

Boot Camp For New Dads Established in England! By Greg Bishop

In April, 2005, Fathers Direct, England's national fatherhood organization, asked me to talk at their national conference in London, and then asked that we collaborate with them in establishing Boot Camp for New Dads in England (under the name *Hit The Ground Crawling*). David Bartlett of Fathers Direct then worked with Karla, Chuck and I to make it happen. Chuck and I went to Liverpool on May 2-5, where David had worked with Karen Lawrenson to arrange a training program capped by an actual workshop for teen dads-to-be. There were also contingents from London and Birmingham for the training.



It was a huge hit and very gratifying for Chuck and me to see Boot Camp work so well in another country, and particularly with teen fathers. It was great to see Chuck in action as he conducted the training, and the response from the trainees was unanimous –“ it was the best training they ever attended, we proved it works right before their eyes, and equipped them so they could go home and get it

up and running.”

My favorite scene (above, right) was of a 16 year old dad-to-be who got hold the star of the show, who was as interested in him as he was her. It was a great group with dedicated mid-wives and professional “father workers”, two 17-18 fathers who were great role models, and four 16-17 year old dads-to-be who were enthusiastic about coming back as vets.

