



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

Newslink

May
2015

We are the Community for Reconciliation but what is it that brings reconciliation? here are as many answers to that question as there are issues to be resolved but in general terms reconciliation comes when people have safe and secure homes, enough food to eat, are treated justly and fairly, have conflicts resolved and human rights respected. Inequality, human greed and lust for power are the biggest destabilising factors in our world. 2015 is not just the 70th Anniversary of VE day it is the 70th Anniversary of Christian Aid and one of their past slogans is still relevant 'Live More Simply Than Others May Simply Live'. *Ian Ring, Community Co-Ordinator*



Romania Concern



Janos Antal, Ecumenical and International Officer of the Reformed Church in Romania, and his family visited CfR Barnes Close at the end of March. It was great to welcome them all

and during the visit we discovered a lot about the current situation in Romania, the difficulties faced at times by the ethnic Hungarian and Protestant minority in a Romanian Orthodox dominated country and of hopes for the future. We explored plans to bring two or three Reformed pastors a year to the UK to spend time shadowing United Reformed or Churches of Christ pastors. We are also seeking young people to help run English speaking youth camps in Romania.

CfR Afghanistan

On 28th March Roddy Jones and Annabel Croft of Afghan Mother & Child Rescue and Shir an Afghan living in the UK gave a fascinating insight into the historical perspective and the current situation in



Afghanistan. We learnt a lot, not just about the school for girls and boys we support but about the establishment of clinics, village bakeries, traditional lifestyle and the impact of modern technology. We heard about the difficulties of both travel and of maintaining the traditional self-sufficient agricultural lifestyle of the rural communities.

Community Evening

On the second Monday of each month we have a meal at Barnes Close at 6.30pm followed by one of our committee or group meetings or the Trustees meeting. People are welcome to come earlier and help in the grounds or house or sit and enjoy the peace and tranquillity. Anybody is welcome to stay and join in the committee or group meetings that follow the meal but the Trustees meeting is a closed session.

11th May

Meal & Membership + Marketing and Fund Raising Group

8th June

Meal & Trustees Meeting

13th July

Meal & Barnes Close Committee

News From Barnes Close

We have been doubly blessed in recent weeks as Robert, our volunteer gardener has brought an assistant, Alex, with him. Looking at what seemed like minor repairs to the bridge in the bog garden led to the discovery that the support timber was rotten. Robert & Alex have built a wonderful new bridge leading to 'The Place of the Cross' which was ceremoniously opened on 24 April.



CfR Review

CfR External Relations Committee have set in place the review of all our International Projects. This review will assess both the general area of concern and the individual organisations and projects within against CfR's aims and mission statement, the difference our contribution makes and whether other groups are doing similar work better than we can.

**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

Thursday 14th May, 11th June, 9th July
Cost: £15 per day (includes lunch)

NEW Community Evening at BC NEW

Monday 11th May, 8th June, 13th July
6.00pm for 6.30pm Meal
See over for more details

Members & Friends Week

Mon 22nd to Fri 26th June
Cost £240 Waged, (£200 unwaged)

Youth Peace Camp

Mon 27th to Thur 30th July
Cost: £70 (2nd child in family £55)

Kids For Peace

Monday 3rd to Wednesday 5th August
Cost £50 (2nd child in family £45)

Time Away—Holiday Week

Thurs 10th to Wed 16th September
Cost: £240 (waged) £220 (unwaged)

Members & Friends Barbecue

Wednesday 24th June from 6pm

Please contact Ian for booking forms

Donations & Grants

We are very grateful to all who have made donations in 2015 to enable our work to continue.

	Received 2015	spent 2015	blnce 31/03
CfR Un-Afr-Aid	15	4560	-492
CfR Village India Aid	231	50	1920
<i>* VIA & UnAfrAid money is being drawn from Peace & Justice reserve</i>			
CfR Romania Concern	123	1415	2033
CfR Footprints	8137	4838	12591
<i>* Footprints group raises its own funds.</i>			
CfR Afghanistan	12	0	1470
CfR Barnes Close Bursary	172	250	1187
CfR Barnes Close	figures not available		
<i>For improvements & Upgrades</i>			

Please consider CfR when making your will, much of our work has been funded through past legacies

Cream Teas at Barnes Close

We are expanding our popular Sunday afternoon Cream Teas at Barnes Close this year. Come along and enjoy the peace and tranquillity as you tuck into homemade scones and tea or coffee

**Sundays 14th & 28th June, 19th & 26th July and 13th September 2015
3pm to 5pm**

STOP PRESS

St Chad's church in Rubery is having a Mission Apprentice from 1st September 2015 for two years. The successful applicant, Jodie Brown, has chosen to live in the flat at Barnes Close in exchange for 6 hours a week for CfR. Jodie will be an Assistant to Ian and her hours accumulated to be used as cover for Ian when he is away and for helping on youth and children's events

Pause for Reflection

All I have and all I am is Yours
there's nothing that I have on earth
That doesn't come from You
I lay aside my pride and worldly worth
To serve You is the greatest thing
That I could ever do
Louise Fellingham, Mike Busbee, Nathan Fellingham

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