

## From the Editors... Jutta & Harald



### Dear Readers

For those of you who have a printed version, we want to apologize that the quote on page 8 in the last magazine was not readable. Here it comes again:

When nails grow long, we cut nails ...  
NOT fingers.  
Similarly when misunderstanding  
grow up,  
cut your Ego not your Relationship.

Wishing you all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Christ gave  
Himself as a  
Reward so that  
Individuals will know the  
Sacrifices  
That he did for  
Mankind to  
Achieve  
Salvation*



## From the Manse...



### Dear Friends

Christmas is coming! Only \*\* days to Christmas. I think I first heard that statement back in September. My first Christmas catalogue arrived in August and by September the dates were set for the Christmas Services but Christmas still seemed such a long way off and the bulk of the preparations could be left till later. Now it suddenly seems so close and there are so many preparations still to make. When shopping for presents everyone is in such a rush they don't have time to speak to one another as they push to the front of the queue and complain because they aren't being served fast enough. Shopping trolleys laden with food and drink that will last a family in Africa a year and yet there never seems to be enough and no one seems satisfied. Children's letters to Father Christmas get longer every year and are full of the latest electronic games and gadgets. But to be honest there seems to be little of Jesus in all our preparations people have forgotten just what it is we are celebrating. For many the preparations have overshadowed the event and the birth of a baby 2000 years ago has little to do with the festivities of our modern world.

Are we any different in the Church? We are now into Advent the churches season of preparation and I wonder how we really prepare for Christmas. I don't mean the Christmas cake, puddings and trimmings, or even the presents and cards; I mean the preparations made in our lives for the coming of the Christ child. Are we preparing our hearts for the birth of Immanuel, God with us? Jesus didn't just come to a stable some 2000 year ago he still comes to his people day by day as Immanuel the God of heaven living on earth in and among his people.

There is a wonderful carol that says "Christmas isn't Christmas till it is Christmas in your heart". Christmas begins when we make room in our hearts for Jesus and when we truly know what it means to have God with us. This Christmas make room in your hearts and let Jesus be born afresh in you for then you will experience the true joy of Christmas, the joy of knowing Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. May God be with each of you and all those you love this Christmas and in the year to come.

*Love and Prayers.....Kim*



*He shall be called Immanuel*  
**GOD WITH US.**

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
 is not in the presents  
 but in *His*   
 presence

## How God is working through Out of Africa into Malta

One of my Christian heroes who I had the privilege of meeting many years ago was *George MacLeod*, the founder of the Iona Community in Scotland. One of his favourite sayings, after recounting a remarkable happening (i.e. a miracle), was "If you think that's a coincidence then I hope that you have a very dull life". Well at St Andrew's we have not led a dull life and we have experienced many coincidences in our ministry to the African migrants who arrive in Malta having risked their lives crossing the Mediterranean. Can I briefly share three of our stories that form part of our "Out of Africa into Malta ministry":

We have now been operating Malta Microfinance for over a year with generous funding from the Guild of the Church of Scotland that has given us the money to lend and from the Methodist Church of Great Britain that has paid for our hard working support worker *Celine*. Migrants who were living in open centres have moved into decent flats, others have attended courses at the technical college MCAST in welding or for computer technician to find better jobs and we look forward to granting business loans soon. We are helping the poor, migrants and women, to transform their lives. More information is available on the Malta Microfinance Facebook page (please "like" it) or [www.maltamicrofinance.com](http://www.maltamicrofinance.com) We are the first microfinance financial institution in Malta and while we charge fees to contribute to our running costs, all loans are interest free.



The picture shows Peter Lloyd handing over the first rent loans to let them move into their own flat.

Meanwhile our Green Door English language teaching programme has changed colour! Operating out of the church building accessed by the green door in Old Bakery Street we were teaching English to some 25 migrants last year. Now having moved to the new international centre, accessed by the blue door, we are teaching 80 students on Monday and Thursday evenings. We have a long waiting list and so we are planning to start an additional class on Wednesday evenings from the middle of January. **So we need extra teachers. If you are interested or know someone who might be able to help, speak to Elizabeth or Peter Lloyd or email**

[english@saintandrewsmalta.com](mailto:english@saintandrewsmalta.com)



The picture shows Elizabeth Lloyd, accompanied by her husband Peter and Lesley McRoberts, showing the President of Malta Marie Louise Coleiro Preca the library in the new St Andrew's International Centre in what had been the crypt.

The latest development that should be operational from January is the new library in the centre. Having received not the 200 books expected to support the english language teaching programme, but 2,000 books from the charity Books Abroad in Aberdeenshire, these are being catalogued and made ready for lending out firstly to our students and then any others learning English .

These activities are based in the St Andrew's International Centre with the furniture and equipment funded by a grant from St Columba's Church of Scotland in London. Most items were bought second hand with bargains found on the website Maltapark with the interactive whiteboard the highlight of these.

If you would like to know more about these ministries or make a donation, please contact myself at [treasurer@saintandrewsmalta.com](mailto:treasurer@saintandrewsmalta.com)

*Peter Lloyd*

## God Works Through You



**Mission -  
our Yes to God to Work through us**

As I write this, many people like me in Edinburgh, 3,568 km away or in London, 2,081 km away and one hour behind Malta time-wise, will be at their computer preparing for the next day's work or relaxing in front of the telly. They will have eaten a Sunday lunch and probably some supper, snacked on fruit and maybe cake or biscuits and of course had a choice of drinks. I have a hot cup of coffee that I am enjoying as I write. I know there is enough food in the freezer and the larder to make a good meal each day until I go shopping again next Saturday. There is enough food for packed lunches and varied cereals for breakfast too as well as a few extras for in-betweens. Soon, there will be Christmas cake and log, chocolates and much more than we really need.

As I write this, it is one hour later in Zambia where Sister Catherine works with the Tugwashanye community 5,634 km away. Many people there may not have had enough food to eat and have nothing in the larder to depend on for tomorrow's meal. Yet we are told that half of all food is wasted worldwide. So it is not that there is not enough food to go round, just that it is not shared fairly and some of us get a great deal more than some others. Each one of us could make a difference just by not wasting, by not buying what we end up throwing away. Of course, you may be saying, it is not as straightforward as that. Agreed. Hence we try to make a

difference more directly by fundraising and helping out the community at Tugwashanye as much as possible.

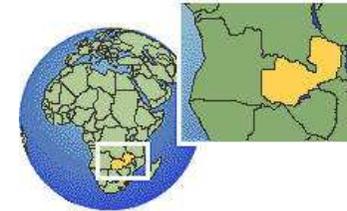
Some children that Sister Catherine meets in the Tugwashanye community will be unable to go to school because the state does not provide free education and they are orphans living with their grandmothers who have to work hard for mere survival. So they are likely to live as their parents lived and died, in poverty. A few of them are going to school and are doing very well because the community of St Andrew's has helped them with fees. Maybe it will be a step towards a livelihood and a first step out of poverty for them and their brothers and sisters. These, unfortunately, are the exceptions. However, it is a great start.

One of these youngsters has won a 75% scholarship for University as a result of studying hard and so he will be studying harder to do well. Another one will be studying agriculture at college and a third will be starting a teacher's course. If only we could help more of them towards an education that could give them a better chance in life. Perhaps we can. Every little counts. We hope to be able to send some more money soon thanks to the funds raised from a number of things such as the Concert organised by Christa Wiegand, the ribbons for World Aids day, those raised from the beautiful cards made by Doreen Portelli as well as other generous donations.

We are not expected to solve World hunger but to do what we can to share what we have been given. Perhaps to give a little more than our extra sometimes when the need is great. We must not ignore the poverty that is on our doorstep either. Some of the people we

will be meeting this week may be so lonely that a smile, a few words, some attention will make an enormous difference to them. These may be our colleagues or our neighbours or those we meet along the road or in the shops or the bank or those who are waiting in a queue with us. Not 5,000 km away but just a few meters. These, like our sisters and brothers of the Tugwashanye community are made in the image of God just like us and so they deserve our attention, our love.

Marie Alexander  
For the Mission Team



God's love  
**THROUGH** us gives  
us the **WAY**  
to encourage others

## St Andrew's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Soiree

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Soiree of St Andrew's Scots Church was held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November to a very large and encouraging turnout of over 100 guests.



A wonderful repertoire of music was on offer and musical director Matthew Schembri had the evening's entertainment fine tuned to provide a fantastic feast of music.

Matthew, himself, regaled us with organ pieces by Bach ( the Toccata from BWV 564 ) and Boellmann ( Priere a Notre Dame from the Suite Gothique Op 25 ) as well as supporting the other pieces.

Matthew, on harpsichord, was joined by Claudia Paul ( violin ) and Dieter Paul ( cello ) for Vivaldi's Violin Sonata in D minor and later the strings duo joined Matthew on piano for the highlight of the evening, Haydn's Piano Trio in G major. Truly wonderful.



Jenny Psaila provided the only non-musical interlude when she gave us two recitations. The first a parody of a Yorkshire farmer's interpretation of Handel's Messiah, the second a poignant piece about a soldier's return to the battlefields of the Somme, particularly appropriate on the eve of Remembrance Sunday.

The evening was blessed by the singing voice of Paloma Araya de Gody, a Brazilian soprano who, almost literally, blew the audience away with the power of her voice.

Supported by the trio of Matthew, Claudia and Dieter Paloma graced us with Handel's Ritorna o Caro from Rodelinda and brought the first half to a close with Ave Verum Corpus K 618 by Mozart.

In the second half Paloma once again delighted one and all with Vilia Lied from the operetta The Merry Widow by Franz Lehar accompanied by Matthew on piano and brought the



evening to a close with In Quelle Trine Morbidi from Puccini's Manon Lescaut.

Musically, this was probably the finest Soiree so far and the audience seemed to agree.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was, once again, John Lejman who kept the assembled crowd entertained with his usual trivia of facts about both the pieces and the composers.

Special thanks to the sponsors ... Best Print, D'Amato Fine Tunes, Emmanuel Delicata Winemaker Ltd and to James Caterers for the excellent buffet on offer after the performance.

Flowers by Ria Den Heyer, Sharon Abbot for helping with the event, Matthew for his musical direction and input but first and foremost to Christa Wiegand for all the hard work done to bring it all together.

*John Lejman*



### ***Christmas Celebrations***

#### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Between 4pm – 7pm  
Christmas refreshments  
at the Manse

#### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

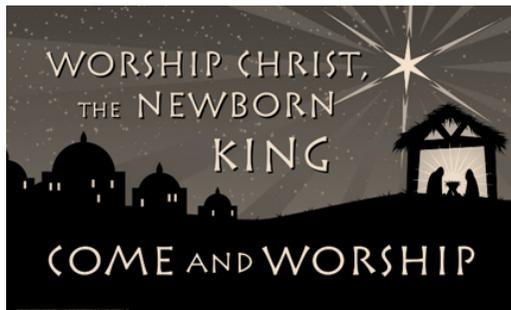
10.30am “Carols and Nativity”  
All-Age Worship

#### **Christmas Eve**

6.00pm Christingle Service

#### **Christmas Day**

10.30am Christmas All-Age Celebration  
***Followed by Christmas Lunch!***



### ***Special Events***

#### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

Week of Prayer for  
Christian Unity Service  
6.30pm in the Capuchin Church in Floriana

#### **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

Church Vision Day  
10am – 4pm  
In the International Centre



#### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

Kirk Session Retreat

#### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

2.00pm St Andrew's Church  
Annual General Meeting

# Dates For Your Diary



## Preaching Appointments and Duty Rotas

Date	Theme	Preacher	Elders	Regular Duty Elder (Welcome Address)
14. Dez 14	Advent 3	Rev Hurst	Jenny Psaila Bill Hunter	Ernest Kumi Assumang
21. Dez 14	Carols Nativity	Rev Hurst	Jim Catherall Anne Catherall	David Smith
25. Dez 14	Christmas Day	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
28. Dez 14		Rev Hurst	Christa Wiegand Tony Ellul	Sharon Abbott
04. Jan 15	Covenant Service	Rev Hurst	Ria den Heyer Norrie Alexander	Harald Thiele
11. Jan 15		Rev Hurst	Frank Wilmot Pat O'Neil	David O'Neil
18. Jan 15		Rev Hurst	Jenny Psaila Tony Ellul	Clement Okoro
25. Jan 15	Holy Communion	Rev Hurst	Ian McLeod Bill Hunter	Christa Wiegand
01. Feb 15		Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
08. Feb 15		Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
15. Feb 15		Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
22. Feb 15	1st Lent H/Communion	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
01. Mrz 15	2nd Lent	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
08. Mrz 15	3rd Lent	To be Confirmed	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
15. Mrz 15	Mothering Sunday	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
22. Mrz 15	Passion Sunda H/Communion	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.
29. Mrz 15	Palm Sunday	Rev Hurst	t.b.d.	t.b.d.

When ever possible the Rev Kim plans to have **Monday** as her rest day so please try to refrain from contacting her on a **Monday** unless it is an emergency.  
Thank You for your understanding.



## Coffee & Chat

We sit at the front of the Church and either just chat or make things, etc. People of different nationalities and cultures come in for a drink. Some are on holiday and some live here. If you have nothing to do on a Tuesday each week why not drop in and see us between 2 pm and 4 pm. You are very welcome.

## Wednesday Fellowship



The Wednesday Fellowship is held on the first, third and fifth Wednesday of each month beginning on the 4<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome to come including visitors. If any mornings have to be cancelled a notice will be on the previous Sunday Service Sheet or given out in the notices.

There are two Home Groups just now: one in Birgu at the Wilmot's - and a second in Magtab at Thiele-Trimmel's.



Contact Judy or Franklin (Birgu Group) on 7926 1646 or [fwilmot@keyworld.net](mailto:fwilmot@keyworld.net) OR Jutta or Harald (Magtab Group) 9964 7772 or [dc8-73@gmx.de](mailto:dc8-73@gmx.de)



A prayer chain is a group of like-minded people who wish to pray for people and their situations that arise during our daily lives. It is also used for praise.

This started in our previous church also called St. Andrew in Cardiff 34 year ago. When it was started there it was all done by phone as no one had a computer back then.

A Coordinator was informed of a person who needed prayers. There would be about 4 or 5 "Chain Leaders" who would each receive the message, and they would then contact the person underneath them on the chain, who would then contact the next one on the list, and so on, there may be 6, 7, or even more hence the chain. So with the exception of the Coordinator no one had to call more than one person. It was a wonderful feeling to know that people were praying for your situation.

With the advent of computers being owned by lots of people now, it was suggested to me a couple of years ago that I might want to move with times and bring the prayer chain into the 21st century by using email as well. It made a tremendous difference, as people who had odd working hours and/or used their computer a lot were able to participate more easily. Of course there are people who don't have a computer, or just prefer a phone call which is fine.

The power of prayer is truly amazing.

If anyone would like more information or to join the prayer chain, please don't hesitate to contact me.

My details are as follow:

June Pritchard-Griffiths,  
Landline: 21311277 / Mobile: 7951 1406  
Email: [junepg1951@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:junepg1951@yahoo.co.uk)

## CROSSROADS MAGAZINE

Please enjoy reading "Crossroads" but when you have finished with your Crossroads Magazine and taken a note of any dates or articles you wish to remember perhaps you could return it to us for recycling to the many visitors who drop in to visit the Church during the week.

