



CONTACT



news from
the united reformed church
and salvation army, russell street tavistock

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December 2009

SUNDAY 6th 10:00am Worship & Holy Communion - Rev Rog
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting:

SUNDAY 13th 10:00am Worship - Rev Rog
Church Members' meeting.
6:00pm Salvation Army: **CAROL SERVICE.**

SUNDAY 20th 10:00am **CAROL SERVICE** - led by the URC Elders.
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting:

FRIDAY 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**
10:00am Christmas Morning Worship.
11:30am - 4:00pm Christmas Day Lunch & Entertainment.

SUNDAY 27th 10:00am Worship - Rev Rog
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting :





SOUTH WEST

NEWS FROM OPERATION SUNSHINE : ZIMBABWE.

THE CONTAINER SENT ON JULY 23rd ARRIVES SAFELY!!!!

Bryony writes: "This week we offloaded another lovely OS container. It was a beautiful hot day, the container arrived early, the Customs were on time, and there was a happy atmosphere throughout the offload. The Customs showed little interest in the goods coming out, and left halfway through the offload.

THANK YOU !!! We are again delighted with everything that came. The bikes for the schoolchildren are beautiful. I found the pumps and puncture repair kits the families will be thrilled to own the bikes and have

the means to maintain them.....

Such a lovely lot of clothing again just what is needed. Also the 25 litre water containers are marvellous ! Once again, thanks for soap, toiletries and candles. I found the Paracetamol another blessing to receive.

The Power Saw is excellent, and thanks for the oils to go with it. The Pastors went for power saw lessons the other week, and I have bought them steel capped boots, glasses, and gloves to protect them. I saw the glasses you sent with the saw and the tools. I found the handbook and note kindly written out for us. Everything was very well done and in good order. Many, many thanks. I will send photos of its use. There are trees to cut at the village and logs to be sawn.

The school furniture is very good lovely desks and chairs. The benches are great we will use them at our church conferences for people to sit on when they are outside. Thanks for the education boxes most valuable. Thanks for the extra bags and the large ones.

The Customs opened the bag of "bin liners" and each took a roll for themselves ! Thank you for a lot of food boxes, and the large sacks of rice. I am hoping to get a few packets of raisins for my Christmas pudding out of there. The fish you send is always appreciated and sought after, as are the soups and tins of tomatoes. so much lovely food makes one quite envious just looking at it.

Thanks for sending more tools of many kinds. We are looking forward to opening the kitchenware boxes. So much to go through, and all very useful. Thank you for more buckets. We are thoroughly blessed with your container. All your efforts and hard work are appreciated, and the money spent in getting it all together, storing it and shipping it. It opens many doors for lives to be changed spiritually, and brings hope wherever the goods are distributed.

All these goods will be given out by Christmas, so you can start preparing the next one whenever you are ready. Many, many thanks to everyone involved. Blessings Bryony " Oct 31st 2009



As you can read, everything that is sent via Operation Sunshine is greatly appreciated and used. The next container was due to be packed on November 28th and as well as the contents of the church box, we bought another 2 big sacks of rice. This means our BLUE BOX is empty again!! PLEASE TRY AND BRING SOMETHING TO PUT IN IT WHENEVER YOU CAN. THANK YOU!!

FUND RAISING RESULTS.

The concert on Sunday Nov 8th by the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir & Dres Kernow raised £452. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such an enjoyable occasion.



We have also managed to reclaim £2300 back from the Inland Revenue! This shows how important it is for all donations that are given to the Church from tax payers are declared as " GIFT AID" - or write your number on envelopes which contain your donation.

Please speak to Rev Rog if you would like to know more.

HELPING OTHERS

The response to the shoe box appeal for LINK ROMANIA saw 60 shoe boxes filled and ready to be sent off. Thank you to those URC members who took part and to Janet Dashper and members of the 4 seasons craft group.

(You could start collecting things for next year!!)

Fill a shoebox
full of smiles



SSHHHH!!! Well done to Angela Ward (who is a regular helper at the Lower Deck Café) who went on a sponsored silence for Children in Need. She collected £50 from people at the Café and then went on to increase her total to £85!

EVENTS TO SUPPORT

Tavistock Area Support Services (TASS) - the primary charity for those aged 55 + living in this area - are holding a CHRISTMAS FAIR on Saturday December 5th at the Anchorage Centre from 9:30am - 4:30pm. On sale will be glass/ table ware/ practical and decorative kitchenware/ Christmas decorations/mouth watering cakes, buns and jams! There will be a tombola and a "Bumper Hamper" raffle - as well as the chance to buy a limited edition 2010 TASS calendar!



Refreshments available....Admission 25p.



Responding to public demand, Revd Phyllis has devised another quiz! Quiz sheets are available from her in Church, at the Lower Deck Café, and at the St Nicholas Fayre price £1. Proceeds for the Roof Fund. All sheets must be returned to Phyllis by **January 3rd 2010**. Correct answers will be put in the "hat" and a winner drawn. In the event of noone getting everything right, the prize will be awarded to the person with the most correct answers. Please support this by not only entering yourself but by selling quiz sheets to your friends, relatives and neighbours!! See Phyllis (855731)if you want to sell a load!!!!



COME ALONG TO THE

ST NICHOLAS FAYRE

in the Lower Deck Hall
on SATURDAY DECEMBER 5th
from 10:00am - 1:00pm

Christmas Gifts & Decorations
Cake Stall

Refreshments & Light Lunches
and of course St Nicholas himself - in
his more familiar guise as Santa Claus !!

PROCEEDS TO THE URC ROOF FUND

If you have any items for this event please see/contact Anne Snook (614801). Thank you.

Who was Saint Nicholas?

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man.

Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to the those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died on December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day. Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need.

Santa Claus, for some, replaces the Babe of Bethlehem;

St. Nicholas, for all, points to the Babe of Bethlehem.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

