



## A Thirty Year Reflection of the Men's Fellowship

Over the last 30 years or so, we have enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship along with learning many things and discussing how it may impact upon our lives as individuals, or as a Church. A special time of meeting together has been the culmination of our gathering as we met around the Lord's Table and celebrated together.

We have visited around 17 different congregations over the years and looking back, I can't find any record of where we met in 1992 - if anyone can remember please let me know. At that time, the gatherings were organised by the Yorkshire District.

We launched the Provincial Men's Fellowship in the spring of 1994 after a gathering at Dukinfield, when a discussion took place on the coach back to London by the brethren from the Hornsey congregation. They thought there should be more involvement from other districts in the Fellowship Day; so we thank the brethren from Hornsey for their initiative and for their invitation to hold an inaugural meeting at Hornsey on Saturday 12th February 1994, with representatives from all the Districts invited to attend. The meeting was chaired by Br Fred Linyard.

We have enjoyed many interesting topics and subjects over the years, and, in the earlier years, we obtained from our speaker a series of papers, or the recommendation of a book or pamphlet, which the Men's

Fellowship groups could use as a study document to prepare for the presentation on the day. These we found quite useful as follow-up information.

Here is a selection of themes we have been enjoyed over the years, but unfortunately there isn't time to mention them all.

We started at Lower Wyke in 1987 with a speaker from Wheatfields Hospice in Leeds. The following year, we had a talk about 'Social Care for the Elderly' (that title seems quite familiar, doesn't it!). On one occasion at Ockbrook, we heard from Br Weesals from South Africa, who was here for a Unity Seminar - he talked about 'Christians in Politics (the Moravian Experience)', whilst Ray Boyes, a Chaplain from Manchester United, spoke about 'Christians in Sport'. In 1997, another time at Lower Wyke, quite by coincidence, we heard from the Provincial Youth Committee about 'Young People and their reluctance to Religion'.

We have heard about 'Christians in Business and Finance' by Br Healey; from the Moravian Church Foundation; Medical Ethics with Sr Claire Summers; 'Renewal' with Sr Mullin and Br Greenhough from the Renewal Committee; and 'Communicating your Faith through Art, Music and Poetry', with the Brethren Dickinson, Holdsworth and Saville. 'Encounters with others Faiths' with Dr John Parry from Northern College; 'Reaching the Reluctant, (a Mission to the Men)', which today I think could be expanded further; 'Industrial Chaplaincy around Manchester'; 'Fair Trade/ Traidcraft', the 'Mission Aviation Fellowship'; and 'Living your life through the power of the media', a talk by Soin Coleman, a local Baptist Minister and broadcaster on local



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radio. The interview he did was broadcast the next morning on local West Midlands Radio. 'The Yorkshire Air Ambulance' was the subject at Fulneck, and we have heard about the work of prison chaplaincy at H.M.P. Wandsworth. Rev Dr Rosalind Selby spoke about Ecology and how better we can use and, more importantly, preserve God's Creation. And then last year, from Dr Margaret Barker about 'Solomon's Temple and the significance it has for the Church today'. This year we have heard from P.Y.C.C. about keeping our young people rooted in the Church.

We especially give thanks for all who have, over the years, supported these Fellowship Days, and those Men's Groups and Congregations who have raised money for our various projects. They were all



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## Editorial

Many of you will know that I have spent the last few months planning for a very special event in my life. So as I sit to ponder and consider this editorial, my thoughts turn only to that of matrimony. Surprisingly, my thoughts are not around the huge commitment that I am about to embark upon, nor are they about significant passages from the bible that refer to marriage, or even about role models and tenets for a successful marriage. Instead, my thoughts linger on the wedding planning process, about not getting too caught up in all the possibilities and to focus on what really matters.

With endless points of reference from websites, magazines, shops, friends and family there can be a lot of opinions flying around outlining the ideal way in which the day should be executed. It can take great strength, but through the process I have had to continually find a way to switch off all the noise, stop worrying about matters that in the grand scheme of things are completely insignificant and dilute what is really important to Dave and me.

Hand in hand with this, I have been told a few times now to make sure that on the big day we take time to just stop. Appreciate what is actually happening. Don't worry about executing everything to a 'T', but enjoy the fruits of our planning.

At this point you may be wondering 'why is she telling me all

this?' It's because I think its great advice for life, especially for nurturing and nourishing our spirit life and legacy.

At my recent hen party a quote was used on the party bags: 'We didn't realise we were making memories, we just thought we were having fun' (A. A. Milne). In the same vein, every day we ARE curating our legacy, be it personal, family, work, Moravian or as part of the wider Christian church. How often to do take time to think about what that legacy will say? I'm not talking about thinking so much that you are paralysed into inaction, but taking the time to see where you are now, discern what God is calling you to do and preparing yourself to do it.

So as you make your way through this month's edition, I encourage you to not only gloss over and think 'that was lovely', but use it as a genuine time to see what is really happening across our province and our wider unity. Enjoy the successes and fellowship, explore the issues and reflections, re-focus on your own spiritual journey and re-energise yourself for the next step of God's journey within and through you.

**Sr Zoe Ferdinand**  
Guest Editor



## Letters

Friends:

I refer to Sr Julie Hague's article on the German Kirchentag in the August edition of the Messenger. The word 'Tag' does indeed mean 'day', but has many other meanings too. One is about conferring, as in 'conference'. The Federal German Parliament is the 'Bundestag', and the old parliamentary building in Berlin is the 'Reichstag'. A better translation of 'Kirchentag' would be 'Church Congress', but even this cannot begin to embrace the vastness of the event! I've attended several, but was sadly unable to do so this year.

**Br David Bunney**

Sirs,

I enjoyed Br James Woolford's article in The Messenger for August. It echoed my own observations very closely. My own attendance at Moravian worship is limited by distance, but what he says is equally true for the Methodist Church and I suspect of all denominations.

It has often occurred to me that one factor contributing to the dearth of male attendance in most congregations might well be the setting of hymns to tunes pitched too high for the average untrained male voice. This could partly account for the gross difference he mentions between the music we sing in church and in secular situations. It could also account for the initial enthusiasm for many of the modern worship songs, which tend to be set much lower, although as he implies, very few of these will last. But that is the nature of hymnody. Hymns and worship songs are written by the dozen and sung, but only a few will be good enough to find their way into our long-term repertoire.

**Br Ted Wilson, Gloucester**

## Upbeat Communities - Helping strangers become neighbours



Photo of Elliott & Einir Cooper and a refugee (pixelated) with Br Kreusel

© Br Joachim Kreusel

We were pleased to welcome members of Upbeat Communities to our Garden Party at Ockbrook on 10th June, and again to take part in our morning service on 11th June.

Upbeat Communities is a Christian charity, based in the middle of Normanton, Derby, who welcome

refugees and people seeking asylum. The people can be from all over the world, including the Middle East, South East Asia and Africa.

By listening to them we discovered that when refugees arrive in this country they have literally no-one: no friends and often no family. These are real people; someone's son, someone's daughter, single mums etc.

One lady told us about the beautiful life she and her husband had in Iran. She taught at the university and her husband ran his own business. However, when he became a Christian they were forced to flee the country and came to Derby. They did not know anyone. She would stay at home, alone, all day, and was very sad. She said that Upbeat Communities gave her hope.

By means of welcome visits, welcome boxes, friendship, English lessons, good quality properties to rent, and much more, Upbeat Communities help people to adjust to life in Britain, and to navigate the difficulties of setting up bank accounts, registering for benefits, paying bills and finding work. They work with The British Red Cross and Derby Refugee Advice Centre, among others, to offer education, friendship and practical support. They also raise awareness among the local settled community to increase understanding of the challenges refugees face and the contribution they bring.

We are planning to keep up our link with Upbeat Communities, thinking about how we can help, and hoping that they will soon pay us another visit.

Further information can be found on their website:  
[www.upbeatcommunities.org](http://www.upbeatcommunities.org)

**Sr Julie Hague**

# Youth News

At our most recent PYCC meeting we discussed the lack of items in the Messenger for children and young people. As such it was decided that we would appeal for news items of things that are going on across our province whether they are upcoming events, recent events or ongoing activities. We had a great response, and so I have collated them into what you see below, so that you can see how much is going on in our province for them and this will also provide opportunities for the children and young people to hear about the work and get involved themselves.

### Fairfield

Fairfield has a regular youth group that meets twice a month during term time. Activities range from domino playing and setting up domino runs to playing 'Goalball' (the Paralympic game for the blind) and crafts (ably organised and assisted by two members of a WI group). A session of 'Would I Lie to you?' saw four church members each telling a story and the Youth working in teams to decide whether or not they were true! The Youth are also put together a Talent Show for the Lancashire District Youth Evening in July.

They also do a lot of fundraising for local charities. Two years ago, they raised money for a local charity, Reuben's Retreat, by taking part in an evening Conga round The Square in December (thankfully the weather was fine!). This year, they selected St Mary's Neo-Natal Unit and opted to bake and serve at a Coffee Morning on a recent Saturday morning. The total amount raised was a staggering £245! This is being used to help fund a specialist life support machine to be used by premature babies requiring an MRI scan.

### Swindon

The church at Swindon plays host to 35 Rainbows and 20 Beavers who meet every week, and who attend their Parade services four times a year where they enjoy a very

lively and interactive service.

All the youngsters in the church are very involved with the activities, volunteering each week with the uniformed groups and fundraising on many weekends for the many charities they support from the congregation, including operation Christmas child & the food bank. Recently, they were in action again at a local fete, fundraising for Chernobyl children's lifeline link and the Brighter futures radiotherapy appeal. Two of our members are host families for children from Belarus and their interpreter throughout July, and our young people are continuing to fundraise for the charity. They also support YMPA through direct giving and fundraising, mainly tombola's at local fetes.

### Gracehill

Gracehill hold a youth fellowship group called The Lounge @ Gracehill that meet every other Sunday during term time and have a theme for the year. This year the theme has been God's promises. During the meeting the young people and leaders have time to chat, play games or do crafts, eat some food and then spend time listening to one of their youth leaders delivering a talk on one aspect of the theme for the year. They had a Christmas cinema trip to see 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them' and in May, after the Sunday night meetings had stopped due to it being exam season, we took the young people to Portrush on the train, and had a fantastic day of fun and fellowship playing games on the beach, eating chips and going to Barry's Funfair.



© Moravian Youth

For the past four years we have been holding a summer children's Bible club in the church hall in August. This is aimed at children in the village and surrounding areas from 4 - 12 years old. This year the Holiday Bible Club outreach is running from Monday 7th August until Friday 11th August from 10am-12 noon.

The theme is 'Waste Watchers' (from Scripture Union) and the stories are based around God's transforming power in Jesus. There is a focus on looking after the world and God's creation, and the craft team are trying to come up with ideas for craft that will use recycled household items such as yogurt pots, kitchen roll tubes etc. The day involves starter craft, songs, warm ups, Bible story, quiz on the story, juice and biscuits, activity pages on the story, sport or craft.

### Fetter Lane

Fetter Lane hosted their annual family BBQ on the 1st July. People attended from all across the Eastern District to enjoy the food, games, music and the bouncy castle that was provided.

Also in the Eastern District, a Youth Trip to Greenwich was held where the adults and young people met at Westminster Pier and boarded a boat to Greenwich and after viewing the Thames flood barrier they gathered for a treasure hunt around Greenwich.

**Br James Woolford**



## Young people from the Eastern District journey to Greenwich

Saturday 8th July

We gathered at Westminster Pier at 10am on 8th July to meet other young people and children from the Eastern District. After purchasing the tickets and boarding the river boat scheduled for Greenwich, we departed Westminster at 10.30am and were given a guided tour along the Thames. We viewed a number of attractions from our vantage point (for example Royal Festival Hall, the London Eye, London Bridge, to name a few). Fortunately, the weather was sunny and bright for such a trip.

When we arrived at Greenwich we were offered an extended trip along the Thames through the Thames barrier. Many had not previously seen the Thames barrier close-up, and we finally

disembarked at Greenwich at 12.30pm. There, we gathered together in an open space and introduced each other, then played a name memory game. A treasure hunt sheet was circulated, and the group split into teams to find the clues and explore Greenwich, all walking up to the Greenwich Observatory.

We re-assembled at Greenwich Pier and boarded the 3.30pm river boat for our return trip along the river to Westminster, where we reviewed the treasure hunt information and marked the sheets. A good time was had by all.

**Br Edwin Quidan,**  
Fetter Lane



# Annual Memorial Day Address in the Yorkshire District

The Yorkshire District held its annual Memorial Service to mark the founding of the Brethren's Church in 1457, at Wellhouse Moravian Church on the 26th February 2017. The preacher was the Rt. Rev. Walter Jagucki, Emeritus Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Great Britain.

Br Evans, as chair of District Conference, presided for the Lovefeast and Holy Communion. The Moravian Singers sang during the service and their presence greatly enhanced the singing of all the hymns. Br Newman and Bishop Walter assisted with the serving of the elements within the Holy Communion.

The following is an abridged version of the address given.

Text for the day: John 1:4. 'In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.'

Greetings to Brother Kenneth, Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Thank you for inviting me to this service of Lovefeast and Holy Communion. To share in the service of thanksgiving for the founding of Unitas Fratrum on March 1st 1457 in Moravia.

The Moravian Church and the Lutheran Church share for centuries the common heritage of Reformation: for you, 560 years, and for us, 500 years. The whole year 2017, indeed from October 2016, Lutheran Churches in the world commemorate the day when Martin Luther nailed his theses on the door of the castle in Wittenburg, 31st October 1517.

In his writing Luther called for a debate regarding the teachings and life of the Church in the Middle Ages. For example: teaching on confession and absolution, with particular emphasis on the abuse of indulgences ... practice of adoration of relics ... Enforced monastic life ... Even the practice of pilgrimages, to name but a few. The other was the vexed question of the authority of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope. And here, 60 years before Luther, the Brethren in Moravia questioned the authority of the Pope.

Your Church's emphasis on the authority of Scripture had a deep resonance in Luther's Reformation and in Calvin's. The tragedy of John Hus had its place too. Martin Luther became an outlaw in 1521. Your ancestors lost their lives and were banished in exile. It was Poland that Brothers first settled before Herrnhut.

The Polish connection is of interest to me (I am British of Polish extraction). The connection was made by Jan Komensky (Comenius) leader of the Moravian Church in Lissa in 1628. Jan Komensky had an influence on Polish literature, education and knowledge.

I am wearing my Polish vestments today. The black gown and white alb were used in sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and still today in Poland. In times of persecution, services were held in the mountains of Silesia in the middle of the night in the woods as no Lutheran churches were allowed to be built. The pastor was smuggled from Slovakia. The alb was introduced so that people could see the pastor in the dim light of the night.

Our Gospel text for today says Jesus Christ is Light. He is the life and light. St. John in his Gospel begins with: in the beginning was the word and everything began because of the word. A fact. I had a parishioner in Leeds, who lost his faith. The horrendous experience of the Second World War left him devastated. He did, however, like to have a debate with me. This parishioner looked in the four Gospels for facts about the Christmas story. He questioned how come that Matthew tells us little: Mark nothing at all: Luke, in his opinion, paints a fairy tale and John is completely different! Facts.

We believe in Jesus Christ. Reformation, in my tradition, is based on four statements: Only Scripture: Only grace: Only Faith: Only Christ. That has been spelled out in the Augsburg confession, presented in Augsburg, Germany in 1530. Incidentally, the Moravian Church adopted this confession in 1748.

The fact that Jesus of Nazareth lived is not questioned by historians. But what is a fact to us Christians, is that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. That incarnation

happened - that is not accepted by other religions, and people of no faith. For us, this single sentence which has been selected in your 'Daily Watchword' for 2017 became a fact: 'In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.' Jesus came into existence by the mighty Word of God, and is God.

In our times, especially in the last year marked by Brexit and elections in the USA, people question facts. There is a cartoon in Private Eye depicting two desks: one with a person behind a computer, above the desk a sign 'News Desk'; behind another desk, a childlike drawing of a figure with a sign 'Fake News Desk'. Yes whom to believe?

The Gospel is the 'Good News' - not fake news. This is what our ancestors in faith in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries confessed. This is what we proclaim in our churches week in, week out. This news of Jesus who is life and light - is a fact not fake.

Dr. Martin Luther in his commentary on this text wrote: 'Here John speaks as plainly and simply as a child, and his words sound really naïve to the ears of the worldly-wise. But there is a latent majesty in them such as no man, no matter how enlightened he may be, can fathom or express. With the words 'In Him was life, and the life was the light of men, he hurls thunderbolts against the light of reason, against free will and human power.'

Life and light against all reason - is our Lord Jesus.

In this world of social and official media when we are bombarded by facts and fake facts, it is good to know whom we believe: Jesus Christ; Jesus, the light in the darkness of this world.

May our prayer be the verse from Nicholas Zinzendorf's hymn known to us in both of our traditions:

**Jesus, still lead on,  
Till our rest be won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow, calm and fearless;  
Guide us by your hand,  
To our Father's land.**

Amen.



## Global Ecumenical Theological Institute - GETI'17

All the GETI participants and faculty members © Albin Hillert/WCC

I had the privilege of attending GETI'17 which gathered between the nineteenth of May and the first of June in Berlin. This is an annual gathering of theological students and theologians who come together to make up the Global Ecumenical Theological Institute (GETI). The 130 participants came from 58 nations across six continents. As you can imagine this created a really colourful diversity of faith traditions and a lot of rewarding opportunities to meet people from churches you had never encountered before. It was an opportunity to deepen both my own knowledge and spirituality as we shared with one another what we valued in our own faith tradition.

Our theme this year was on 'Reforming Theology, Migrating Church and Transforming Society'. This theme carried across our prayers and worship as well as our more academic areas, with keynote lecturers each bringing different thoughts on this theme. We were placed into 12 seminar groups with each person in the seminar group presenting on one article from a collection of essays we had already read in advance. This gave scope for discussion and questions with each of us, in our traditions, considering carefully what it meant to reform and transform the church as well as our identity as a migrating church.

Through these seminary experiences, I realised the variety of ways people have been taught theology. I truly appreciated this difference, whilst also realising the value I place behind the way I am currently taught at Luther King House in Manchester which teaches theology from a contextual perspective. My experience of learning alongside other students at GETI made me realise how important it is to ensure that your theology (God thoughts/ideas) are lived out in your life and do not just remain academic ideas.

There were many highlights from GETI. One was singing in the choir led by Lars, a Swedish minister, and ministering in a Swedish Lutheran Church. Together, from all our traditions we sang all sorts of music from the Beatles through to Wild Goose world music to African tunes ... and worked our way through several languages. Being in the choir was a joyful experience and something we could share beyond GETI as we contributed to Kirchentag with our singing.

Another highlight was a conversation with Lars (the choir master) about how he saw and appreciated the work ethic of Moravians. He talked about how within his congregation at home he could see who were of Moravian tradition because of how actively they got involved in the church. It made me appreciate the commitment of the Moravian tradition that seems to encourage folk to be active workers for God's Kingdom and that those, even outside our tradition, value this.

Overall, I appreciated the chance to see how diverse the world church truly is and yet how much we do have in common. This conference instilled in me the importance of striving to work together as churches of different traditions. We talked a lot within my seminar group on how to make the world a better place for all those who are part of God's Creation. Simply put, we realised this has to be done together as churches. One way that was suggested was that each church should explore the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace. Another way was ensuring that ecumenical dialogue is always seen as a priority in our Church.

I return from GETI grateful for all the conversations and friendships that were made; grateful for the space and time to reflect on what the church as a whole can do in the world for good. GETI is an inspiring experience, and one I would highly recommend. However, a lot of the intention behind GETI can be replicated on a more local level by getting to know more about our neighbour churches and hearing what their faith tradition means to them. Together we can work towards making the world that little bit better.

For more information on the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace: [www.oikoumene.org/en/what-we-do/pilgrimage-of-justice-and-peace](http://www.oikoumene.org/en/what-we-do/pilgrimage-of-justice-and-peace)

For more information on GETI'17: [www.geti-17.de](http://www.geti-17.de)

**Sr Claire Maxwell**

Claire is a student in training for the Moravian Ministry and will be entering her fourth and last year at Northern College in Manchester in September. Claire's placement congregations are Ockbrook and Leicester.



## A Thirty Year Reflection of the Men's Fellowship *continued*

mentioned on the bookmarks we produced for our 25 year celebration at Blackbird Leys, but include:

- Moravian Hospital in Tanzania
- Elim Home
- Water Pumps for the Hospital & Leprosarium in Sikonge
- H.I.V. Blood Testing Kits for Tanzania
- Work in Albania
- Shelter Project in Mandeville Jamaica
- Christian Enquiry Agency
- Summer Camp
- Hurricane Appeals in Jamaica & Honduras
- Mission Flat Sofa Bed
- Jamaica Education Board
- Unity Synod Goody Bag
- Traidcraft
- Medical Expenses in Nepal
- New Bus for South Asia
- Mission Aviation Fellowship

- Sports Equipment for the Moravian School at Matho
- Ebenezer Home in Jamaica
- Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- Wandsworth Community Chaplaincy Trust
- Books and Bibles for Schools in Western Tanzania and in New Delhi
- Motorcycles for Tanzania
- Hurricane Appeal in Nepal
- Operation Noah
- The Centre for Study of Jordanian Lead Books
- Bus for Khalatse
- Land Purchase in Khokona
- Star Mountain

I would also like to thank the committee, which has changed a little since the inaugural meeting, but nevertheless, they have all worked hard over the last 30 years.

The committee has met at least twice a year to plan and implement activities, as well as the Fellowship Days for each one of us to enjoy. These also have changed in format over time, to try to accommodate the views and the requests of those attending.

We very much appreciate the invitations and the hospitality of the congregations and long may we continue to meet, to share fellowship and to learn together some of the interesting facts which surround us in our world today: facts which will hopefully lead us forward on the path which our Lord has shown us.

By Gum, that last 30 years has flown by!

**Br Kenneth G. Evans**





# Biography of Br Henning Schlimm (1931-2017)

## Youth and Study

Henning Schlimm was born on 27 October 1931 in Magdeburg as one of four children. His father was a police officer who took a critical stand against the upcoming Nazis. This led to his forced retirement (in fact a dismissal) in 1934.

The Nazi time overshadowed the family life. In 1936 the family moved to the Moravian settlement in Gnadau near Magdeburg where they got to know the Moravian Church. They felt accepted in the community and Henning became part of the children's work in the congregation. When his father found a job as a salesman in 1938 the family moved to Essen, a town in the industrial heart of Germany.

Through his parents, Henning found contact with the youth of the Confessing Church in Essen which opposed the Nazi regime and its followers in the Church. Henning had a vivid memory of the gatherings of the Confessing Church, though still a child. The political pressure on the opposition grew; and in 1940 the 2nd World War started to be felt in the industrial centres with bomb attacks. Through contacts with the Moravian Church, Henning would spend the years 1943 to 1945 at the Moravian school in Niesky. During a summer camp in 1945, he had a personal encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Youth and Study

Back in Essen in 1945, Henning attended school there and completed it in 1952. In those years it became clear to him that he wanted to study theology. He continued to be involved in Christian youth work in Essen where the churches had to be rebuilt after the end of the war.

In 1952, the economy collapsed. His father advised him to choose a practical career; so he started training as a building fitter. Nevertheless, he realised his plan to study theology in 1954; his studies led him to universities in Bethel, Tübingen, Basel, Heidelberg and Bonn. He was grateful for the close fellowship with lecturers and students in the academic community.

Henning completed his studies with the exams of the Rhenish Church at Düsseldorf in 1960. Now the period of practical training in Essen started. During this period a request came for him to serve the Moravian Church in South Africa as a lecturer at the Theological Seminary. He replied positively. With support of the Moravian Church he attained a bursary of the World Council of Churches to do a year of postgraduate study in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to deepen his theological knowledge and language skills, combined with practical work in a congregation during 1960-1961. This served as a time of preparation for South Africa.

## Service in South Africa

Henning married Marie-Luise Stähelin from Basel in November 1961, and the couple left for South Africa in January 1962. Their first station of service was Clarkson.

It was an overwhelming experience for Henning and Marie-Luise to be accepted and embraced by people who had to suffer from Apartheid and from 'white people'. Already at that time the two full-time students in theology came to him every morning.

From 1963 they moved to Fairview, P.E., where Henning served as a lecturer at the Theological Seminary together with Brn B. Krüger and A. Cloete, in conjunction with the service as a pastor in the congregation.

The great challenge was the ideology of and the practical life under the Apartheid system - and how to teach theology and live a Christian life under these

circumstances. As a lecturer it was a great learning experience for Henning - 'teaching is learning together' was his approach. The service in the congregation of Fairview and the experience of the destruction and the forced removal of the community left deep marks in his life.

Together with the Seminary the Schlimm family moved to Moravian Hill, Cape Town where the Seminary was now re-established. In this period, Henning got involved with the ecumenical movement in the Western Cape and participated in the activities of the Christian Institute with C.F. Beyers Naudé and Theo Kotze.

In 1969, his wife Marie-Luise passed away after a surgery in Zürich. She had suffered from an incurable disease for some years. Henning stayed behind with their three children Marianne, Andreas and Monika. Relatives of his wife helped the family in this situation.

In 1970, Henning and Anne Reichel married in Basel. The new family could return to South Africa. This enabled Henning to continue his service at the Seminary. The broad network of friends in the Moravian Church and beyond grew continuously. Through FELCSA, ASATI, the Christian Institute etc. he had many contacts. At the 1973 synod in Belville, Henning was elected to the Provincial Board of the MCSA and served there until his departure from South Africa.

## Service in Germany and Switzerland

Still in South Africa, their daughter Dorothea was born. In 1975, the Schlimm family returned to Germany with their four children. Two of them had inherited the disease of their mother and had developed tumours in the brain which had to be operated on and treated. For further medical treatment it had been agreed that the family would return to Europe. Henning received a call to the congregation of Königsfeld where they were warmly received. It was a deep sorrow that their daughter Monika passed away at the end of 1978.

In 1984, Henning and Anne were called to serve the Moravian Church in Switzerland. Next to the work in the congregation at Berne, where they stayed, they accompanied the Moravian boarding school at Montmirail and the French speaking Moravians in Switzerland. Henning had to learn French, whilst for Anne, French was her mother tongue. When the school at Montmirail had to close down, a Christian community took over the buildings and brought the place to new life. In 1989-1996 Henning and Anne continued their service from Montmirail. Living at Montmirail enabled Henning and Anne to build a close relationship with the community there. His co-operation with the community led to a spiritual 'cross-fertilization' for both, the Montmirail community and the Moravians in Switzerland.

The Provincial Synod in 1987 elected Henning as a bishop and his consecration followed in early 1988. He took up this new task energetically. For many colleagues in the service he became a 'pastor of pastors'. Often, he was called to mediate in conflict situations. Even in his contacts to the MCSA, he participated as a bishop in the South African bishops' reconciliatory efforts or wrote meditations for their booklets of prayers and meditations.

When he retired in 1996, Henning and Anne moved to Bad Boll where they continued to participate in congregational life. Now he had even more time to spend for his bishop's duties. He never saw this ministry as a burden. He remained in contact with many people in Germany, Switzerland and South Africa.

He followed the developments in the MCSA closely and the people in South Africa were deeply rooted in his heart. How glad he was when he recently heard that the financial crisis of the MCSA had been overcome! No visitor from South Africa came to Germany and did not have a visit to Henning and Anne on his agenda!

## A Personal Encounter

It was with great sadness that I received the news that Br Henning Schlimm had been called home and I have been asked to write a few words about this great servant of our denomination. I only had the good fortune to be in Henning's company a couple of times, but he certainly made a great impression on me on each occasion. And it is the first time that I met him that I would like to share briefly with you now, if I may. It was the summer of 1995 and I found myself, with 17 delegates from each of the other Moravian provinces, in the middle of a beautiful Czech forest a couple of hours to the north of Prague. We were all taking part in the three month long Unity Seminar of that year and unfortunately things were not going well, for we were all feeling a little cut off from the outside world and consequently slightly homesick, despite the beauty of our surroundings. There were tensions between those running the seminar and those who were supposed to be benefiting from it and we were also thrust into the middle of the increasing crisis that was brewing in the Czech Province, between the so-called charismatics and traditionalists, which was quite disturbing to us students and budding ministers.

On top of this Patsy was making preparations for our imminent

wedding in Bradford hundreds of miles away and there was very little I could do to help where I was. And into this melting pot came Bishop Henning Schlimm, a small man, who clearly had a big heart and an uncanny ability to fully appreciate situations and to get to the nub of what was really going on. He arrived at our accommodation and immediately took each of us aside to talk with us, or should I say more accurately listen to us all. For me it was obvious that he was an excellent choice for a bishop for his pastoral care came with a natural ease, accompanied by a deep sense of care for whomever he was having a conversation with and, from my perspective, thank goodness, this included me. I can't remember what he said to me during the Unity Seminar, mainly because he was mostly listening, and by that I mean properly listening, hearing the words we said, taking them in, thinking very carefully and then choosing his words equally carefully in response. Just exactly what I needed; just what the Unity Seminar needed at that moment in time. A truly great, yet humble man, who will be missed by everyone who was ever fortunate to spend time with him.

**Br Paul M Holdsworth**

But life had left its scars on his body. More than once his life had been in danger, e.g. after a difficult heart operation or after a surgery on colon cancer. In the last years, he felt a growing weakness and tiredness. He could not travel anymore - but he could still write, and he could take the phone and call people to say that he thought of them and prayed for them. And so he did until his last days. After only a few days in hospital, he passed away silently on Sunday 16 July 2017.

Not long ago, Henning had the Moravian student pastors in his house. It was part of their course that he would tell them

about his life experience. When he had to sum up what had been important to him in his life, he said: he was grateful that he had been guided by God throughout his life, also in straits and in sorrow. And that the practical spiritual life with the Bible had given him the strength to seek understanding and to maintain the communion with brothers and sisters, across all differences.

In this communion of brothers and sisters he will remain as he has passed on: we will remember him in our hearts.

**Br Christoph Reichel**  
Bad Boll



## Men's Fellowship Day at Kingswood

24th June 2017

On Saturday 24th June 2017, the brethren of the Provincial Men's Fellowship, along with a number of sisters, met at Kingswood United Church for the Annual Fellowship Day. During the opening devotions, led by Br Kenneth Evans as President of the Men's Fellowship, Sr Patsy Holdsworth welcomed the gathering to Kingswood and gave us a brief summary of the history of the United Church.

Our speakers for the afternoon were the Provincial Youth Committee, led by its chairman Br James Woolford, along with Srs Laura Wood and Katie Biggs. The theme for their presentation was 'Rooted in the Church: Ways to keep our Children and Young People engaged in the Church'.

It was a very interesting presentation with many forward-looking and interesting ideas. There was a lot of useful information which could be taken back and modified for use with our much smaller numbers.

Following the presentation there was group discussion based on the five questions prepared by the Youth Committee. After the discussions some questions were raised and put to them for their answers.

We thanked the members of the Youth Committee for giving up their time to prepare the presentation and for coming along to present it to the gathering that afternoon. I'm sure everyone



© Br David Howarth

gained something from the afternoon's presentation and discussion.

This year marked the 30th anniversary of the Provincial Men's Fellowship, and Br Evans shared a reflection on the last 30 years since its inauguration, which you will have read about on the front page of this issue.

Br Edwin Quildan then presented a cake during the tea which followed that was made for us by Sr Louise McCarthy from the Harlesden Congregation.

To conclude our afternoon together, Br Paul Holdsworth presided at the Lord's Supper and the Brn Howarth, Quildan and Evans assisted with the serving of the elements. It was a fitting conclusion to our time together.

We thank the congregation at Kingswood, along with their minister Sr Patsy, for their welcome and hospitality. It was good to meet once more in the Western District and enable us all to share together.

**Br Kenneth G. Evans**

## News from the Unity Archives

*The Unity Archivist reports on a conference recently held in Herrnhut about Moravian connections to the east which was organised by the Unity Archives, in collaboration with the Director of the Theological Training and the Komenský Guest and Meeting House.*

From 16th to 18th June 2017, in the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation, a Moravian history conference took place in Herrnhut. The conference was attended by 14 speakers and approximately 35 interested participants from Moravian Churches in Germany, including Herrnhut, as well as academics and scholars from various institutions around Europe and as far afield as Australia. The theme of the conference was based on a few lines of a hymn composed by Nikolaus Andreas Jeschke in 1740 ('Welch ein Same liegt noch da / gegen Orient begraben ...', or 'In the earth now lies a seed / Which soon the hungry East will feed'), which refers to the diverse connections of Herrnhut and Moravians to the eastern part of the world with which the conference was concerned.

In a total of 14 lectures, a geographical arc was drawn from Silesia, West Prussia,

Livonia, Finland, Slovakia and back to the Lusitan Sorbs, and then again from North Africa via Russia to South Asia and Tibet, until finally ending up in Australia. Among other things, we heard accounts of Moravian merchants, travellers, diaspora workers, Czech exiles, Christian slaves, Moravian artists and collections of natural science objects, as well as publishing missionaries, and missionary women.

The lectures, for the most part in German, are scheduled for publication in the 'Unitas Fratrum' journal in 2018: a publication from the Unity Archives covering history and contemporary issues of the Moravian Church. The lively and successful exchange on the subject of Moravians in the geographical east took place in the wonderful Komenský Guest and Conference Centre. It also included the Gedenkstein Ceremony, an annual

memorial celebration to commemorate the felling of the first tree and hence the founding of Herrnhut, and a joint celebration of ecumenical Sunday worship with the Moravian congregation in Herrnhut on 17 June, in the course of which a travelling exhibition was opened in the Moravian Church. Based on the anniversary of the Reformation, the exhibition included once again the conference theme of the East, under the heading 'Reformation in Eastern Europe'.

We look back on such an interesting and successful conference that weekend, as an opportunity to exchange ideas and to get to know each other. We would like to thank all those who contributed to the conference including the speakers, audience, sponsors, and volunteers. We hope to meet again soon in Herrnhut!

**Sr Claudia Mai**  
Unity Archivist

## Events around the Province for Heritage Open Day and Open House London in September 2017

### Fetter Lane

**Celebrating our 275th Anniversary with an Open Weekend at Fetter Lane**

To celebrate our 275th anniversary, Fetter Lane will participate in Open House London on Saturday and Sunday, 16th and 17th September with Moravian Close open from 1pm to 5pm on each day. Open House started in 1992 to promote public appreciation of building design and architecture in the capital.

As well as giving an historical overview of the Moravians in London, past and present, visitors will learn about the site's evolution and special features including the renovation of the Tudor wall surrounding God's Acre and the restoration of the Gillick Pageant, a set of heraldic shields showing the ownership of the estate from Sir Thomas More in 1524 to Sir Hans Sloane in 1737. Sculptors Mary and Ernest Gillick lived and worked in the Close from 1914 to 1964. Refreshments will be served.

Fetter Lane Moravian Church is located at 381 King's Road, London SW10 0LP. Please note that there is no parking inside the Close but pay and display can be found in the immediate area.

16 - 17  
SEPT

### Fulneck

Fulneck village, set in the picturesque Tong Valley between Leeds and Bradford, has a scattering of 18th century cottages, a grade I listed Georgian church and a fascinating folk museum. In this oasis of calm and beauty, step back in time to enjoy a wealth of activities.

In the exhibition in the church, discover the work of the famous architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, born and educated in Fulneck until the age of 12. In America he is highly regarded as one of several influential architects who designed and constructed The White House and The Capitol.

In addition, there is an exhibition of the work of Charles Sebastian Nelson who lived in Fulneck all his life and designed many buildings around Leeds. Included among these are the Robert Salter Almshouses on Crawshaw Avenue and Wharfedale Union Workhouse, now part of Wharfedale Hospital.

Whilst visiting the exhibition, look in the archive room and find the amazing archive collection. The early beginnings of the church in 1746 portrayed in a short period drama, is a must for those who want to be in on the action. New to the museum is the Victorian seamstress' workroom with her equipment and period dresses. In the same room, there is information about other trades which created work in the settlement.

Don't miss out on the chance to join one of the guided tours which begin inside the church with the re-enactment. For music lovers, the restored Snetzler organ will be played at set times during the day. Browse in the craft shop then indulge yourself with delicious cakes and tasty sandwiches served with tea or coffee in the Boys' Brigade Building. Join us for a great day out.

**Sr Myra Dickinson,**  
H.O.D. Co-ordinator

9  
SEPT



### Gracehill

9  
SEPT

**Welcome to Gracehill on Sat 9th September 2017**

**PLACES TO VISIT AND ACTIVITIES FROM 12.30 - 5PM**

- **The Old School.** This historic building is home to a Visitor centre and a period schoolroom depicting life in Gracehill in the 1800's. A film about the history of Gracehill can also be seen here. The building is home to a number of businesses including **Millside Restaurant**, an **Afterschool club** in 'The attic' and **Businesses** on the first floor.
- **The Moravian Church** was refurbished in 2011. Please come in and see the unusual tulip pulpit and the restored interiors and hear about the history of the congregation. Talks will take place at 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.00pm.
- **Guided Walking Tours** around the village take place half hourly from 12.30 to 4.30pm. Meet up with the tour guides outside the Church doors for an informative and entertaining time.
- Enjoy a stroll around the unique **Brothers and Sisters** walk up to 'God's Acre' or visit the beautiful recently restored **Village Square**.
- The former **Single Brethren** House is open all afternoon. You are welcome to visit and look around.
- Call at **The Old Village Shop** and hear all about the planned restoration and the new postbox!
- **The Country Markets Group** will tempt you with their refreshments, home baking and crafts in the Cennick Hall (behind the Church).



**While all events are free, DONATIONS are being accepted for the CHURCH BUILDING FUND. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.**

**Part of the European Heritage Open Day scheme.**

Supported by



### Lower Wyke

Once again we at Lower Wyke are taking part in the national Heritage Open Days weekend in September 2017.

Our church will be open on Saturday 9th Sept 10am to 4pm and Sunday 10th Sept from noon to 4pm. Our theme this year is the Spread of the Gospel - work in the mission fields with photo displays etc. and the history of the congregation. The church registers will be available for inspection and there will be a short walk around the settlement including the former Single Sisters House and Girls Boarding School.

9 - 10  
SEPT

### Salem

We have a coffee morning on Saturday 8th September from 10.30am - 12.30pm, so have decided to open the church from 10.30am - 2.00pm. There will also be photographs from the past on display.

**Sr Anne Broadbent**

8  
SEPT

continued on p.107

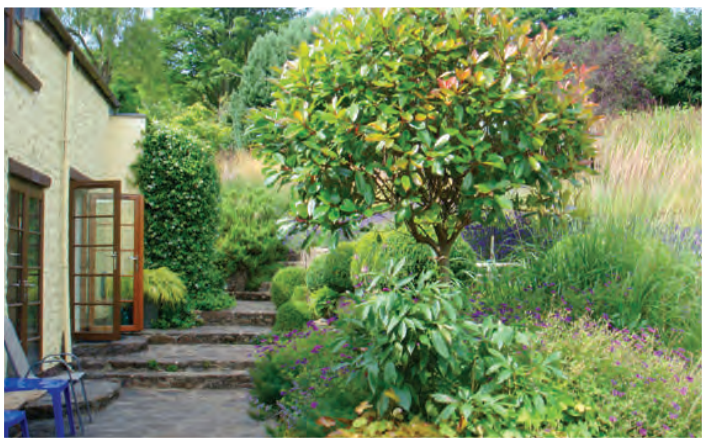


Brockweir

'To a green thought in a green shade.'

After another successful Soup Lunch year, the kitchen team have hung up their aprons and ladles for a couple of months. The lunches are held monthly from September to June and raise money for charities both large and small and have been running since the year 2000. This year we've raised £1,691 and as well as helping various good causes, it brings together villagers who don't normally attend church services. This raises our profile within the village and Sr Patsy Holdsworth is usually on hand for those requiring a more personal chat. It is normally hard work but extremely good fun and we look forward to the fellowship. We must also thank Sr Sheila Preest for contributing homemade fruit pies and crumbles for most of the 17 years as she finally retires from this role. Her pastry is so light, it is in danger of floating off the plate and will be sadly missed!

Our kitchen skills won't become entirely rusty however as many of us also help to serve refreshments and cakes at Barn House in Brockweir, which opens during the summer for the National Garden Scheme. It's a fabulous garden having appeared on Gardeners' World last year and there will also be an article in the RHS magazine 'The Garden' later this year. The money raised from the sale of refreshments is kindly donated to our building repair fund by the owners. We really enjoy greeting the various visitors, eating cake and trying to explain the origins of the Moravian Church.



© Sr Judith Ashton

The Book Group has started to read 'The Book of Joy', a collaboration between His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Abrams. The book is a delight as the two spiritual leaders try to answer the question: how do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering? There is much laughter and wisdom within the book and it is always interesting to see how others respond to the thoughts and ideas being propounded. The group allows us to discuss ideas about religion and life in a very informal way. The fruits of this discussion may not always be immediately apparent but often ideas can bubble away in the background and take us by surprise when we least expect it.

Sr Judith Ashton



© Sr Sarah Groves

goat kids, choosing a name for a beautiful boat, Music, Line Dancing and many more! Afternoon Teas were served inside the school, while outside the tempting smells of the Barbeque, Chocolate Fountain, candy floss, cakes and cooling ice-cream encouraged visitors to sit and enjoy the varied entertainment provided by the T2 Party Disco Combo. Local Councillor Billy Henry opened proceedings and towards the end of the afternoon the balloons were released into a vivid blue sky. The winning balloon was returned from Innerleithen in Scotland, having travelled 139 miles! Between the advertising Booklet and the day, a truly wonderful £10,625 was raised!

Also in June, the young people ran our first Gracehill Car Wash to raise funds for Summer Camp. Customers were treated to a welcome cup of coffee and refreshments, and, under the watchful eye of experts George Courtney and Stephen Barr, a super total of £355 was raised, and a lot of satisfied owners went away thinking they had a new car!

The weather in July was also kind for two weddings at Gracehill. Laura Heggarty and Ryan Flynn were married on July 8th and Deborah Groves married Andrew Armstrong on July 21st. Both couples held their receptions in the Church Hall and kindly invited the members if the congregation to attend.

Sr Roberta Gray

Gracehill

Yet again Gracehill Village Fair was bathed in sunlight, as people from near and far enjoyed spending a relaxing June afternoon visiting all the various stalls in the grounds of the local school, which was transformed on the previous evening by Br Raymond Kitson and his team of skilled workers as they put up miles of colourful streamers and endless striped stalls, the culmination of a year's preparation. The whole area came alive with balloons, bric-a-brac, cake stalls, Bouncy Castle, games including Treasure Chest, Hoopla, Rory Golf, Guessing the weight of some beautiful

Lower Wyke Proms in the Paddock

On Saturday 15th July, Lower Wyke held their ever popular event and it was a most enjoyable evening. The Clifton and Lightcliffe Brass Band entertained and Michelle Walker our soloist led the community singing in style. The weather was kind and people entered into the spirit of the occasion with picnics and flag waving.

It was my second engagement as the new minister following a successful Strawberry Fair and helped to cement relations with the local community. Thanks to everyone both behind the scenes and 'on stage' who made it such a wonderful occasion.

Sr Jane Dixon



© Sr Jane Dixon

Heritage Open Days continued

Fairfield

The theme by Tameside as a whole for the Heritage Weekend at Fairfield is 'Behind Closed Doors' which will be picked up in two of our exhibitions, firstly 'Jan Hus to Martin Luther' and also a look at the 1861 census seeing who lived where, in the Square, and what their occupations were.

There will also be a chance to wind our clock and ring the bell on Saturday at 1pm, 2pm & 3pm and on Sunday at 2pm, 3pm & 4pm. The museum this year is sporting a 'New Look' with all the information panels having been replaced. We will also have a book stall, gardening stall, made in Fairfield Stall including home baked items and a Souvenir stall. Finally, our well recommended refreshments are available throughout each day.



9 - 10 SEPT

Congregational Register

Baptisms		
23rd July 2017	Ellie Elizabeth Shanks	Fairfield
Marriages		
8th July 2017	Andrew Holland & Deborah Smith	Fulneck
8th July 2017	Ryan Flynn & Laura Heggarty	Gracehill
21st July 2017	Andrew Armstrong & Deborah Groves Jones	Gracehill
22nd July 2017	Colin Ball & Patricia Mullen	Fairfield
Deaths		
31 March 2017	Florence Taylor	Salem
28 July 2017	Gwynneth Boddy	Bath (Weston)
14th July 2017	Ann Amelia Palethorpe	Fulneck

Notice

This is an advance notice for all sisters.

12th European Women's Conference, 2018

Theme: 'Freedom in Christ'  
Time: 28th June - 2nd July 2018  
Place: Zeist, Netherlands  
Cost of Conference: Approx. 330\* (to be announced later)  
\*Travel costs are not included.

This announcement is for information only in order to allow interested sisters to begin budgeting for the cost of this conference. The European Women's Conference Planning Team:  
Wendy Hopcroft (Great Britain)  
Susanne Gärtner (Germany)  
Conchita Landbrug (Netherlands)  
Nadra Ehteld (Netherlands)

From Church House

From the Provincial Board of the European Continental Province, the office of the UBA has received the following message:  
Hereby we wish to inform that on Sunday 16th of July in Göppingen, Germany, Br Henning Schlimm, Episcopus Fratrum, has passed away at the age of 85 years. The funeral was held on Friday 21th of July at 2pm, at the Kurhaus Bad Boll.  
We give thanks for the long and faithful service of Br Bishop Henning Schlimm.

Change of address  
Sr Jane Dixon's new address and telephone number are:  
1 Mayfield Grove, Bailiff Bridge, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6 4EE.  
Tel: 01484 520956.

Provincial Diary for September		
11-15	European Mission Conference	Sr Hoey
16	Mission & Society Committee at Horton	
19-20	PEC, BMB and Estates Property Meeting	
26	Membership and Assessment Review Committee at Church House	Br Hopcroft and Sr Hoey
27	World Mission Committee and LAMM AGM	Sr Hoey and

2	Eid-al-Adha - Muslim
7	Raksha Bandhan - Hindu
7	Heritage Open Days ( <a href="https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/">https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/</a> )
10	Education Sunday ( <a href="http://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234838/Home/Resources/Education_Sunday/Education_Sunday.aspx">www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234838/Home/Resources/Education_Sunday/Education_Sunday.aspx</a> )
17	World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel ( <a href="http://www.worldweekforpeace.org">www.worldweekforpeace.org</a> )
21	UN International Day of Peace ( <a href="http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/">http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/</a> )
21	Muharram/Islamic New Year - Muslim
21	Yom Kippur - Jewish

Dates to remember!



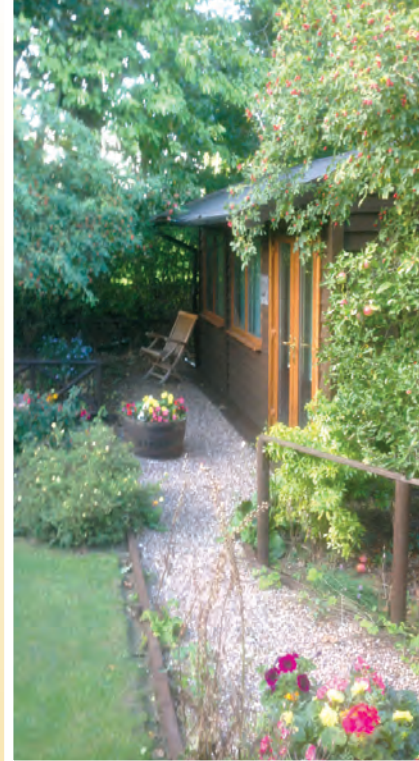
# From the Sanctuary

When I first bought my house twenty-two years ago, the 'garden' was just grass - about the size of a tennis court. In the middle of it was a concrete post to support the clothes line that extended to the house. In a corner of the 'garden' was a severely cobwebbed greenhouse, with a 'Triffid' (a tall yellow *Verbascum*) growing out of a broken pane of glass in the roof of the greenhouse. Two apple trees topped, and tailed, my rough-grass-tennis-court-size-of-a-lawn. It was hardly a 'garden'.

Over the years, my garden has gradually been transformed into a cottage garden that I utterly delight in, and feel blessed to have nourishing my life. It is a real sanctuary of peace and wildlife. It was never designed to any set plan. Its development started when I had two godchildren, then aged two, come to stay shortly after I moved in. The danger of them running into the greenhouse with catastrophic consequences was real; and so a trellis was put up at the side of the greenhouse to stop them from running into the glass. A garden bed then had to be created at the base of the trellis, into which a honeysuckle, a clematis and a rose were planted and trained onto the trellis. Then bit, by bit, over time (but without a plan), the garden as it is today, 'emerged'.

I have occasionally planted gifts of plants from students and friends, some perennials and bulbs of my choice, and scattered some seeds 'to see what happens'; but the garden looks after itself in the main - and self-seeds. There isn't much lawn left now, as most of it has become garden beds and gravel paths. I have no idea from year to year, what will emerge and blossom, or where in the garden they will grow. One year foxgloves are in the ascendance, only to be very sparse the next year. This year, aquilegias (or Granny's bonnets) have blessed the landscape. The snapdragons are about to show their colour along with the poppies, and then the penstemons will show forth. It is a wonder to observe from day-to-day what has emerged to bless my sanctum.

So it is the same with life. I have no plan of my life. I hate it when, at an interview, they ask the question, 'Where do you see yourself as being in the next five years?' I have absolutely no ideal! And yet having no plan, allows life as God intends my life to be, to emerge. Often we kid ourselves that we are in control of our lives - but that is a delusion; a falsity. That doesn't mean that occasionally it isn't worth the effort to plant something that I want in my garden, or in my life. But ultimately, it will



be as God intends it to be. There is a wonderful freedom and acceptance in that, providing that we can step back and observe with wonder, the life that is God-provided - rather than bear the frustration of not having things our way. I wonder how your life has been provided for, and if you can see the blessings in it?

*Br Peter Gubi, Dukinfield*

## British Mission Board (BMB) News

### Request from the American Board of World Mission

In response to the crisis of HIV/AIDS, Drs Bill Hoffman and Peg Kraybill took on a challenge by the American Board of World Mission in 2000 to build a program to address the needs of orphans in Tanzania. The resulting orphan program of the Moravian Church in Western Tanzania, 'Adopt a Village', is run by Mama Zipora Kimwaga from the village of Sikonge. It now provides food, clothing, medical care, school uniforms and supplies to over 3,000 orphans, under the watchful eye of 33 Moravian 'mamas'. Many are now going on to higher education. Despite advances in HIV/AIDS management, there continues to be a large number of orphans who will benefit from this ongoing program.

With the upcoming retirement of Bill and Peg, the American Board of World Mission is seeking a couple or an individual to continue to provide oversight for this important ministry.

Volunteers, working through the Board of World Mission, would function as liaisons between the villages in the Sikonge district and the supporting churches of North America.

This 'Adopt a Village' Coordinator role would include:

- visits to Tanzania once or twice a year, for two to four weeks
- orphan rounds to the different villages
- review of the financial records
- review of the status of community projects
- providing presentations and information to US supporting congregations.

If you are interested, or know somebody suitable for such a role, please contact Roberta at [roberta.hoey@moravian.org.uk](mailto:roberta.hoey@moravian.org.uk) or call Church House on 020 8883 3409.

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