



news from Novi Most Summer 2021

New Bridge

pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

@novimost   

Summer is almost upon us and as a team we are preparing to make the most of it. While it almost certainly won't be a full return to what we would have done before, there will be a lot more scope for activities than there was last year. Restrictions on gatherings are starting to ease here in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, although the vaccine roll out has been very slow here, things are opening up more and more. It would be great if we could invite you to join us for a week or two, but we know that needs to wait until next year. Nevertheless you can still be part of giving a young person in Bosnia and Herzegovina a summer to remember by supporting our summer programme.

So what are we expecting to get up to over the summer? In Mostar young people will be getting outdoors with Royal Rangers activities. We expect to see more cycling trips happening out around the Čapljina area. In Jajce, Budo has started a weekly tennis session with a group of young people, finding someone locally who can give them the quality tuition none of the team is able to provide! Beki has a group of guys regularly playing football in Sarajevo. He expects to take them to Emek Beraka to take advantage of the proper football pitch created on the campsite last summer. Many of the Novi Most team are part of the organising group for ECBiH summer camps. There are tentative plans in place for a prayer camp and a youth camp for over eighteens, if the restrictions on gathering sizes continue to be eased. There could also be a return to joint activities between our locations. All this is exciting after the lockdowns of the last year. But most of all we want this summer to be one where young people have their eyes opened to a deeper hope for their futures.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO KATIE

After nine years as part of our team, first in Mostar and then in Sarajevo, Katie McCraw has finished her work with Novi Most. She initially joined to help improve our communications, working on New Bridge and the website, before moving to Sarajevo to help Beki develop the youth work there. She has also contributed a lot to the running of ECBiH camps and conferences.

"We were prepared for the news because we have known for some time that Katie felt that she might go. However, it was still a shock when that day came, when she officially said that she was leaving Novi Most. It was a hard thing for us because of all the giftings she has and all the love she has, and the example she has set, for the young people. We have been truly blessed and encouraged by that. But on the other hand we are happy to see her go and be released into what God is calling her to. Now it is time for us to see what new opportunities we might have as a team, and we are looking forward to that."

Beki, Novi Most Director and Katie's teammate in Sarajevo, reflects on Katie coming to the end of her time with Novi Most.

Katie plans to stay based in Sarajevo and will continue to be part of church life and the occasional Novi Most activity.



Katie has produced documentary photography projects that capture different aspects of life in BiH. You'll find them at katiemccraw.mypixieset.com.



TOGETHER AS A TEAM

It's been six months since all the Novi Most team gathered together in one place. There have been some tough times since then, with illness and bereavement within the team made all the harder by being separated not just by distance but also by Covid restrictions.

A day together towards the end of May was a great way to catch-up, talk through the experiences we've lived through over the past few months and spend time hanging out over a decent barbecue. The sun shone and we encouraged one another and looked to the future. Summer is coming and with it new opportunities to bring life and hope to our communities.

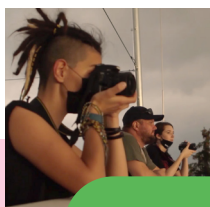


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NOVIMOST.ORG**

SUPPORT THIS SUMMER

Can you help provide exciting activities for a young person in Bosnia and Herzegovina that could lead to a life changing experience this summer? We believe the sports and the social times, and the chance to be part of trips and church activities, will make a real difference to many young people. In all our locations we are excited to see the emergence of a new, younger generation beginning their journey with Novi Most. For them this will be their first taste of our summer programme. We hope that through it they will build strong friendships and feel part of the wider Novi Most community. Please consider making a one-off donation to support our work this summer.

Our new look website makes supporting our work financially easier than ever. Clicking the green "donate" button will take you straight to a simple and secure CAF Donate page. (If you are reading this as a PDF file you can click the button below.) The QR code will also take you straight to the CAF donate page.



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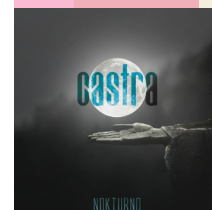
INTRODUCING CASTRA

Back in 2016 Novi Most organised a tour of the UK, visiting supporting churches. Among the young people from BiH who were part of the tour was a band called Underground.

That band has long since disbanded but bass player Taner kept alive the dream of writing songs and releasing an album. Castra is his new project, a rock band which he asked Budo and Matt to be part of. Recording for their debut album has started and the band released their first single, Nokturno, in April. You'll find it on YouTube, iTunes and all the streaming services. The song was recorded and produced by Matt in his studio. One of Taner's goals is to be the first rock band from Jajce to release a music video. Filming has started, and Nokturno has already been played on national radio. Sometimes creativity takes time, and Budo and Matt are excited they are still part of helping Taner fulfil his musical dreams.



"I am very proud to have such good musicians as friends with whom I can create something new."
Taner – bassist



"How often does someone from Jajce release a song? Very rarely. How often does a rock band from Jajce release a song? Almost never! Well, now it's starting to change."
Milan – singer

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