



# Newsletter April '06

Dear Friends,

March saw our Commitment Day take place, which was a very successful day on many levels. There was a buzz within the church on the day and the Spirit was definitely moving among us during the service which demonstrated how many people are coming together to use their different talents. We were promised substantial amounts of money on the day and have a good increase to our monthly giving. We also saw the church as one COMMITTED to working in their own individual ways, but for a common goal: in order to be Living Stones for the Church and for God. Everyone welcomed the idea to get up and move around the church to see some of the ways that we are already planning to raise funds, as well as use the church for outreach, making the most again of the position in the centre of the village.

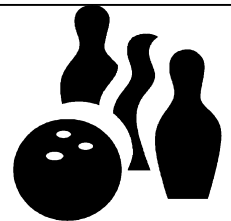
Some of the results from the day were:

- Additional regular giving of £465/month
- One-off gifts of £5860, plus a promise of a further £610
- A possible loan
- A promise to review a will (possible legacy)
- Two new Gift Aid forms (increases related gifts by 28%)
- Huge range of Gifts and Skills, some suitable for Auction (eg tractor driving lessons), others for repeat "sales", including many from "Relay"
- Further commitments to prayer support

We have a board in church for further ideas to be added for talents that can be auctioned to raise money, which can be added to as new ideas come up.

## Fundraising Highlights include:

Lawre and Avril Doyle were able to sell their holiday in Cornwall for a substantial sum towards Living Stones. There has also been over £50 raised from the efforts of our hard working youngsters who have been busy washing cars. This is a great encouragement of how money can be raised by using our gifts and auctioning what we can. Please send in other examples of fundraising successes to Sarah Webb for our next newsletter.



## AUCTION OF PROMISES & SKITTLES EVENING

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm  
Frogmore Scout Hall, Yateley  
Fish & Chip Supper included

Please put the date in your diary without delay so that this can be a great social evening for the fellowship, as well as the auction. We will be auctioning some of our pledged items on the night but will continue to run an auction brochure so you can bid for everything else over the course of time – it is planned to be an ongoing scheme. The brochure will include items/ talents pledged for bidding but we will also add a section for those who want something done as then maybe will be able to offer their talents as a result of that.

See posters/ newsheet for more detail.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

Whilst we are raising money for our new building for the community, we also need to grab opportunities as they arise to work within that community. There are two events coming up in the next few months which are such opportunities that we should take advantage of:

### WORLD CUP



We plan to open up the church to the community in order that parents can bring their children to watch the World Cup games, which they couldn't do in a pub. Of course we will not be able to serve alcohol but we are able to provide an atmosphere to nurture families spending time together. Phyllida Dewes has agreed to co-ordinate this but we will need a team to help with the organisation and technical screening of the matches.

### CARNIVAL

The theme of this year's carnival is Heroes and Villains.



Please have a think as to how CBC can be involved in anything during the Carnival Day or week.

Marion and Cheryl have kindly agreed to be responsible for opening up the church to the community on Carnival Day, so please let them know if you are able to help them serve refreshments, or just be there to welcome people into the church.

## E-BAY

Please don't forget to give unwanted items to Claire Keogh or Louise Truscott and we can sell them for you to raise more money.

Prayer for Living Stones:  
Prayer meetings will be held between 7pm and 8pm at Picton on the following Sundays:

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**May 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Jun 18<sup>th</sup>**

If you would like to lead a prayer evening at any point throughout the year, please liase with Phyllida or Ian.

As a result of our commitment day we have gained a substantial sum towards our funds, as well as being half-way towards our required monthly committed giving. However, we still have a huge and steep hill to climb in the grand scheme of things, and one that needs to be tackled further for us to be in the position to proceed with any building at this time.

Please don't forget to keep praying for the Living Stones project: and for our church, who is working as a united team in their eagerness to achieve our goal, and for the finances as a whole.

Should you have any questions or comments, please approach a member of the Living Stones finance team:

Ian Burrow, Phyllida Dewes, Philip Hood, Alan Gravett, Tracey Ashton & Sarah Webb.