

# The Outlook

## from Hope October 2005

We would like to thank everyone who contributes regularly on a Sunday morning, this month we would particularly like to thank the following people:

### October

#### Coffee

2 Pat Dodd & Tim Hart  
9 Marian Brown & Sandra Brown  
16 Nick Beard and Pat Taylor  
23 Claire Worrall and Nicky Hatherell  
30 John & Judith Pinch

#### Transport

Peter Brown  
Mike Munson  
Mike Lummis  
David Brown  
Peter Brown

#### Crèche

2 Family service – no crèche  
9 Sheena Kingdom, Merrilyn Duook & Christina Carter  
16 Jerry/Amanda Linda Snell & Karen Beard  
23 Ray & Cindy Hedges & Kelly Hopwood  
30 Family service – no crèche

#### Flowers

2 -  
9 -  
16 Pat and Charles Sinclair  
*Loving birthday remembrance of their son, Gordon*  
23 Beryl Chun.  
*In loving memory of her parents.*  
30 Mrs Jean Tait and Jean and Brian Potter.  
*In loving memory of Mr Arthur Tait*

#### Powerpoint

Tim Saunders / Dominic dalton  
Sheila Boddington  
Chris Reed  
Cherry Robinson  
Tim Saunders/ Dominic Dalton

#### Communion

##### Set-up

16 Ray & Cyndy Hedges

##### Wash-up

Jenny Weeks

#### 3' s- 5' s leaders & helpers

2 Family service – no group  
9 Sandy Lashbrook, Shirley Man & Katherine Beard  
16 Ann Munson, Claire Knight & Melanie Hatherell  
23 Amanda Harris, Shirley Man & Katherine Beard  
30 Family service – no group

#### Stewards

2 Ron Dalton, Marian Brown, Pam Smith, Beryl Chun, Jemma Aldersley  
9 Nick Beard, Pat & Graham Dodd, Margaret Underdown & Dominic Dalton  
16 Marian Brown, Margaret Tripp, Peter Man, Judith Pinch & Katherine Beard  
23 Wilf Smale, Estelle Robertson, Andrew Jones, Pat Taylor, Robert Canning  
30 Nicky Hatherell, Sheila Boddington, Trevor Fray, Sheena Kingdom, Holly B-P.

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### Blessed Insurance, Jesus is mine

I don't know whether you remember the Friday in June like I do. The rain poured down, roads in Plymouth were 3 foot under water, the thunder and lightning rolled and cracked about the sky....and suddenly BANG!  
I actually thought the roof of our house had caved in, but it turned out that although we had been struck by lightning, the only casualties were the TV, which went off temporarily, the phone, which refused to work for 10 days (hooray!!), but also my poor lovely computer.

After this fateful day, one thing after another seemed to go wrong with it, and after careful inspection on a callout from our computer "paramedic" it was deemed to be damaged beyond repair. As you can imagine, I was pretty fed up (in a kind of "spiritual Ministerial" way!) but help was at hand.....with the advice of my "comp doc", in just 2 lovely words... *Insurance claim*

Could this be true? I filled out the forms, spoke to them on the phone and sent report and costing....and sure enough I now have a wonderful new computer. Half the cost and 10 x the memory of the last one!!

Life is good again, and I can get back to writing things like this article.

My excuses for not replying to emails etc are gone!

But it left me thinking...if only the rest of our existence was as easy as that. If there could just be a certain guarantee against things that damage and spoil our own lives. As I meet people and visit them in their homes you cannot fail to notice how many people are hurting and damaged through one thing and another. Is there some kind of "insurance" for them? Can they make a claim against "life damage" and get a replacement for the parts which are hurt or beyond repair?

I do believe that God is a great comforter and the one who can heal and restore. I also believe that He often uses ordinary people like you and me to bring those things into the lives of others. In order to be the church that God intends us to be, we must have open eyes and ears for those in our midst, who have been "struck" by circumstances which they would never have wanted or expected. They can't just fill out a form and get things put right, but they can know the love and care of individuals who God works through to bring restoration. Being the arms and feet of Jesus can be demanding and costly, but I suggest that it's more rewarding than working in an insurance claims department. Let's do it!!

Andrew Gardiner

## October Diary

Sun	2	10.00	Prayer in the Lower Guildroom**
		10.30	Family Service – Paul Aldersley
Mon	3	7.30-8.30	Prayer meeting in the Guildroom
Tues	4	10.00	Mums and Baby Group**
		1.00	Parent and Toddler Group *
		1.30	Prayer Group,* venues vary, please ask
		6.15	Harvest Feast with HyFi
Wed	5	10am & 1pm	Parent and Toddler Groups *
Thurs	6	10.00	Coffee Morning**
		6.30-8.00	H-Y-Powered *
Fri	7	7.00-8.30	The Hype, youth group, years 7 to 9*
		8.15-10.00	Re:Act, youth group, years 10 to 12*
Sun	9	10.30	'Peace in the Storm' Luke 8:229, Nick McKinnel
Sun	16	10.30	'Food for the Soul' Luke 9:117, Andy Saunders Newcomers' lunch at The Gardiners'
Mon	17	2.30	Open House, Steven Duchnowski of 'Open Doors'
		7.30-8.30	Prayer meeting in the Guild Room
Tues	18	7.30	Church members meeting
Sun	23	10.30	'Purpose for Life' Luke 9:1836, Andrew Gardiner
		6.30	Alasdair Brown, BMS at Mutley
Wed	26	7.30	Women's Rendezvous– 'Beryl's travels', a talk by Beryl Chun
Sun	30	10.30	Family Service, David Evans
Mon	31		Light Party - details to follow

7.30-8.30 Prayer meeting in the Guildroom  
\*These meetings are held weekly during term time only  
\*\*These meetings meet weekly all through the year

*Fellowship groups now meet on various nights and in different weeks so check with group leaders when yours is meeting.*

## Advance notices

### November

Tues	1	The Greenhouse
Fri	11	Dave Bilbrough concert
Sat	12	Winter Fashion Show
Sat	26	Striving for Excellence
Tues	29	The Greenhouse

### December

Sun	11	Toy Service
Tues	13	6.30-8.00 Carol Singing around Peverell
Sun	18	Carols by Candlelight

### January 2006

Mon	2	New Year Walk
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## BMS Birthdays

### October

- 5<sup>th</sup> Miss Beryl Chun
- 8<sup>th</sup> Mrs Ann Munson
- 14<sup>th</sup> Mrs Gillian Knight

## Treasurer's update

Following a request from a recent members' meeting, I set out below a more detailed summary of the management accounts for the church covering the 8 months to 31 August 2005. A full summary can be obtained from me on request.

### 8 months to 31 August 2005

	Budget		Actual		Variance (Good / Bad)	
	£		£		£	
<b>INCOME</b>						
Tithes & offerings	40,400		36,052		(4,348)	B
Gift aid recovered	8,400	7,094		(1,306)	B	
Rental income	16,867	17,273		406	G	
Specific donations	1,000		4,827		3,817	G
Other income	8,533		4,594		(4,241)	B
Total income	75,200		69,840		(5,360)	B
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Ministry expenses	38,667		38,007		659	G
Administrator	4,620		4,791		(171)	B
Caretaking & cleaning	3,533		4,525		(991)	B
Building maintenance		8,686		6,043	2,643	G
Specific fund – security	0		3,701		(3,701)	
Administration	5,067		2,917		2,150	G
Youth support	1,200		1,200		0	
Mission	6,913		5,686		1,227	G
Other expenditure	6,514		4,718		1,796	G
Total expenditure	75,200		71,588		3,612	G
Net surplus / (deficit)		0		(1,748)	(1,748)	B

To briefly comment on the highlights of the above results:

- ? Income to date is less than budgeted by £5,360
- ? However, expenditure to date is also less than budgeted by £3,612
- ? So our net position to date is a shortfall of £1,748

*We have slipped a bit over the past couple of months. If current income & expenditure trends continue then I now estimate that we would have an overall budget shortfall of around £4,000 this year.*

In addition to the above the building fund balance stands at £153,824. This has been adjusted to reflect the £10,000 transfer from reserves into the fund approved at the June members' meeting and the expenditure incurred to date on the heating system.

*The thank offering finally raised almost £5,700 with gift aid tax recovery. This money has been spent on poverty relief by way of a water project in the Sudan (80%) and on short-term mission support (20%).*

*I can only continue to encourage you to support the church financially. As I've said before the church has no money except that given by its members and friends and whatever it generates from lettings – and there are lots of costs to cover!*

*I have to admit that I regularly find it difficult when embroiled in the administration of the church to reconcile this frenzied internal activity with the primary activities a church should be involved in (evangelism, discipling, healing etc.). However, we are seeing some fruits of our existence as a church - 11 baptisms this year so far, lots of young people in the youth groups and people being drawn into closer relationships with God.*

*I am excited that we are shortly to move this autumn into teaching about and hopefully (more importantly) experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let's pray we keep in tune with how He wants to direct us.*

*Do not be fooled - giving is a spiritual matter. Jesus said we either serve God or money (Matthew 5:24). There is still time to increase income and balance the budget!*

Tony Jopson  
Treasurer

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# Hope for Children' s Hospice

Sadly a little girl who attended our toddler group died in March at Little Bridge House (Children' s Hospice SW). We decided that we needed to do something for the care that she and her family received there.

We came up with a few ideas – a cake sale, a raffle and a sponsored toddle were some of the ideas we thought we could use to raise a few hundred pounds. However as our ideas grew, so did our targets – our new aim was £2000 by the end of term.

Donations raised £315, and then on May 22<sup>nd</sup> we had a cake sale, which was not only very enjoyable, as we tasted our purchases, but raised another £38.55.

The raffle we had planned soon turned into a mammoth draw – we had written to about 300 companies for prizes and were surprised at the results; Great Little Trading Company gave us a child' s quad bike, which we donated directly to the hospice. Mamas and Papas sent us toys worth £50 – again these went to the Hospice, and Universal Securities and Alan Forrester Chartered Accountants each made donations of £50.

We had tickets printed; these were sponsored by Pawmark Pet Supplies, then a second batch later were sponsored by Out on Business. The tickets were distributed far and wide for lots of very kind people to sell for us. We sold the last few on the eve of the draw at the Armada Centre.

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> June was the day of the draw. It was a busy day – we even had to draft in extra people to record the names of the winners.

£1987.55 was raised by this draw.

On Wed 29<sup>th</sup> June, despite the threat of bad weather, we went ahead with our ' sponsored toddle' . It started with blowing up CHSW balloons and putting them on sticks, then guided across the busy road by 2 policemen we crossed from the church to Pounds House where we met a Herald photographer. Onwards we toddled to the new play area where we released the balloons – by now the weather was great and we stayed there to play. Many of us still got wet though – the new water fountains were like magnets to the children.

This event raised £886.90.

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> July brought our second raffle – many of the prizes had arrived too late for the main draw so we did a second, which raised £23.

All this fundraising has been very hard work, but worth every minute. Hopefully what we have done can help to bring some happiness, or ease the pain and suffering of those who use the Children' s Hospice.

Not only have we raised funds but we have also raised awareness of this very important charity. We have been asked for details of the Hospice by people who would like to do something to support them.

We would like to thank all of the people and companies who have supported us because without them none of this would be possible.

Our final total raised was

**£3525.00**

Thank you

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## *Teenage Quest*

22<sup>nd</sup> September saw the start of an exciting new venture for our older teenage work.... **QUEST**

**Quest** is an opportunity for our 14+ group to bring their friends along, and for others in Year 9 to come and join them on a journey of exploration..a chance to ask some big questions about the meaning and purpose of life. A chance to find out who Jesus is, and how important it is to know Him.

Please will you support us in this..?

- Pray for the Christian teenagers as they seek to bring friends in and talk to them about the life and faith issues we are covering
- Pray for the friends and youth group members who come along – that they might be open to God working in their lives, and feel free to openly ask questions.
- Pray for Andrew and Vivian as they lead this group. That they will cover the questions and be able share the good news in a lively and relevant way.
- **HELP!!** If anyone could cook the pizzas, or buy/make cakes for this group it would help Viv and myself enormously.

Thank you

Andrew Gardiner

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## Things God Won't Ask On That Day.

God won't ask what kind of car you drove;

***He'll ask how many people you drove that didn't have transport***

God won't ask the size of your house;  
He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet;  
He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

## *Fellowship Groups*

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Just a little reminder to everyone of how important these are to our life together as Church.....it really is not possible to know and have any real depth of relationship with all the 120+ adults who now attend Hope Baptist Church. And certainly not to have a meaningful discussion with all them in one go, on Bible and life issues!! Instead we have Fellowship Groups for this purpose.....most meeting in the evenings (Monday – Thursdays) and 2 others meeting during the day.

I think it is realistic to think that everyone who wants to attend a group can now do so, and the vast majority (EIGHTY EIGHT) of adults do belong to one.

As we get back into the gospel of Luke, and then on into our studies in the Holy Spirit in November, please may I really, really encourage you...

If you have tried them before but lapsed, GIVE IT ANOTHER GO

If you have never been, TRY IT THIS TERM

If you not sure about your current group, HAVE A CHANGE

If you need any advice or help about attending, then please speak to me as soon as possible, before the term disappears before us. If you are wanting to switch groups this is fine, but please let me know first, and we can work that through with your current, and prospective new Group leader.

But please don't miss out on these really valuable times together

**Andrew Gardiner**

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I've learned...

*I've learned.... That life is like a roll of toilet paper.*

*The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.*

*I've learned That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.*

I've learned...That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

### Christmas gifts evenings

at

Contrasting Horizons, 246 Peverell Park Road

All are invited to drop in to Contrasting Horizons to see some fairly traded Christmas gift ideas on the evenings of:

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.

You can also see and buy the products any Monday or Tuesday morning 10.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Buying fairly traded gifts helps the producers and all profits from sales will be donated to relieve poverty.

Hilary Jopson

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## **Prayer Aunts and Uncles**

***As many of you know, at Hope we have Prayer Aunts and Uncles. These are adults who have one (or two) young people in the church that they pray for, send birthday & Christmas cards to and sometimes correspond with.***

The young people DO NOT KNOW who their Aunt/Uncle is because they're more likely to share things with an anonymous person. They must have your assurance that what they say to you will be kept confidential unless you feel they are in danger. We suggest you get them to put any correspondence in the dedicated pigeon hole at the back of the Church addressed to 'To the prayer Aunt of Joe Bloggs or whatever their name is, so you are looking out for THEIR name not yours!

The 3' s to 7' s who were there on Sun. 18<sup>th</sup> will have written a 'letter' to their Aunt/uncle. If you are one of these people we'd encourage you to reply if you haven't already. It's much easier to pray if you know something about your child even if it's just a drawing they've done. If you don't know what your child looks like ask the Sunday group leader for their age group to point them out to you discreetly.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your faithful prayers and cards over the years which have a huge impact on our children's lives.

If anyone has any questions about this or would like to become a prayer Aunt/Uncle or if you can't keep up the commitment, do see Thelma Smale who organises it all. As the number of children in the church grows it becomes harder to do a thorough job so do be understanding and encouraging as well!  
Many thanks,