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# **The Outlook**

## **from Hope June 2005**

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### **For Your Prayers**

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#### **Give thanks:**

For the appointment of John Leonard as our new caretaker. Pray for him as he settles in to his new home and job here at Hope.

For the new Sunday evening Alpha course. Pray for all those who attend and for Andy and Jenny as they lead.

For Paul Hatherell and Chris Houston who are to be baptized on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Pray for them as they take this significant step.

#### **Pray for:**

Those recently – and not so recently – bereaved, especially for the families of Ken Gardiner and Doris Dunstan.

The lonely and the housebound; those who struggle with on-going health problems. At the time of writing, Viola Woodward is once again in hospital and seriously ill.

All our young people taking exams at this time (and their families!)

The African conference to be held at Hope on 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> June.

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### **Crafty Capers at Open House**

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Firstly, please do not forget that our annual cream tea is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June when we are going to Cleave Tea Rooms, Walney Market Street, Kingsand. Yes! We are off to the seaside! Evidently this cafe has magnificent sea views and if it is a sunny day we can sit outside. We are booked in for 2.30pm and the cost is £3, with half portions available. There is a list to sign up on at the back of church with the usual provision of car sharing.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 2.15pm we will be meeting to have a “Bring and Show” craft afternoon. There will be someone to talk to us about the art of quilting, with samples for us to see how it is done. If you do knitting, embroidery or crochet, and would like to bring something along to show us, that would be great.

We are hoping to raise more money than usual at Open House to help Olga’s family in Russia purchase a new cooker, as the oven on theirs no longer works, so they can only cook on the hob. You probably met Olga when she spent six weeks with Ron and Jenny Weeks recently. Evidently white goods are very expensive there and wages, very low, so the family are unable to afford a new one or to get theirs repaired.

To help raise more funds for this project we thought it would be nice to have some stalls selling any handmade things you may like to donate. Perhaps you have some good quality bric-a-brac, you could bake a cake, or have some unused toiletries we could sell. This would all be gratefully received.

There will be the usual afternoon tea with sandwiches and cakes, for which the suggested donation is £1.50. This will all go towards the cooker. If you require a lift on the day, please phone me, Pam Smith, on 219844.

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### **Heaven’s Grocery Store**

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I was walking down life’s highway when it began to pour  
Then I noticed a sign that read ‘Heaven’s Grocery Store’  
As I got a little closer the door was open wide  
And when I came to myself I was standing inside.



I saw a host of angels, they were standing everywhere  
One handed me a basket and said. "My child, shop with care".  
Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store  
And all you couldn't carry, you could come back that day for more

First I got some patience, love was in the same row  
Further down was understanding, you need that everywhere you go  
I got a box or two of wisdom, a bag or two of faith  
I just couldn't miss the Holy Spirit for he was in every place

I stopped to get some strength and courage to help me run this race  
By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed grace  
I didn't forget salvation, for salvation that was free  
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I went up to the counter to pay my grocery bill  
For as I thought I had everything to do my master's will  
As I went up the aisle I saw prayer and just had to put that in  
For I knew when I walked outside I would run into sin.

Peace and joy were plentiful, they were on the last shelf  
Songs and praises were hanging near, so I helped myself  
Then I said to the angel "How much do I owe?"  
He smiled at me and said, "Just take them everywhere you go".

I smiled at him again and said, "How much do I really owe?"  
He smiled again and said, "My child, Jesus paid your bill a long time ago".

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## Lee Abbey

30<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2005

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Hope has 75 places reserved for this relaxing weekend of teaching and fun at Lee Abbey, which is in a beautiful setting near Lynton in North Devon

We are now pleased to be able to confirm the programme for our weekend at Lee Abbey:

***DEEPER: LIFE TOGETHER***

The New Testament paints a picture of vibrant fellowship, true community amongst God's people. The spiritual growth of those early Christians was integrally linked to their fellowship together. In contrast our culture has been marked by individualism and privacy, which has left many people feeling lonely and suspicious of others. How can we discover the same riches of fellowship the Spirit inspired amongst the early believers?



We will be covering topics like:

- Building community as a church
- Hospitality
- The art of building friendships
- Going deeper - bringing God into our relationships
- Avoiding cliques and integrating newcomers

The cost is £98 per adult, which includes all meals for the weekend

We are limited to a maximum of 25 children and prices are a proportion of the adult cost depending on age. However the church has agreed to offer a subsidy so that they would cost no more than £50 each. (This subsidy is of course optional!!)

We are also offering people the chance to pay in instalments, as we did last time, so to book a place, or just for more information please speak to either Debbie Houston or Nicky Hatherell

For more information on Lee Abbey and its surroundings, log on at

[www.leeabbey.org.uk](http://www.leeabbey.org.uk)

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## **Teignmouth Day Out Saturday 2 July**

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Once again Teignmouth will be the venue for our annual Day Out; Teignmouth is an ideal venue as it has many shops all in the same vicinity as the Church and the beach, so everyone has the choice of how they spend the day – games and races are organised on the beach during the afternoon.

Most people opt to take a packed lunch, which can be eaten in the church hall or on the beach, but there are numerous takeaways and cafes for those that prefer to make use of them.

Later we all meet in the church hall for tea – everyone is asked to contribute to this meal – a list will be circulated closer to the time for you to sign up for your contributions.

A double-decker bus has been booked to take us and we will set off at 10.30 prompt. We leave there for the return journey at 6pm, arriving back in Plymouth at approx 7pm, tired but happy!

All are welcome on this trip – the cost remains the same as last year – that's £5.50 for adults and £3.50 for children, including transport. For those of you who like to make your own way there and back we ask for £1.50 per person towards costs.

If you have any questions or would like to book your place please speak to either Debbie Houston or Nicky Hatherell



**Be warned – this trip is always fully subscribed – don't leave it too late to book or you may be disappointed!**

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### **Commission on Urban Life and Faith (CULF)**

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On 10 May, Jean Potter and I attended an event held in the Lower Guildhall. The aim of the event was to bring together the leaders of the various faiths and other interested parties in order to address the destitution crisis of refugees and asylum seekers in the city of Plymouth.

Jonathan Clark, the Asylum and Refugee Co-ordinator for Plymouth, gave a presentation and overview of the destitution crisis. As a result of misleading and often untrue reports in the local and national press, many asylum seekers and refugees were experiencing racial abuse, discrimination and violence. Asylum seekers and refugees were finding it very difficult to obtain accommodation and it was thought that many were destitute and sleeping rough in the city.

Archdeacon Tony Wilds (Anglican) explained that there was a theological basis of a call to action in all the major faiths practiced in the city. Verses of faith texts were read by the various leaders and representatives of these faiths. Quites were read from the Torah, Bible, Qur'an, Baha'i, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Unitarian Universalist traditions.

All of the quotes can be summed up by the words of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
“Love one another as I have loved you”

And the verses from Leviticus 19 – verses 34-35

“When an alien lives with you in your land, do not ill-treat him. The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the Lord your God”

After a pause for reflection, the meeting was given facts and figures interspersed with true stories from asylum seekers and refugees and from those working with them. We heard some harrowing and very shocking accounts of the reality of being an asylum seeker.

Following this, there was an opportunity to question members of a panel consisting of representatives of the various agencies working with asylum seekers and refugees.

The meeting concluded with an appeal for support by the agencies who are working to provide practical help and advice to asylum seekers and refugees.

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## **Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support Council**

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For several years I have been the “link person” between Hope Baptist Church and DCRSC. In recent times I have given this a low profile as I felt that folk at Hope had a lot of other things to consider, however I feel that now I should bring the needs of this organization to your attention again.

DCRSC was started by a group of refugees and local community members in 1999 with the purpose of providing assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in Devon and Cornwall. One of its founders, the late Sam Kallon, himself a refugee, came to “Open House” a few years ago to speak on the work of the council. Perhaps some people at Hope will remember this occasion.

Refugees encounter a wide range of problems both during and after the processing of their asylum claim. At DCRSC specialist advisors provide assistance with issues surrounding housing, financial support, legal services, health and education.

Although asylum seekers should be provided with housing and subsistence payments by the government, delivery is often obstructed by bureaucratic errors leaving asylum seekers without money for travel expenses, medicine or food. DCRSC issues emergency relief in these situations. It also runs a food programme and additional facilities for asylum seekers facing long term destitution.

DCRSC houses a second hand clothing store, run by Churches Together in Plymouth. It provides clothing and basic household necessities without charge.

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### **Why DCRSC needs your help.**

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There is a significant number of asylum seekers whose claims have been refused by the Home Office but who cannot be returned to their country of origin because there are no safe routes. Effectively this leaves people destitute, with no right to work on one hand, and no access to public funds on the other.

DCRSC is the foremost organization in the region providing food, clothing and medicines for this group. This challenge can only be met with the kind assistance of loyal supporters.

If you feel that you can help in any way either by donating money, food, clothing or your time, please contact me JENNY WEEKS on 777416 or see me after Sunday service.

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### **Refugee and Asylum Quiz**

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Please try to answer this quiz and find out how much you really know about issues surrounding asylum seekers and refugees.

1. Which of the following is the odd one out? Why?
  - a. Jesus Christ
  - b. The Prophet Mohammed
  - c. The Dalai Lama
  - d. Nelson Mandela
2. Which of the following is the odd one out? Why?
  - a. A roll of Andrex Toilet Paper
  - b. Marks and Spencer Shop
  - c. Haagen Daaz Ice Cream
  - d. The Theory of Relativity
3. Which continent do most of the world's refugees flee to?
  - a. Africa
  - b. Europe
  - c. Asia
  - d. North America
4. What percentage of the world's refugees live in the UK?
  - a. 1.8%
  - b. 11.8%

- c. 18%
  - d. 28%
5. Do you think the number of asylum seekers coming to Britain in the past two years has..
    - a. Gone up by three or four times
    - b. Roughly Doubled
    - c. Fallen by half or more
    - d. About the same
  6. How do the benefits paid to asylum seekers compare with those paid to UK citizens? Are they...
    - a. A little more generous
    - b. A lot less generous
    - c. Much more generous
    - d. About the same
  7. Of the 1.2 million people who work in the NHS, how many are immigrants?
    - a. 1-50,000
    - b. 50,000-250,000
    - c. 250,000-500,000
    - d. 500,000-1,200,000
  8. Approximately how many asylum seekers are there in Plymouth?
    - a. 250
    - b. 450
    - c. 1050
    - d. 2050
  9. What percentage of Plymouth's population are asylum seekers and refugees?
    - a. Less than 1%
    - b. 2%
    - c. 5%
    - d. 10%
  10. How many different first languages are spoken by pupils in Plymouth Schools?
    - a. 4
    - b. 14
    - c. 34
    - d. 64

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### Answers to Refugee and Asylum Seeker Quiz

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1. d – Nelson Mandela. All the others are religious leaders and all three were refugees. (The Dalai Lama is still a refugee living in exile)
2. c – Haagen Daaz ice cream. It is a 'made up' name. The founders of Andrex and Marks and Spencer were both refugees as was Einstein the originator of the Theory of Relativity.
3. c – Asia
4. a – 1.8%
5. c – Fallen by half or more
6. b – a lot less generous. 30% below the minimum paid to UK citizens
7. c – 250,000 – 500,000. The figure is around 400,000
8. c – 1050
9. a – less than 1%
10. d – 64

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### A few facts and figures

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90% of all Asylum Seekers fail to be granted asylum in the UK

Some of the world's poorest countries host the highest number of refugees and asylum seekers

The United Kingdom takes in 2% of the world's asylum seekers. (9<sup>th</sup> in Europe)

23% - 33% have post graduate degrees  
2 out of 3 who have sought asylum are under 35 years of age.

Over 30% of women asylum seekers have been abused

40% of those seeking asylum have health problems, usually caused by the abuse they have suffered in their homeland.

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## The Evangelical Alliance Basis of Faith

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We believe in...

1. The one true God who lives eternally in three persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
2. The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.
3. The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God—fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.
4. The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.
5. The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ—born of the virgin Mary, truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.
6. The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.
7. The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruit of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father, and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.
8. The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.
9. The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.
10. The Church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers—given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.
11. The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.

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## **SOMEONE'S WATCHING YOU!**

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Its amazing the effect it can have when you know someone is watching you.

I try to go jogging at least twice a week. It's definitely not running, just a wee jog. If I'm feeling good I'll take on the hills of central park, otherwise I head for the Marjon sports fields.

It's usually quite quiet at Marjon's but I've noticed that as soon as another runner appears, or someone brings their packed lunch outside, my pace will increase. Or if I'm in Central Park and I recognise someone, there will suddenly be an extra spring in my step. If I come across too many people I'm soon fit to drop from the extra exertion. It's an age old desire to impress, or at least the hope they'll not think I'm an unfit old codger.

When I'm jogging I've no idea what people are actually thinking about me. If you are aware of their attitude towards you it can make a huge difference to your behavior.

I greatly enjoyed the BBC 2 series The Monastery. 5 ordinary men were locked away for 40 days with Benedictine monks. They join them in 5 services a day, long periods of silent meditation, physical work on the gardens and bible instruction.

I was particularly struck by Gary a tough Irish protestant. He'd lived his whole life with a sense that God was watching him and that God was a very strict, judgemental headmaster of the old school type who was just watching for a shirt tail hanging out so he could come down on him like a ton of bricks. As a result his life was characterised by fear, and paranoia about what others thought of him. He had incredibly low self-esteem and a lot of his angst came out in aggression.

Gary says its ironic that he a protestant felt more accepted by a group of Catholic monks than by any other group in his life. In parallel with this he also learned that God watches him not critically but out of love wanting the best for him. More like an encouraging father than a demanding headmaster. It's an experience and an insight that has transformed his life.

I guess we've all experienced the stultifying effect of someone watching our actions with a critical spirit, hoping we'll mess up and also the liberating effect of being watched by someone with a generous encouraging attitude hoping we'll succeed.

The fantastic thing about becoming a Christian is that the bible says we are adopted into God's family and we are his dearly loved children. The knowledge that God watches over us is no longer a frightening thought but a reassuring, safe, up-building experience. A helpful discipline is to 'practice the presence of God'. This is to take opportunities in the daily routine to be quiet for a few moments and quietly remind yourself that you are in the presence of God and he cares for you deeply. Just as for Gary it could be a transforming experience for you.

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## Thank you

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A big thank you for all your prayers, cards, phone messages and flowers after my unexpected trip to the hospital by ambulance on Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup> with chest pains.

The paramedics were really wonderful, hooking me up to the machine and reassuring me by explaining what they were doing. Gods Angels were fathered at the hospital to receive me and Wilfred followed with a little suitcase. How blest we are to have the NHS and how I for one appreciate all those working and serving the community at Derriford Hospital.

Thanks be to God

**My love**  
**Thelma (Smale)**



# Build your own Brunch

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2005

0930 – 1.30

All proceeds to the Building Fund

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

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## Flowers

- 5 Mrs. Margaret Tripp. Loving Birthday Remembrance of her husband Mr. Fred Tripp.  
12 Mrs. Marian Brown to mark Home Mission week.  
19 Mrs. Estelle Robertson. Loving Birthday Remembrance of her mother, Mrs Doris Veal.

## Creche

- 05 Jackie May & Leontine Amissale  
12 Claire Knight & Sheena Kingdon  
19 Linda Snell & Jenny George  
26 Family Service – No crèche

## Coffee

- 05 Marian Brown & Sandra Brown  
12 Margaret Underdown & Beryl Brown  
19 Rebekah Beard & Pat Taylor  
26 Pat Dodd & Tim Hart

## Communion

- |    | <i>Set-up</i>      | <i>Wash-up</i>     |
|----|--------------------|--------------------|
| 19 | Ray & Cindy Hedges | Ray & Cindy Hedges |

## BMS Birthdays



- 07 Mr Richard Pomeroy  
12 Mr Peter Brown  
13 Mr Robert Pomerly  
23 Mrs Doreen Stirling

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## June Diary

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- Wed 01 10.00 Parent and Toddler Group\*  
1.00 Parent and Toddler Group\*

- Thu 02 10.15 Coffee Morning\*\*
- Sun 05 10.00 Prayer in the Youth Centre\*\*  
10.30 Morning Service  
Love Actually 1 John
- Mon 06 Open House – Tea at Cleave Tearooms
- Tue 07 10.00 Mums and Babies Group\*  
1.00 Parent and Toddler Group\*  
7.30 Celebration
- Fri 10 7.00-8.30 The Hype, youth group, school years 7 to 9\*  
8.15-10.00 Re:act, youth group, school years 10 to 12\*
- Sun 12 10.30 Morning Service - The Matrix  
The service will include a dedication and baptism
- 16 – 19 All Nations Conference
- Sun 19 10.30 Morning Service  
Commissioning of Osee Ntavuka
- Mon 20 2.15 Open House – Bring & Buy and Craft afternoon
- Wed 22 Women' s Rendezvous
- Sun 26 10.30 Family Service – Bruce almighty  
7.00pm Pennycross churches meeting together for pray at  
Pennycross Methodist Church
- \*These meetings are held weekly **during term time only**
- \*\* These meetings meet weekly **all through the year**
- July 02** Teignmouth Day Out