

Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit our brothers in every town where we preached the word of the Lord, and let us find out how they are getting on." Acts 16: 36



July 2011

The Recorder

Inside - this month . . .

Pastoral letter	2	Commitment for Life	6
Services & Rotas	3	Church family & Life	5, 7 - 11
What's on?	4	Prayer Page	12

An edited version of this magazine is available on the Church Website.
(Personal details are NOT included)

Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

Trinity - A Family Church

Worshipping together - Caring for one another - Sharing with others

Dear Friends,

At the end of my June letter I wrote that Bernie and I now have confirmation of the dates that the United Church in Papua New Guinea would like us to visit and that in this month's letter I would write more details of what we will be doing there.

We fly out of London Heathrow on Friday 19th August, and return on Thursday 20th October. The visit will have three main parts, plus a day or two in the capital city, Port Moresby, on each journey.

1. Highlands

For the first five weeks we will be in the Highlands based in Mendi. This is where we lived for most of the time we were there before. We moved into the town shortly before our second daughter Meg was born in 1978 and stayed until we left the country at the end of 1990. The Bishop, Rev. Wesis Porop, would like us to speak at a retreat for ministers and pastors, and to visit circuits. The Bible School Principal, Rev. Minwas More, has asked us to do some teaching. The Women's Fellowship Coordinator, Aloha Baragu, wants me to speak at the annual Women's Retreat.

When we left in 1990 the Highlands Region had about 25,000 members in 250 congregations grouped in 11 circuits. There has been expansion, and the region divided into two. We look forward to meeting up with people again, and seeing how the church life and society have developed. Our first 'posting', in 1974, was to the Lai Valley circuit where we served for 4 years. It was accessed by a fairly hair-raising drive over a mountain pass. I wonder if it has changed!

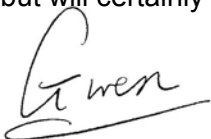
2. Assembly institutions

The Moderator of UCPNG, Rev. Sir Samson Lowa, has asked us to spend one week at the United Church's theological college, Rarongo, and training centre for mission and leadership, Malmaluan. He would like me to share some experience and thoughts on university chaplaincy and wants Bernie to lead some sessions on pastoral studies. Those institutions are on the island of New Britain, just outside the caldera in which a volcano erupted in the early 1990s, covering the nearby town of Rabaul with about 2 metres of ash. I was granted my Bachelor of Divinity degree at a wonderful ceremony at Rarongo in November 1990, and was the first woman to receive a degree from the college. I hope to find that others have done so since – we shall see.

3. Assembly Administrative Committee

The Moderator has asked Bernie to lead Bible studies at the meeting of Bishops and other Regional representatives and Assembly staff. That will take place at Kwikila, in the new headquarters of the East Central Papua Region of the United Church. It will be an opportunity to hear about church life all over the country, how God has been leading them, and how they are dealing with issues in society now, 21 years since we last took part in a UCPNG Assembly meeting. We recently bumped into Rev Philip Woods who is on the secretariat of CWM. He told us of his visit to UCPNG in March. He was enthusiastic about the church's emphasis on making a serious contribution to nation building.

We would value your prayers for the United Church in Papua New Guinea, and for the arrangements and activities while we are there. We hope to find a way to send news while we are there, but will certainly have stories to share with you after our return.



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins
e-mail: gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk

Church Secretary : Mrs Sue Saunders,
e-mail: secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk

July Services

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am - led by the Minister and members of the congregation unless otherwise stated

July 3		Holy Communion
July 10		Theme: CWM Africa Region, followed by Church Picnic and ...
	3.30	Songs of Praise on the Rye with town centre Churches Together in High Wycombe. If wet, in our church.
July 17		Parade Service, and all age worship
July 24		Morning worship
	4.00	Prayer circle
July 31		Morning worship

Rotas for July

Not included in this version

What's on in July

WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 5th July A Celebration of Summer
 2:30 - Service followed by tea. This is open to all members of the congregation and friends. To help with catering, please let us know if you are coming, as soon as possible.



Tuesday 19th July Margaret Lewis invitation
(Lifts will be arranged. See Olive Shepherd)

Diary Dates

July 5 Women's Meeting Summer Celebration 2.30pm
 (guest speaker Ruth Ritchey)

8 Mission Strategy Meeting

9 Coffee Morning 10.30am

10 Church Picnic (after Morning Worship)

10 Songs of Praise on the Rye 3.30pm

13 Worship Planning Meeting 2pm

16 Churches Together BBQ 12noon onwards

19 Church Meeting 8pm

24 Prayer Meeting for Healing 4pm

24 Lighthouse Week

26 Elders' Meeting 8pm

30 Fifth Brigade

30 Wedding of David Fletcher and Fayonne Sandy

31 Garden Party at the Manse

July 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Did you know . . ??

In The Gambia, everything stops on the last Saturday of every month (ie shops close etc) to enable the population to do a "Fifth Brigade" exercise. Since they started this, the general health of the country has improved due to the more regular elimination of dirt leading to disease. I wonder who thought of it first? ! ?

Not included in this version

What I meant to say.....

It was truly a wonderful occasion to join our new Christian family on Pentecost Sunday. The Spirit was at work in our midst overwhelmingly

This is what I hoped to say. I thank God for this fellowship, from the days when Mike Shrubsole welcomed Cafe Days here (becoming fully involved in our work), for the friendship and kindness of many of you that has drawn us in and lead to today.

I was so moved during the ceremony as I had a strong sense that I am walking in the right path joining you (unfortunately I cry when happy and sensing God's touch!)

I am excited about what is ahead, knowing and trusting that God will lead us on. So the chorus I chose says Your majesty, I can but bow, I lay my all before you now, In royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your majesty. I look forward to serving our King of Kings amongst you all here at Trinity

We sang reign in me, we certainly will remember the day with regular reminders from our English weather. We had plenty of rain on me and many many showers of blessings. Our God reigns.

PS Thank you to all who made our day extra special coming to a rather soggy but happy bar-b-que.

Marian D



SONGS OF PRAISE

ON THE RYE

SUNDAY JULY 10th at 3.30pm

This year more churches are joining us for the Songs of Praise on The Rye following our Church Picnic. It's a great opportunity to praise God in the open air and encourage the general public to sing along with us or just to listen. Once again the Salvation Band will be leading the singing along with their Youth Choir and other churches are participating in the service.

Bring your friends and family and something to sit on.

If it's wet we'll worship together in the sanctuary of Trinity URC.

Marian

ZIMBABWE

In a summit meeting of the South African Development Community (SADC) held at the end of March, attended by Zimbabwe's political leaders, the group called for 'an immediate end of violence, intimidation, hate speech, harassment, and any other form of action that contradicts the letter and spirit of the GPA.'

It is widely thought to be this and further pressure from the SADC responsible for rumours that Zimbabwe's elections, which were scheduled to take place this summer, may be postponed until late 2012 or even as far as early 2013.

Christian Aid partners have tentatively welcomed the rumours, having feared the conditions for free and fair elections to take place were absent. Christian Aid's Harare office reports that the mood of the people prior to the anticipated elections has been 'depressed, fearful and uncertain'. Programme officer Tapiwanashe Hoto explains: 'they want to see a situation whereby the constitution is in place, the media is independent and not partisan.'

Those partners working on governance issues have been reporting increasing limitations to their work and a heavy increase in security forces in rural areas. 'We have started to witness some kind of violence, especially in rural communities where we are having militias deployed to intimidate people to support certain parties' says Tapiwa.

On 15th April, Christian Aid in London was shocked to hear that police had thrown teargas into a church in Harare to disperse a prayer meeting organised by our partners ZCC and SCMZ. The congregation were praying for peace and included the elderly, women and young children.

However, though partners working on governance have been affected by the clamp down of freedom of assembly, despite the political challenges our agricultural and health partners' work remains largely unaffected, reports Tapiwa. 'And our governance partners are now engaging more with political leaders, trying to influence regional blocks such as the Southern Africa Development Community and the African Union' he says.

On Wednesday 25 May 2011, Christian Aid in Zimbabwe supported the National Day of Prayer, alongside others including Trocaire, Cafod and World Vision. The day brought 5,000 people together to pray in light of the rumours that the general elections may be delayed. In the heart of Harare, people prayed for political reconciliation and the restoration of justice in Zimbabwe.

Christian Aid report to CforL Reference Group June 2011

SUDAN CRISIS IN NUBA MOUNTAINS

Sudan Alliance Forces have been bombing selected areas of Southern Kordofan. The UN does not seem able to stop the fighting.

Militias have broken into Bishop Andudu's house and the Diocesan Offices and stolen all his effects including his motor cycle and computer equipment. The Cathedral and other churches have been razed.

Schools are closed. Most women and children have scattered to the mountains with their live-stock. Many people have left Kadugli, and Dilling is virtually deserted.

10,000 civilians have sought security at the UN base in Kadugli and are desperately short of water and face great insecurity. Many others are fleeing to el Obeid, where a humanitarian crisis could easily develop.

The Dioceses of Salisbury and Bradford are preparing to send emergency funds. The Bishop of Bradford and the Salisbury Sudan Link Committee have called for all parishes to pray as the crisis deepens.

GARDEN PARTY AT THE MANSE

Bernie and I would like to invite all Recorder readers
and members and friends of Trinity
to a garden party at the manse

Sunday afternoon, 31st July, 2 – 5.30pm
together with friends from Bernie's church, Ickenham URC.

This is an early celebration of our Ruby Wedding anniversary.
No presents please.

"VISION DAY"

"TOGETHER WE CAN"

SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2011

Guest Speaker
The Revd Dr David Cornick
(General Secretary for Churches Together in England)

The Church on Fairford Leys, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys, Aylesbury, HP19 7HT
9.30am - 1.30pm

- *Interest Groups
- *Ideas Exchange
- *Excellent Fellowship
- *Christian Bookstall
- *Buffet Lunch

Reservations through Kate Yates or

e-mail MaryCotes@aol.com Tel: 01908 226886

Registration forms back to Revd Dr Mary Cotes by Saturday 1st October

24/7 Prayer for Wycombe

Thank you to the 13 people who participated in the 24/7 Prayer for Wycombe from 8am on Friday 10th June to 8am on Saturday 11th June. During the 24 hour period we were able to pray for at least 10 hours covering such topics as the Town Centre Chaplaincy, Wycombe Youth for Christ, Healing on the Streets, the launch of Wycombe DVD, Wycombe District Council, All Saints Church, Kings Church, Trinity URC, Sri Lanka, Israel, troubles around the world and many other things.

We have agreed to pray again for a 24 hour period during November and it would be really good if more people felt they could sign up for half an hour to pray. Most of us pray in our own homes and some of us whilst we're away on holiday or staying with friends. There's always a suggestion list of prayer points which are useful and help us to focus our thoughts. If you'd like to know more please contact me.

Marian

CHILTERN AREA COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2011 *[Edited]*

1. Sad news

Amersham Free Church – The Revd Andrew Busby

Area Committee members were deeply saddened to hear in May of the death of the Revd Andrew Busby, minister at Amersham Free Church.

Wendover Free Church

Area Committee members were also sad to hear of the sudden death in May of Alistair McIntyre, husband of Revd Heather McIntyre who is the minister at Wendover Free Church.

Please pray for the families and congregations of both churches.

2. News from the churches

Cores End

We held weekly group meetings over Lent, inviting other churches along, and started the Year of Evangelism after Easter. In April we had a 'birthday' service to celebrate the anniversary of the King James Bible, complete with cake. In Christian Aid week we had our usual bread and cheese lunch with donations to Christian Aid - about £1000 was raised in total for all Christian Aid collections.

Membership figure is 58. Services are well supported with average attendance of 50. There are 10 children 'on the books'. We have a good mix of visiting preachers from different denominations including a local community church.

At the beginning of the year we spent a lot on a new blower for the organ, and the flat roof over the kitchen was found to be unsafe.

We are having an organ recital on Saturday 2 July by a great-nephew of one of the members, which was well-attended last year and we hope for another good turnout. We are holding our annual holiday club in the first week of school holidays, for children aged 5-11 with the theme of Razamatazz Robots.

The elders have planned an away-day in July.

Gerrards Cross

When Revd Kelly Allen returned to the USA we were not optimistic about finding even a part-time Minister. As the Eldership feared a reduction in the numbers attending regularly for Sunday worship it was decided to approach Dr David Henry with a view to his leading worship on two Sundays each month and to assume the role of Interim Moderator. The congregation welcomed Dr Henry and his family and appreciated his leadership, thought provoking sermons and his pastoral care through visits to the sick and bereaved.

From an average congregation of 20-25 we have grown to an average of over 30 and on occasion reaching 40. Numbers worshipping are indicative of satisfaction with the form and style of worship but more important is the attitude and enthusiasm of our members and adherents. Dr Henry has agreed from July to lead worship on three Sundays each month and we trust that this will strengthen us further.

Our outreach programme for the unemployed reflects the current job market with the result that attendance every Monday evening exceeds forty. We have a team of twelve volunteers to administer and support the Careers Springboard members with a positive programme to help them find work.

We have seen no growth in junior church attendance but we continue to seek ways to address this problem. Our Eldership is strong and enthusiastic and with God's help we will succeed in expanding his kingdom in Gerrards Cross.

Thank you to all those who helped in Christian Aid week this year. To the Rangers who delivered the envelopes, to those people who collected from our nominated roads, to the Women's Meeting for their donation and to members of the congregation who gave in their envelopes during morning worship. I banked £493.00, the church sent £254.00 and with the money designated for Gift Aid the total will be just under £1000.00. This money will help to change the lives of those living in some of the most poverty stricken communities in the world.

My thanks to you all for your help.
God bless

Margaret



Could I PLEASE ask you to empty and wash the sugar bowl after church or other events. The sugar just spills into the red box, which then has to all be washed out, this is not only inconvenient for the person doing coffee rota that day, but also as the church is damp, the sugar goes lumpy and has to be thrown away. There is a box supplied to keep the sugar in.

Just a reminder, that if I am not in church on the day you do the rota, please put the coffee collection in the marked box in Gwen's top drawer in the vestry, so that it is locked away.

Thanks, and your help is much appreciated.
Blessings Anne x

CWM general secretary thanks UK churches for support



7 Jun 2011

CWM general secretary Rev Dr Collin Cowan will pay a special visit to CWM's Europe region churches to thank them for their support in helping him gain his long-awaited UK visa.

Dr Cowan will visit general secretaries of the Presbyterian Church of Wales, Congregational Federation and the United Reformed Church as part of a three-day visit next week to acknowledge their behind-the-scenes role in lobbying the UK Border Agency.

CWM's UK church leaders were instrumental in the drive to push through Dr Cowan's visa application after his official start to work in London in January was compromised because of delays in issuing CWM a Certificate of Sponsorship.

Granted on 29 March this year, the certificate of sponsorship enabled Dr Cowan to apply for a three-year non-renewable visa..

Since January, Dr Cowan had been carrying out his new role from an office in Jamaica.

The new visa means he can move with his family from Jamaica to London and continue his role alongside secretariat staff at CWM's Ipalo House office.

But difficulties encountered throughout the visa application process have sparked concerns over the wider issue of CWM's ability to effectively employ international staff - and honour its commitment to recruiting a secretariat that reflects its membership - in the future.

Due to the fresh concerns, CWM's trustees were asked to reconsider the issue of the location of the secretariat - despite having made a decision to remain in London at their extraordinary meeting in October 2010.

The trustees are due to make a final decision on location when they meet in Durban, South Africa at the end of June.



For the Computer literate: - there are a couple of hoax emails doing the rounds at the moment to be aware of.

1 E-mail, purporting to be from the UK's HM Revenue & Customs, claims that the recipient has paid too much income tax and should follow a link to arrange a refund. The e-mail is not from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). The message is a phishing scam designed to steal personal and financial information from recipients. The link in the email opens a bogus website designed to resemble the genuine HMRC website.

HMRC will never send tax refund notifications via email. Nor will it ask taxpayers to disclose personal or financial information by following a link or opening an attachment in an unsolicited email.

2 E-mail, purporting to be from Hotmail, claims that, due to several unsuccessful login attempts, the recipient's Hotmail account will be deactivated within 24 hours unless he or she logs in via an "activation link". The message is not from Hotmail. The email is a phishing scam designed to steal login details from Hotmail account holders.

Those who fall for the ruse and follow the link in the message will be taken to a fraudulent website and asked to enter their username and password.

There are a couple of useful websites where you can check out if the emails are genuine or not.

<http://www.hoax-slayer.com>

<http://www.snopes.com>

If you have any doubts, delete them.....

Two other scams have been reported in the area recently.

1 A lady in Amersham has come across a new type of scam/fraud to be aware of. This is her account of the incident.

"I was out for about 30 minutes this morning and returned to find two parcels from Next addressed to me at my address. I have never bought anything from Next. A few hours later a man (Afro Caribbean and not speaking English very well) came to the door and asked for two parcels delivered to me. I would not let him have them and he went away.

Next is a Mail Order company and you do not need an account to place and order. It is simple to obtain a persons name and address and use it to order the goods. The fraudster then places the order and can elect for the packages to be left (eg in a porch). Knowing the time scale for the delivery they will call round and collect the items.

If the lady had not returned and found the packages, the man would probably have collected them and vanished leaving the victim with a hefty bill to pay.

Apparently this sort of thing has happened previously in Romford, Essex so maybe South Bucks is the latest target.

If you receive such a package notify the company straight away. Also if you notice a package on a neighbour's doorway it is a good idea to take it home and return it later.

When arranging collection of goods always check the persons ID. Next only use a company called Hermes for their deliveries and collections.

If someone else calls do not hand over the package but call the police straight away on 0845 8 505 505. Try to get a good description of the person and note if any vehicle is involved.

2 There are reports of a company called Roof Exchange UK who have been cold calling in the South of the County, but they could be operating in other parts of Buckinghamshire.

A person calling himself James Smith, will cold call on the home owner and state that the roof needs some repair. He may offer to repair the roof for a small fee, then after some work has been completed he will say there are other problems with the roof and the price will increase considerably.

The company also appears not to give cancellation rights in writing. We advise people not to deal with cold calling traders.

The above has had to be seriously pruned to squeeze as much as possible into this month's Recorder. If any readers come across any of the above and have concerns, please do not hesitate to seek further information from Kate or your own Elder. (If your Elder cannot help immediately, he/she will at least be able to ask someone who can!)



Happy Birthday



to

Luke K (9th)

Olivia P (24th)

Sue T (24th)

Congratulations



and best wishes to

Julia & Tim

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary

with love to all the above from all at Trinity

Church Minutes

It has come to our attention that some church members may like the minutes in **large print**.
Would you please contact me if this is the case. Thank you.

Sue Saunders

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 31st July.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 22nd July*

Recorder Editor : e-mail : editor@trinity-urc.org.uk

Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

prayer page

I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put to suffering:
Let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you:
Exalted for you, or brought low for you. Let me be full, let me be empty:
Let me have all things, let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

The Methodist Covenant, 1755



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2011

Please pray for Gwen and Bernie Collins as they prepare for their visit to Papua New Guinea, and for their family. May they all feel supported by us in prayer.

Enable this church to do your will.
Make it vulnerable that it may speak with calm humility;
Make it outward looking that it may care deeply
Make it a community of peacemakers and bridge builders
In the midst of turbulence let the church make space
for the hearing of your still small voice.

Delia - a member of St. Mark's Church www.thisischurch.com

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all who love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

From St Patrick's Breastplate

Work in progress

Work in progress - that's what we are!
You called us ... we responded ...
and then the spiritual fire died down
and we lost our glow
and our faith felt like dust in the ashes.
But your Spirit traced our names in the ash,
fingering the outlines with love,
and blew on the embers
until sparks ignited again the flames of our love for you.

So we pray,
and we serve.
and we worship,
and we love...
And sometimes we still lose our way for a while
And we fail to forgive or love others,
or fully live the life you have given us.
But work in progress - that's what we are,
until you finally call us home to you when your work will be complete.

Thanks be to God!