needed as well as offering the first catch of the day to God in gratitude. On Saturday they were able to catch 10 fish, 4 of which were released, and 21 on Sunday, from which the first catches were released. The main species caught, apart from the occasional starfish and anemone, was the Lesser-spotted Dogfish (*Scyliorhinus canicula*), which is also known as the Small-spotted Catshark. One of the members, Simran, also caught a Smooth-hound (*Mustelus mustelus*) which was then released back into the water.

At the end of the weekend, the team celebrated with a dinner to which everyone in Livingstone House was invited and had the chance to try the freshly caught fish cooked in the most English fashion, homemade fish and chips.

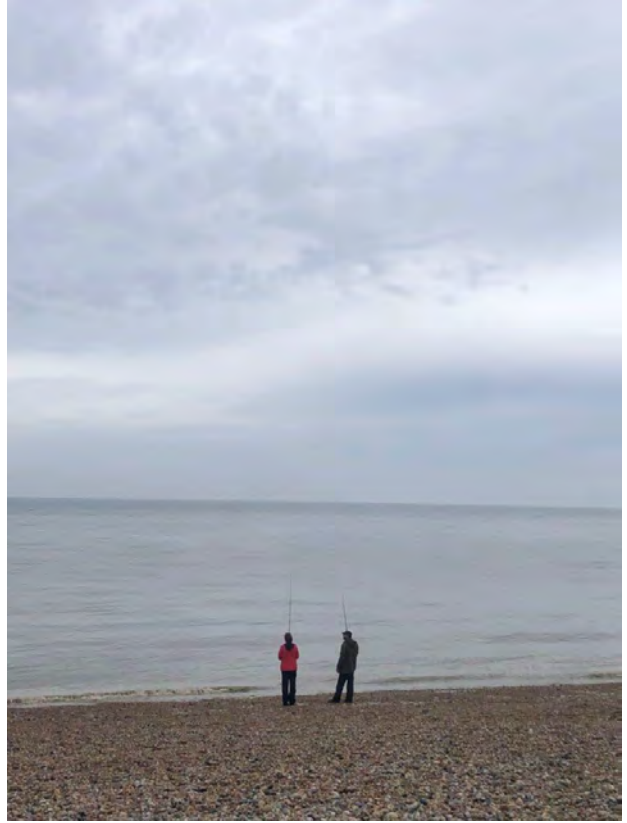
The New Hope Initiatives aims to be a network to inspire and bring together new and existing projects around the region. So, if you have an interest and desire to be involved in Ocean Providence projects or if you have an idea for collaboration, get in contact with them by emailing newhopeinitiatives@gmail.com.

More photos from the weekend below.



Get in touch by emailing the team at newhopeinitiatives@gmail.com!







ALMA G

July 12, 2023 | Articles | EUME, New Hope, Ocean Church, Workshop, Young Adults, Youth

New Hope Fishing Workshop Brings Youth Together To Learn About Our History

Youth from all over Europe gathered together in the city of Porto to learn more about the Ocean Providence, experience a glimpse of that rich legacy and learn a new skill. See below a report from one of the coordinators – our very own Simran R.

New Hope in Porto

Written by Simran R

From the 30th June to the 5th July, a fishing workshop – the first of its kind in Europe – was held for 13 participants from 6 countries in the Porto Church Centre in Portugal.

Why?

This workshop was an idea that Alma and I spoke about two summers ago, sat in the field in Cleeve House during a HARP UK workshop.

She wanted to share her Dad’s passion for fishing and the ocean providence. As well as bringing a revival to the Church Centre in Porto, her old home, which has been inactive for seven years now.

For me, this desire stemmed from a place of curiosity. I had never been fishing before (I’ve lived in London my whole life) but I have always loved the ocean and open waters. I value the emphasis True Mother places on environmental care, having worked for IAYSP EUME for some years, and currently working in the science communication field.



The Programme

The workshop was a combination of testimonies, practical guidance on fishing and problems/solutions surrounding the ocean and fishing – each time at a different location of the estuary of Douro, the main river of Porto, or at a beach near it. We tried to mix it up each time, having one time fishing at night, another at sunrise, and also seafood picking and learning about other forms of wildlife when the tide was out. A combination of intellectually and spiritually stimulating activities.

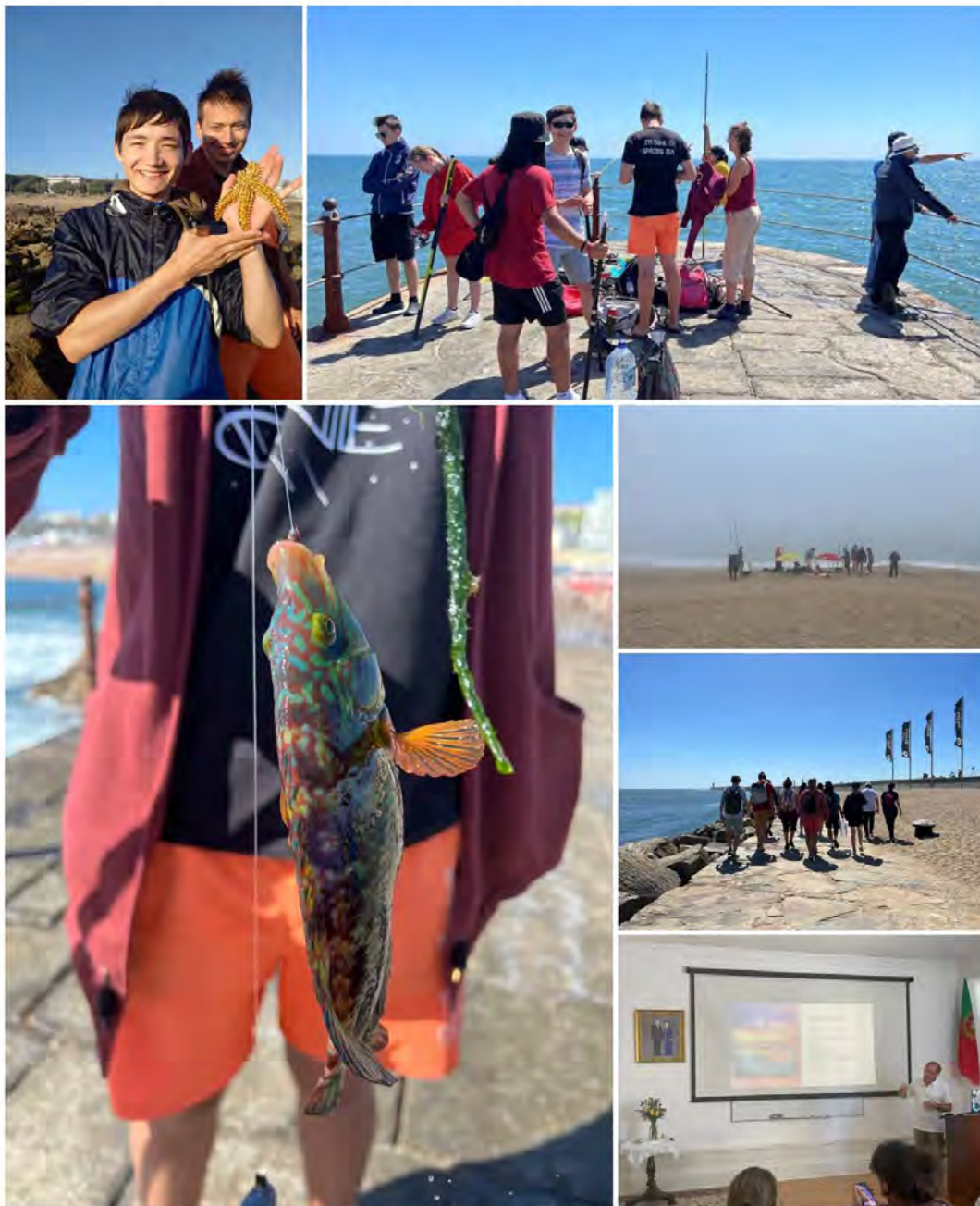
We created daily themes to guide the experience of participants. Things such as ‘faith as my anchor’ or ‘old as the sea’. One day, I gave a morning service titled: ‘the ocean is a mother’. I encouraged participants to reflect on what they could learn about a mother’s heart from the ocean. We offered the fishing on that day as a condition for True Mother to come to Europe.

The practicalities of fishing sites, licensing and equipment were co-ordinated by uncle Dan, Alma’s Dad, who is still based in Porto. Content was led mainly by uncle Clive, an Ocean Providence veteran, former professor of Marine Science in

Cornwall. He was supported by my Dad, uncle Ajay, who shared his experience of fishing with Father in Alaska. Uncle Ian and his wife, Harumi-san, flew out to Porto for one day to speak especially to us, sharing their testimony and experiences. I was incredibly moved by how receptive first generation members who had experienced Ocean Providence with Father were to our initiative. It became clear to me that Europe has been waiting for a workshop like this.

The most valuable thing for me was the opportunity to listen to and inherit such a legacy from these first generation members. Uncle Ian shared in his talk about a dream he had. He asked Jesus: "How wide is the path of faith?". Jesus took the fileting knife out of his hand and pointed at the bloodstained rim. "The path of faith is as narrow as this blade of blood." For me, this workshop was about remembering that blade of blood. The investment from True Father, True Mother and all the early members who invested so much of their early mission life on the water.

Some might argue that the era has passed for the Ocean Providence. That it's too late or that this investment is wasted. I firmly believe that as long as these members are still alive, there is SO much to gain from hearing these stories. As a second generation member myself, there is nothing more empowering to me. I believe these experiences will fuel many generations to come, and the significance of the ocean will never cease.



Thank Yous

We would like to extend our thanks to uncle Sergio, the national leader of Portugal, who allowed us to stay in the Porto Church Centre and visited us on the last day of our workshop to give a closing address. Thank you also to auntie Carla, head of properties in Portugal, for her support and help. Our thanks also to Un Hee and Osman Brito, who represented uncle Sergio at the workshop and who's practical and internal support helped us greatly.

When the Porto community heard that we would be holding a workshop in their community church centre, after such a long hiatus, they were immediately inspired and held a prayer vigil and a prayer condition for the success of our workshop. We were welcomed with tears and open arms. Our sincerest thanks to tia Leonice, tia Fatima, tia Verita, tia Cristina, Laura, Miguel and the whole Porto community who pulled together to prepare the centre, cook for us and make us feel so welcomed and supported – this meant a great deal to the participants too.

Lastly, my personal thanks to the Gaina family for their generosity and eager spirits. This workshop required a great deal of emotional, internal and financial investment as an independent initiative that did not apply for any funding. I will forever be grateful to them for making this experience possible for us all.

Looking forward

This investment was made with the intention of this not being a one off workshop. The more I share about my experience, the more first generation members come forward telling me their experiences of the ocean providence. There is so much to be shared.

Looking forward, there is potential to have a workshop in Cornwall where we already have some boats and where uncle Clive is familiar with the conditions. We've also had interest expressed by the Angelucci couple in Lebanon and uncle Sergio has invited us to Lisbon.

Porto will remain a strong base for us though, now that we have some foundation there. As long as uncle Dan is looking after his mother this is the most feasible option, also because of his extensive knowledge of the fishing scene and locations in the city.

I personally will be investing in a powerboat course and license to expand the scope of what will be possible on these workshops. One participant from the workshop, with previous fishing experience, has put himself forward to join the core team for our next workshop.

As we look to improve and expand, we may be enquiring about funding – so watch this space!

[New+Hope-in-Porto-Report](#)



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