

**Thank you again for bearing with us**, and as so many do lifting us up before the throne of Grace, everything is just showing signs of coming alive again.

May we leave you with Jude's wonderful benediction?

**Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,**

**V 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.**

Please note that Glyn now has her own email address and if any of you ladies would like to write directly to her, she would love to hear from you - [glyn@koschristianfellowship.com](mailto:glyn@koschristianfellowship.com)

Alec can, as always, be contacted - [alec@koschristianfellowship.com](mailto:alec@koschristianfellowship.com)

# **A company of God's people Praying for Kos**

April 2009

## **Dear Friends**

**First we must give thanks** to all our friends, for the prayers and encouragement they have given us whilst we were back in the UK. A big thank you goes to all those that enabled us to come to their churches to give presentations, also for all the kind gifts that we have received. Again our thanks goes to Dave Hall for his assistance with the power point presentation.

**Alec left the UK on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and arrived back in Kos on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.** His journey was tiring as the trip across the Adriatic proved to be quite rough, resulting in him missing his connecting boat from Pireas to Kos. However, in some ways this proved beneficial, as it gave him an opportunity to meet up with a brother Evangelos Sikoutris in Patra. On arrival back at the new house which we had never lived in previously, Alec first experienced problems with the entry gate which he nearly had to break down and then someone who had been looking after the house for us treble locked the front door. **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March was Alec's first day back at the church of the Greek** people in Kos town that we are now meeting with, Babis and his wife Marts seemed to be happy to receive us back as did the others in the group. Since we left they have settled down meeting on a Sunday morning at 11 am in the Triton Hotel, quite often six nations are now represented at the service.

**The rest of March, Alec has spent settling** in to our new house as per the address that we gave in our last prayer letter of 2008. A few teething problems had to be overcome, but this seems normal for Greece. One big answer to prayer was a night or two ago, our toilet became blocked and after a period of prayer the Lord answered this by it being dramatically cleared. **“just the simple things of life that our Great King is interested in what a Saviour “**

**From Mid March Alec has been getting back** to being the streets giving out literature, going to the houses and putting out literature on the window screens.

**We have been encouraged that the Kefalos** group is going well and we are hoping to attend a Good Friday service there at Michaela's house, she has invited Joel to speak.

**There are a small number of Bulgarians meeting** in the town of Antimahia, so Babis, Vangelis and I visited them one Friday Evening to encourage them. Both Babis and I had an opportunity give a few words.



*Bulgarian Group*

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>. March was an important day here in Kos** town as the new bishop arrived by boat amidst a great fan-fare, with what seemed thousands watching, sadly few will be in church on Sunday.

- **Friendship** – Pray for the Greek contacts especially those that speak English such as Costa, Husan, Drosos, Katrina, Seva and others previous mentioned.
- **Tracting** – With plenty of Greek tracts, Over 20,000 PCK ready for the season 15,000 OAM tracts for car parks & service advertising, that the Lord will use one for His Great Glory.
- **Church work** – That we will be able to sort out where the service can be held, that there will be much Grace in the decision making.
- **Mission Board work** – That when we return to the dock side that there will be no interferences from the authorities.
- **Beaches** – That when we commence with this work that we will gain good relationships with the sun bed owners and those in the parking areas will remain friendly.
- **Preaching/Ministry** –That the Lord will guide Alec as he prepares the service and sermons. For time to be set aside for prayer and any pastoral needs should they arise.
- **Helpers** – As the helpers come to Island, that they will have safe travel and remain safe whilst here, to prepare for work in a foreign land. In May especially Chris Box, possibly Brenda.
- **Prison** – that giving of Bibles to the prisoners will be able to be resumed and continued through the year.
- **Glyn** – That Glyn when she arrives will be kept from homesickness that has been so debilitating to her.
- **Kefalos Group-** will continue to grow in both numbers and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Friendship Evangelism

Sadly this has not started well, Hassan at the café has not had time to read his bible, however, still very friendly. Drosos cannot be found, Louise is also not around. I telephoned Donna at the wrong time, I think she was ill. Seva was very busy but did accept the new **CD from OAM '6 Life Changing Stories'**. Alec saw Father Antony but he was in a procession of Priests and therefore was not available to speak, we must leave it with the Lord.

**Prison**– By the time you read this we will be praying that Babis will be able to deliver the first 20 bibles for this year, and hope to continue this every six weeks or so.

## Helpers

If the beginning of the year is anything to go by, then our God is a great and wonderful provider. As many of you will know Alec is on his own for the first two months plus of the season. **The Lord has provided Joel Benjamin a lovely Godly Indian Pastor who has come all the way from Bangalore in Southern India**, Alec says he is a joy to have around, especially at our times of devotion, morning and evening, together with help in all the aspects of the work. The rest of the season we have **Chris from Kent, Jacqui and Mark in July, Arran from York in August/Sept, Marion from Manchester Sept/Oct, plus Brenda possibly from Berlin**, and several others have expressed interest. **We are sure Olga would like to thank everyone for all the prayers for her daughter Maria, that had an operation for throat Cancer late 2008.**

## PRAYER POINTS

- **Greek Newspapers** the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of delivering them that the Holy Spirit will bring to mind things those who have read before will remember.



*the new Bishop*

## Church work

The prayer meeting that started in October praise the Lord has continued in our absence, last Monday they met at our home.

**In many ways the group of leaders here are at a crossroads**, it is not sure whether they will be able to remain at the Triton hotel once the season starts. As yet, no decision has been made as to where to meet otherwise, summer traditionally here has been a very difficult time for the church, as the tourists arrive, so everyone starts to work, and as in years gone by the church has been put on hold and everything stops. **Officially here the church has a name 'Kos International Church'** and Babis is officially the Pastor, with the support of an Athens Church, the big question mark will be where do they meet this summer, and how will they protect Babis as the full/part time Pastor without wages. These questions need to be addressed. Alec saw the **Hotel Manager of the Continental Palace Hotel on Friday** and was given a warm reception, and also given the opportunity of using the larger room if required and was told that we can continue to have the TV room for the day, with

virtually no restrictions on when we use the room for services. This leaves us in the position that do we make use of the Continental Palace or wait for the Greeks to say where they will meet, do we join them or them us? At present they are paying 85 euro's for three hours at the Triton. Alec has offered to let Babis take the service at the Continental Palace and only participate when Babis directs. On a Wednesday night the group have a prayer meeting that is well attended, however, there is little or no biblical exposition or teaching, sadly this may finish also when the season commences. Much prayer will be required here.



*Prayer meetings*

**As I write we have noticed a very old dilapidated building opposite our home that is up for sale, great faith would be required to try and purchase this.????**

### ***Mission Board work / Tracting***

**Beaches** – As the season has not yet commenced the tracting is mainly carried out in the town square, tracts have generally been fairly well received. Alec has been encouraged as he has met many of the old faces from last year, one good conversation took place between a **lady called Katarina, from a Jewellers shop opposite where Alec was giving out**

tracts, she has spent many years in Sydney Australia, the conversation covered the need that at the end of our lives, surely we must be judged for our actions. To cut a long story short, Alec challenged her as to how she would fair on Judgement Day. **She received a SOH CD**, Alec is hoping that he will meet her again. We have been blessed with a number of Jesus film CD's from the Hellenic Mission, and these have been well received, Babis telephone number has been written on the back and to date he has received three telephone calls, which he is hoping to follow up. Except the one that told him he was a heretic and going to hell. **Alec met two Albanian boys at the hot springs** and then met them two days later in the town and gave them a CD each, they said they would come to church on Sunday needless to say they did not. Joel and Alec were walking down the road the other day and a man came up to them and asked if they were pastors, as he said they looked like them, (Alec said the halo must have been glowing on that day, it had certainly gone by the time he arrived home??) It turned out that he was a **Greek Orthodox believer as he called himself**, his son was a Vicar in the Sydney Anglican Diocese, and kept referring to God as Lord, I am sure we will meet him again. **His name is Costa**. Already every time we are out he seems to appear. **Amazingly already** we have managed to put out over 1,000 pieces of literature.

### ***Ministry/Preaching***

Alec intends to continue with Genesis 46 in the mornings and Hebrews at night, unless the Greek group join with us or us with them.

### ***Greek Newspapers***

This has been a difficult start as the Winners Newspaper is now not available, the first consignment of Evangelos Fos has only just arrived but at a very high cost so we are now hoping to print 6,000 plus here on the island, we have been given the same price as last year, even the Lord can use a recession for His Great Glory. Of course, we have to overcome the technical difficulties, so we are hoping these will be ready for distribution in early April.