



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

**Newslink
February
2018**

From The Community Coordinator:

The Christmas period was as enjoyable as ever. It is always a pleasure to welcome guests for Christmas meals as well as the more regular Reflection Days. Open Christmas was very enjoyable both for the content of the evening and Lisa's excellent buffet. The new year brings new hopes and new opportunities, but the world seems ever more in need of reconciliation. Please join me in praying for peace and reconciliation across the world



News from Barnes Close

We were snowed in on 10th December but thanks to our neighbour, Jonty, and his new snow blower we were able to get by the afternoon of the next day. Volunteers come and volunteers go. Currently we have Marlena from Germany and Laura from France assisting us. Sarah, Lisa, Mike, Robert and Ian continue to make guests welcome and maintain the buildings and grounds. We are coming towards the start of the grass cutting season and anyone who can help there, or generally in the grounds would be very welcome.

What's On at Barnes Close

Reflection Days Thursday 8th February, 8th March, 18th April. Cost: £15 per day (includes lunch)

Community Evening at Barnes Close

6.00pm Prayer 6.30pm Meal 7.15pm Meeting
Monday 12th February with Barnes Close Committee
Monday 12th March with Trustees



The Bundle Sunday 8th April 3pm

This was postponed due to snow in December

Based closely on the story of a real woman and her three young children, The Bundle follows Adilah's domestic persecution and denial of human rights in Chechnya. Removed from her Russian homeland by her Chechen father, abducted into a forced marriage and then subjected to a life of servitude, she takes the ultimate risk in plotting her escape to the UK.



Lent Retreat Tuesday 6th to Thursday 8th March

An opportunity to listen to God, allow him to minister to us and bless us, and deepen our relationship with Him.
cost £150 waged, £125 unwaged

Easter at Barnes Close Thursday 29th March to Tuesday 2nd April

Spend Easter at Barnes Close and join in Worship and Reflection based around the events of the first Easter.
Cost: £250 waged, £210 unwaged



Please contact Ian for booking forms and further information

CfR Footprints Update by Clive Fowle

Last year was very busy for TOUCH OF HOPE and in particular the last few months of the year were very rich for me and for TOUCH OF HOPE in terms of the speaking engagements. We are committed to 2 workshops in Bosnia to complete the Unit 1 cycle. We have reserved 20th to 22nd April for a workshop on Forgiveness in Dubica and May 11th to 13th for the final workshop on Reconciliation at Mrakovica. Both these venues are close to Prijedor. We wish to start another cycle of Unit 1 workshops in Serbia involving the Methodist Church and EHO (Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation in Novi Sad). All this of course is subject to new money coming in but I am contacting our friends in Serbia to discuss possibilities. We hope to have a group visit CFR in Autumn 2018 or Spring 2019.

CfR Romania Concern Update from Ian Ring

During my visit to Romania I met with Bishop Csury of the Reformed Church in Romania and discussed amongst other things church provision for retired clergy and the current political situation. I also visited the parish of Arad-Gai, the Loranffy Szusanna High School, the building works for a new church kindergarten and a village church shared by the Reformed & Catholic churches where I worshipped on the Sunday

CfR East Africa Update from Jan Scott

PHARP Rwanda - In his recent email Anastase described how the goats are benefitting the community of Rukumbura. Many have now had young, so your generosity is truly multiplying! We are about half way to our target of £900 for pigs for the community in Northern Province. Many thanks to those who have already donated, but if you haven't and would like to, please contact Ian for details of bank transfer or send a cheque to Community for Reconciliation .

PHARP Kenya - The team continue to hold Conflict Resolution workshops to communities all over the country.

Maji Mazuri - Children and young people in the Mathare Valley slum continue to benefit from these projects and have a brighter future

Finance Update

Thank you to all who have recently sent donations to sustain our work.

News from Other Organisations

Fairtrade Foundation

Fairtrade Fortnight 2018 runs from 26 February to 11 March and this year they would like us to join them in supporting the farmers and workers who grow our food. With Fairtrade we have the power to change the world every day. Fairtrade opens doors. Fairtrade Fortnight aims to put a spotlight on trade. When trade is fair it has the potential to improve the lives of the farmers and workers who grow our food. When trade is fair, it can make the world a better place. Together we have that power, so get involved and be part of the difference. It's a shocking fact that millions of poor farmers who produce the food we love still don't earn enough to feed their own families. It's time for this injustice to end. Through Fairtrade, millions of poor farmers and workers are already coming together to demand a change. They are working hard to close the door on exploitation and transform their communities, supported by Fairtrade.

Pause For Thought

"You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." Words of Jesus to Pilate, the Roman Governor

Contacting the Community for Reconciliation:

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

