



Pupils at the "Rock of Ages" School

Evening raises £400 for Zambian school

THANK you to everyone who came to the Hewitts' Zambian evening in October - over £400 was donated to Pastor Isaac's "Rock of Ages" School. He writes:

"To the People of Wiveliscombe and all that came from afar, who have extended their hands and blessings to us here, we are

so grateful for your generous support. We pray that God will richly bless you. Through your generous support, you have put smiles on children's faces, smiles of hope, smiles of a better future. TWATOTELA SANA (thank you very much)".

At the time of writing, Pastor Isaac (Rebecca Hewitt's penpal from the Kingsmead-Kitwe link, now a young pastor constructing

a building for community/school/church use in a shanty area of Kitwe) is discussing with his colleagues whether to use the donation to permanently roof the building with corrugated iron or to patch it temporarily with plastic, employ two part time teachers for a year and buy furniture, school equipment, and a sewing machine to teach local women skills in tailoring, to create items to sell for school funds and income for the women. A little goes a long way in Zambia...

For further information on Rock of Ages School, see www.pastorisaac.celtic-swan.com

A blue velvet gentleman's jacket was left at The Silver Street Centre after the event - to claim it please ring the Hewitts on 01984 623547.

Season's greetings

NOW, what season would that be?

One of the well known visitor attractions in Cornwall identifies the season as 'A Time of Gifts' and their theme for this year is 'Light in the Darkness', telling stories of the communities that grew from Cornwall's traditional industries - an uplifting celebration told through photographic exhibitions, storytelling, music and film.

For them there is an even bigger and better ice rink, festive food, party nights and festive marketplace.

It is 'A Time of Gifts'. It is a time for rejoicing in the best gift of all. Someone exclaimed with feeling, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

'Light in the Darkness' is much more than the theme for the year. It is the great theme of the age - for 'The Light is come'. "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."

There is hope for the hopeless. There is help for the helpless. There is healing for broken world people whether they are in war torn Iraq or Wiveliscombe.

Some refer to the season as 'Christmas'. Yet, no one name can adequately

describe the reason for the season for something impossible has taken place.

The great creator became part of his own creation, being born as a baby in order to die on a cruel Roman cross.

However, contrary to what you might expect this amazing event did not take place in some great palace, or a modern maternity unit, but in a filthy Eastern stable.

This Christmas, there will be many in the community celebrating the birth, rejoicing that the light has come and giving thanks for the priceless gift that defies description.

They have every reason to party, for they have found in the man Jesus, hope for this life and the life to come.

You can share in the celebration, or perhaps discover more of what it's all about. On Wednesday, 20th December at 7.00pm, there is Carols for Christmas with the Town Band at the chapel in Silver Street - followed by coffee and mince pies in the Silver Street Centre. On Christmas morning, at 10.30am the celebration continues - there is normally a party atmosphere - and you are home in time for Christmas dinner.

Alan Millar

Cancer Research collection

THE annual house to house collection in Wivey and surrounding areas raised a magnificent £2,152.55.

Many thanks to all who gave so generously, and particularly to those who helped with the collection.

If you would be willing to help next year (the dates are 10th - 23rd September 2007) please let me know, see phone number below.

There is also a street collection in Wellington on Saturday December 2nd from 8am to 6pm. If anyone is able to help for an hour or so please contact me on 01984 623330, plus answering machine.

Bridget Turnbull

Shoebboxes for Romania



MEMBERS and friends of Wiveliscombe Evangelical Congregational Church led by Mrs Tina Freeman have prepared over forty shoeboxes full of Christmas goodies to go as gifts to needy people in Romania.

The boxes will be distributed by Miss Margaret Robinson of Mission to Europe who works among the disadvantaged of Romania included street children, orphans and the elderly.

Miss Robinson has visited Wiveliscombe from time to time to talk about her work in Romania.

Charity stamps

We are all busy at Christmas time but please spare a few minutes to save your stamps.

The stamps go to St Margaret's Hospice to help with their valuable work.

All stamps are welcome and can be left at Wiveliscombe House, in the Square, in a packet marked 'Stamps'.

I will collect if you contact me, Ken Hughes 624213.

Brompton Ralph Rural Revival Fayre



TWELVE o' clock approached, the stalls were in place, the arena clear, the sun shining and all eyes anxiously turned towards the road.

Would anyone come to our first Rural Revival Fayre, for which the parish had been working since April?

Then Brian Rose, captain of the Somerset County Cricket Team in its glory days swept into the arena on the Cotleigh dray to open the fayre, and the visitors arrived - about a thousand of them.

It was a wonderful afternoon, on fields 800 feet above sea level with panoramic views over the church and countryside.

The village shop and post office had been brought to the fayre; there were animals - staghounds, performing geese, the Pony Club, the gun dog scurry; there were craft demonstrations, antiques, home-made food, the making of an amazing graffiti painting, the art show, a jazz band, bouncy castle, a mummer's play telling the hilarious and "Completely Untrue History of Brompton Ralph" and much more.

The day finished with a hog roast and square dance on the field under a clear sky and in a glow of satisfaction.

The Village Hall, PCC, the Village Shop, the Cricket Club and Shelterbox will all benefit from the proceeds.

Will we do it again? Possibly, quite probably, but not just yet. J.C.

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Joanna Oldman and Matt Harvey

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