



- Barnes Close Conference Centre
- Personal Retreats
- Romania Concern
- CfR Footprints (in former Yugoslavia)
- Un-Afr-Aid (United Africa Aid)
- Village India Aid

Newslink
Advent
2012

Welcome to the Advent edition of our new style Newslink. It is published on our website, sent out to our email circulation list and posted out to those who prefer a paper copy. We hope that this will give you up to date highlights of what is going on at CfR. If you want more details on anything please let me know. It has been a good Autumn during which we enjoyed a wonderful Silent Retreat and three good Reflection Days. As Christmas approaches and we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus I ask you to hold all the people of Israel and Palestine in your prayers.

Ian Ring, Community Co-Ordinator



CfR Footprints

Clive Fowle has recently returned from a trip to Vukovar (Croatia) and Novi Sad (Serbia). In Vukovar he shared with Nena in running a course training facilitators, two of whom shared in running a course in Novi Sad. In Novi Sad Clive worked with the Methodist Church and ran a Healing The Hurts course.



In 2013 there is the possibility of extending the work into Bosnia through Nena's contacts in Tuzla and possibly developing work with the Roma community through a Methodist minister in Serbia. Exciting times lie ahead.

The book of stories from Croatia containing accounts from course participants on their experiences is available for £5 plus £1.50 p&p and is available from the office or from Clive Fowle

New Groups

In the last issue I mentioned the three new groups that have been set up. Progress has already been made in two areas.

The **Marketing Group** is working on a new publicity leaflet to be sent groups who used to use Barnes Close, reminding them that we are still here and extolling the benefits of returning to Barnes Close.

The **Membership & Programme Group** is preparing for a re-launch of CfR Membership and for the launch of Corporate Membership for churches. Life Membership will be offered to people who have supported CfR over many years.

The **Fund Raising Group** has yet to meet. However we recognise that this group is crucial to our existence and future development. If you would like to help with this group please contact Ian.

Friday at Barnes Close

Conversation, Lunch, Pray

25th January, 22nd February, 29th March (Good Friday with the Easter House Party), 12noon to 2pm



There is no need to book but a quick email to cfrenquiry@aol.com will assist with lunch preparation

Decorating Barnes Close

At last we have begun the mammoth task of decorating Barnes Close. By next Easter we hope to have painted all guest areas including bedrooms, corridors, meeting rooms, etc. We also hope to do the exterior woodwork.

We have employed a painter and decorator to do the stairwells but the rest we are doing ourselves, with your help.



Most of the paint has been donated and John has come down from North Yorkshire, a round trip of 400 miles, to spend a day painting. He is coming back with a small team in the new year.

To complete the task we need a steady stream of local volunteers. If painting is not your forte then maybe you can help us by sanding and polishing floors or laying carpet tiles or vinyl flooring. Whatever your skill it can be used at Barnes Close.

If you can spare some time to help refresh Barnes Close please contact Ian.

**Need a break?
Why not try our Private Retreats**

£55 per 24 hours
Includes room and meals
£22 per day includes lunch
Available mid-week most of year
at Barnes Close



What's On at Barnes Close

**Reflection Days - Thursdays
Listening to God**

17th January, 14th February, 14th March
Cost: £15 per day (Includes lunch)

Youth House Party

Friday 25th to Saturday 27th January
Cost: £50 (2nd child in family £40)

Holocaust Memorial Day

Sunday 27th January 6pm to 9pm
Worship, Discussion, Reflection, Prayer,
Buffet

Kids for Peace Sleepover

Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th February
Cost: £30 (2nd Child in family £20)

Healing Retreat

Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th March
An opportunity to share experiences and to
allow God to heal.
Cost: £140 (waged), £120 (unwaged)

**Please contact Ian for booking forms for
any of the above**

Peace & Reconciliation Issues

Highlights from other organisations and places

In April 2013 a team from Amos Trust will work with local people in Bethlehem to rebuild a demolished home. Rebuilding this home will not only transform the lives of the family, but it is an act of solidarity with the whole village. Please give generously this Christmas to buy the building materials needed and show this community that they are not forgotten. They need £25,000. For more information please visit their website at www.amostrust.org/news

Donations & Grants

We are extremely grateful to all who have made donations to our work this year, it has helped us to fund our work.

	Received <u>2012</u>	spent/grants made <u>2012</u>
UnAfrAid	£401	£4,500
Village India	£713	£4,500
CfR Footprints	£4,220	£5,531
Romania	£271	£500
Bursary Fund	£767	£1,000
Barnes Close	£7,099	£6,840

*(used to fund improvements
& subsidise CfR Events)*

We have been able to sustain this level of work due to past legacies. It will help our future work if you would consider CfR when making your will.

If we are to continue our level of work we need your help to increase our income now

Christmas Events @ Barnes Close

From 3rd to 19th December we welcome groups of 12 to 35 people for Christmas Dinner at lunchtime or in the evening.

OPEN CHRISTMAS

Thursday 20th December 7pm
Carols, stories, music round the Christmas Tree
Followed by seasonal refreshments

Pause for Reflection

How will you celebrate Christmas? In our warm homes we celebrate with family, friends, food, drink, gifts and cards. Born in a stable Jesus' only visitors were strangers and then he had to flee as a refugee. We should celebrate Christmas by working to ensure that no-one is ever lonely, friendless, homeless, or a refugee.

Contacting the Community for Reconciliation:

🌐: www.cfrbarnesclose.co.uk



cfrenquiry@aol.com



01562 710231



CfR, Barnes Close, Chadwich, Bromsgrove, Worcs B61 0RA

Barnes Close Office hours: Monday - Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm