

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

May 2009

## **Dear Friends**

**As usual we commence our news to you with all our thanks** for the emails and prayers especially those from the UK, not forgetting Germany and Holland.

**Settling here in Lampi has been very** different to Kefalos, living on the edge of town Alec purchased a bike so a lot of the work is now carried out going by bike to the destinations, as many of you will know Glyn is not due back until mid-May. So Alec has been able to give thanks to **God for providing him with a lovely Indian Pastor brother for most of the month of April it was a joy for Alec to have Joel Benjamin there.** Alec said we sung hymns in the evening, preached to each other on alternate evenings, had wonderful prayer times together morning and evening, spent much time giving out tracts in the town centre, visiting the houses with bibles, CD's and newspapers. Surely Alec says a heavenly experience!! Many of us long to see the Lord and behold His glory perhaps moments like Alec has had is a foretaste.

**The different items we have given out has Babis'** telephone number on obviously what we have given out has stirred up the local people as they have received a good number of phone calls. Many have been positive; however, there have been some that have been irate and very unhappy.

**One lady said that the Greek NT** was only for Orthodox people, another man said that the bible should not be put outside peoples homes, that was only for advertising literature and would Babis come and pick them up. No doubt the Holy Spirit is stirring people's consciences.

**Alec met with Father Antony** as he was preparing for a wedding last Saturday whilst the conversation was not deeply spiritual or confrontational Father Antony did invite Alec to one of the Sunday

morning services, he said he would provide a service sheet in English for him.

**This month has been another learning curve** trying to handle the Greek way of life, as simply they can be described as the most unreliable people at times. It often comes down to **“I will believe it when I see it”** to love the unlovable is the call of God.

**One of the deep joys of this month** was that Pastor Daniel Ling from Myanmar, who has a church there in his home, became our prayer partners last year. We recently received his call to pray for his own people. **A FOUR day prayer meeting** (imagine churches in the UK giving up their Holiday) what joy to see that Daniel is true to his word, he has asked for much prayer for Kos. Oh how guilty we feel in not praying enough for them.

**Church work/Preaching Ministry** - It was good to return to the Continental Palace Hotel **on the Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May for the Sunday services** as this was a very early start to the season and many of the other hotels had only just opened on the Saturday, the attendances were **disappointing, eight in the morning and none in the evening.** What was encouraging was that **three of those that normally worship with the Greek Church** on Sunday came along. Alec commenced again at Genesis 46 and plans to move on into the book of Exodus in the morning and continuing in the book of Hebrews in the evening. **Three of the Greek group would not have experienced expository preaching** and it was encouraging to receive their comments.

**One of the problems as we have stated here before, is the Sunday working situation on this holiday island.** This ends up stopping Sunday worship which is a continuing grave concern, and if it remains church growth here seems unlikely.

It was good to meet and see all the old faces at the hotel again.

**On Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> Alec is hoping to have the keyboard** available and to have a lady come along that can play for them, and Vangelis will operate the overhead projector for the hymns.

**Alec is hoping to start a bible study on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May** in our home, as we are on a main road he is going to put a display board out in the morning.

**The main task at present now is to visit the hotels,** with our church service poster, Alec has visited about 40/50 hotels to date as they begin

6. **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.
7. **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?
8. **Helpers** – As the helpers come to the Island that they will have a safe journey and remain safe whilst here, as they prepare for work in a foreign land. **In May especially please pray for Chris Box, & Brenda.**
9. **Prison** – that the giving of **Bibles to the prisoners** will be able to be resumed and continued throughout the year.
10. **Glyn** – That Glyn when she arrives will be kept from homesickness as that has been so debilitating to her.
11. **Kefalos Group-** will continue to grow in both numbers and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thank you again for bearing with us,** and lifting us up before the throne of Grace,

**Account Alec J. Molton**

**Account no. 45826893**

**Sort code 07 01 16.**

**Held at Nationwide Building Society, Mildenhall.**

**PS as I write this prayer letter sadly Glyn’s uncle died on the 12<sup>th</sup> May, Glyn is his only living relative. So this will delay her return here as there is much to be done in the UK.**

**PLEASE PRAY THAT THE FUNERAL AND ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL GO SMOOTHLY.**

**PPS God is wonderful, Attila has been placed in a hotel only two from the Palace Continental, our pray is that this will enable us to meet regular this year**

**Alec to put his display and** advertising board under his Artist stand, so this is giving opportunity for Alec to stop and talk to him.

**Prison**– The prison received the 20 bibles that we delivered and said that they would distribute them to any of the inmates that would like one. This week we will try to deliver a further 20 along with some Albanian bibles.

**Helpers** –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 from Berlin,** and several others have expressed interest too. **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

1. **Greek Newspapers** this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of delivering them that the Holy Spirit will bring to mind things people have read before and will remember.
2. **Friendship** – Pray especially for **John at the Sunrise hotel,** and for wisdom for Alec to return. And for all those on the water front that we have friendship with. **Nick & Rafael,** and **also that Attila** will grow and not be side tracked by his Job.
3. **Tracting** – Much as before with plenty of Greek tracts. Over 20,000 PCK ready for the season, 15,000 OAM tracts for car parks & service advertising, also that the Lord will use one for His Great Glory.
4. **Church work** – That we will be able to sort out where the service can be held, and that there will be no division.
5. **Mission Board work** – That when we return to the dock side there will be no interference from the authorities.

to open for business. **The Sun Rise Hotel** that opens very early in the season is owned by a middle aged man called John, in fact he was the man that three years ago said if it was anything to do with the church he would definitely display it, as Alec went into the hotel entrance John met him with the words ‘here comes the religious man’. Gratefully Alec could say ‘that he is not religious at all, but he is a saved man because he has trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour.’ Three years ago, John lost his wife in a tragic road accident not far from his hotel, John describes that she was the most beautiful lady that ever walked the earth, and life since she went has no meaning it is empty. This opened a lovely conversation, with Alec able to tell John that full enjoyment, with peace can only be found in Jesus Christ; John had tears in his eyes as Alec urged him to seek after Christ and ask for his sins to be forgiven. **Alec ran back to the car and got him a CD SOH.** Alec intends to follow this up and see if John has listened to it.

**Whilst visiting two hotels no more than two hundred meters** apart, Alec experienced what Paul’s letter to the Corinthians says ...**2Co 2:16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things**

**At the Palladium Hotel,** Alec asked if they would display the church service poster, the owner was called and said No, he said he was a Greek Christian and was not into anything like that and did not expect any of his guests would be, and remonstrated with his arms for me to leave.

**The very next hotel happens to be called the Nina Hotel** the lady at the desk happened to be Mrs Nina the owner, I described what the poster was about, Mrs Nina said she would put it right in front on the notice board, and she wished that all of her guests would be Christians. She then asked me what type of Christian I was, she told me in God’s eyes there was only one type of Christian those that knew Jesus, she then showed me a book that she was reading whilst at reception, she told me it was about how one man had been converted and his life was so changed that many others in his village had become Christians. She said that she loved to read books about Christians that had been converted.

THIS IS AN APPEAL IF YOU HAVE ANY BOOKS IN YOUR POSSESSION IN ENGLISH THAT ARE STORIES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CONVERTED AND THEY ARE ON YOUR BOOK SHELF COLLECTING DUST WE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE ANY.

### Mission Board work / Tracting. –

**Beaches** – This month we have kept our activities mainly in the area of the town square, as I have said above Joel and I have been out most days. Joel had many contacts; the notable ones are that he met a **young Russian man called Andre Lavroy from St Petersburg**, who told him that he was a Buddhist and lives in India for three months of the year at first he refused to talk much but when of course he realised that Joel was from India not a Buddhist or a Hindu but a Christian this opened up a good conversation. **Joel gave him a U Jesus CD.**

On another morning **Joel met a Greek young man** who speaks and reads English well, again Joel had a good conversation and the young man left with a **John's gospel**. On another occasion **Joel met an English couple** whose daughter lives in Kos town they claimed to be Christians, they did not come to the service though as invited, but they said that their daughter was not a Christian but they would ask her to listen to the **CD SOH that they took**.

**Alec has had several run ins** with people that are Orthodox, they can be quite nasty, one very arrogant man told Alec in not so many words that he should **go back to the UK, that only the Greek Orthodox was right**, so Alec's reply was does that mean you must be Greek to be Orthodox, amongst some abuse **the man said YES**, so sadly in his opinion heaven will be full of Greeks.

**On the other side of things**, as so often happens an elderly lady called **Georgina**, came by asked Alec what religion he was speaking on, I told her that we were just Christians, her reply was that she goes to the Orthodox Church **but she only loves Jesus** and only prays to Him, and she said that Jesus died for her. She does not believe that the Priest can forgive sins, this always leaves one in a quandary, Georgina said that she had a new CD player so **I gave her a CD SOH** so I asked her to take it home and listen to it.

**Mike and his wife came from The Hague** however; he was an **Egyptian Coptic Christian**, after a short talk he said he would be interested to know the teaching of **SOH CD**.

**About half an hour later** Alec met a crewman from one of the ships who was also an **Egyptian**, he took one of the postcard from Kos tracts.

**A young Greek man called Mike** who had spent many years in **Brooklyn, America** and in fact was more American than Greek, he

spoke at one hundred mile an hour, when Alec managed to get a word in edge way, he asked 'I suppose you are an Atheist then' His reply was 'well there may be a God' after a very one sided discussion Mike decided to **take an UQ in Greek**.

**One very sad note is that there are more couples** that are openly gay; they show total dislike to anything Christian, they refuse bluntly.

**Greek Newspapers** – One thing we have had to learn is that nothing here happens at any speed, one month after receiving the newspaper text at the printers it still has not been printed. However, we are reliably informed that it should be printed this week, by the 15<sup>th</sup> May, and to help Tom Meador we are printing an extra 3,000 copies so that some can be sent to Athens and some to the other islands that receive papers from Tom. As usual there is a cost with printing this number of papers, **IF ANYONE IS LED OF THE LORD TO CONTRIBUTE OUR BANKING DETAILS WILL APPEAR AT THE END OF THE PRAYER LETTER.**

**Friendship Evangelism – Attila. the young man from Romania** that we met last year has come back to the island for two weeks training. It was a joy to meet up with him and have a drink. I asked how the winter had gone for him, very good was his reply, I asked had he progressed spiritually. **Yes I confessed my sin with one of the elders at my church in March and I am now a Christian**, this is why I wanted to meet you, (he asked that we tell Gerard. ) Attila said that he would be a team leader this year, so he would be telling every one in his team that he was a **Christian so no funny business???** **PLEASE PRAY FOR ATTILA AS HE WILL NEED ALL YOUR PRAYERS THIS SUMMER**

Since our last prayer letter we have invited **both Louise and Darren for a meal which was good**, spiritual conversation was a little difficult. **Mike that Joel has met invited us** for a meal at a restaurant which gave us another opportunity to share the love of the Lord Jesus Christ with him; Mike has many hang-ups especially to do with Orthodoxy. He is an avid reader of Greek and English and a History Buff. Mike received virtually all of the booklets that I have here from **UQ to Where was God etc etc**. Sadly the night he was due to have a meal at our house with Joel he was taken sick. **Hassen again is regularly visited**, I still have not been able to find **Drossos, Seva and Sam** are difficult being young women for Alec to visit on his own. **Nick the Artist man has allowed**