

A company of God's people Praying for Kos

July 2009

Dear Friends

We start with a line 'My/Our heart is full of thankfulness to Him who bore my pain'. It is clear from scripture that our Lord knew the joys of victory but the pain of suffering and rejection and it is wonderful to think that the Lord we follow experienced all of our emotions, so as Hebrews says **'He is able to sympathise with us'.** **The month of June has certainly been a roller coaster,** the arrival of Glyn, followed by a week visit of Olga and her friends Christian and Cynthia, it was constant action.

Coupled with awaiting for our new grandson to be born and then to be hit with the news that Alec's sister Margaret who has had liver cancer for a while had been taken into hospital with stomach pains, and for them to be able to say that there was nothing more they could do for her, and decisions for us to be made as to when to return to the UK to see her.

On top of all this, trying to act as surrogate parents for Attila and all his problems. We will try and explain below.

The heat again is becoming trying, at the time of writing this there seems to be a heat wave in the UK, but they only last a week. The temperatures here now every day are getting into the late 30's and as we are in the town there seems to be no air at night, we have actually tried to use the small air conditioning unit.

But of course, what ever circumstances we find ourselves in life goes on, I read the reports of some of the men in the OAM they seem to live like yo yo's one week in London, Plymouth, then Manchester, behind all of this is the greatest cause the gospel.

Here in Kos we come up against two sides of prosperity, the hoteliers that drive around in **BMW X3's £40K+ vehicles** and then we meet our friend **Sateith from Bangladesh that earns 25 euros a week,** putting restaurant fliers in the baskets and around the car window screens for the restaurant that he works for, keeping 5/10 euros a month for himself,

£4/8. and sends the rest back to Bangladesh, 11 in his family the money he sends back is virtually the only money they have. **Our only response to this is ‘praise the Lord’ as the Apostle Peter said ‘Behold I create a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness dwells.**

Foot note – Alec had to go to the airport three times in four days, the last time was to meet Glyn but she was four hours late. The Police detained him, as the taxi drivers reported him for trying to steal taxi rides from them; he was taken to the airport police station, he found it very hard to convince them. Finally they took his driving licence and let him go; Glyn was wondering whether her husband had forgotten her.

Mission Board work / Tracting / Beaches – First, Alec said he is fed up with **meeting Church Wardens**, he has met three couples in a month, all seem to think that they would go to heaven because they were church wardens. Interestingly the last couple were on a hired yacht, and were very pompous about their good works. Alec said them will you plead that you are church wardens when you come before the judgement seat of Christ, the lady said ‘why do you bring this matter up when we are on holiday’. Five minutes later a gas canister exploded on the boat along side them, rocking the whole harbour area, and two had to be taken to hospital, thankfully the injuries were only minor.

This month we have had the pleasure of meeting a good number of Christians on the water front, sadly a good number were going home having not found us on Sunday.

Of all the conversations, to stand out this month was **Roman a lovely Spaniard from Barcelona came and asked for a tract**. He was quite well to do, and knew that the literature was about Jesus Christ as he had asked, he said he had no peace and knew that he was not right with God. He took some literature and we had a discussion and he left, about half an hour later he came back and said can we speak more on this subject. His wife sat reading the New York Herald Tribune, totally uninterested, Roman and I sat for the next three quarters of an hour discussing the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Roman was so open it was a joy to explain to him that Jesus Christ became our sin bearer and it was for those who would have faith in his death and resurrection. I could say

much more, it just so happened that it was the morning that we heard that Michael Jackson had died; Roman took Sure of Heaven, a Johns gospel, and a UJ CD plus other literature. Roman left by embracing Alec and saying thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ROMAN.

Another good conversation came about because Jody and Simon came and sat on the bench beside me, a lovely conversation developed both were very humble, it really started with when they got married they had concerns about bringing children into such a wicked world, this opened up a lovely opportunity to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, they both thanked Alec and left with a JG and a SOH.

An interesting conversation between Pauline and Derek from Wigston one of their friends worked at the Kings Centre where the OAM have their annual conference, this gave grounds for a conversation. They left with a SOH.

A Hebrew Cruise ship from Haifa, Israel docked a number of Hebrew LFU were taken. **Amongst the crew a group of Indian Waiters Sattier** seemed to be their leader, he seemed to be overcome with all the literature, **and literally cleared the board** of all the English literature that we had, several others in his little group took literature, he told me that he downloads songs, and messages on the boat and gives them to people as they are on a six months tour of duty. He came back a couple of weeks later, and asked for some more we got in conversation and when he heard about my sister Margaret's cancer situation his first comments were 'is she saved' our reply was 'yes' then one day we will all be together.

A sad episode was Andreas from the Greek Mainland, had been to a number of islands looking for work, found nothing, no accommodation, low on money, he took a JG and a UJ CD. We saw him three days running, eventually we were compelled to give him a little cash as he did not have enough money for the ferry.

Below are just a list of contact names and literature given. (space does not allow)

Werner from Düsseldorf sung in a Christian Choir not sure he was a Christian though took a SOH and JG.

A couple from Huddersfield JG.

An Iranian man that said he was Persian UJ CD.

A Greek man received a SOH and JG sat and read the JG.

Bob and Sheila from Canterbury used to live in Selsdon Road, S.Croydon near where we used to live. SOH

Kirious an Albanian took a SOH, JG, LFU for his friend.

Two Hebrew young men took UJ CD's.

LFU booklet in most of the East European languages twos and threes seem to go daily.

To finish with I met a lovely Christian lady from the main land, obviously an evangelical Christian said she had been on a mission to Kos over twenty years ago, and said that it was one of the hardest islands the mission group had been too.



Deserted water front at 12.30 midday



Roman talking to Alec.

Ministry/Preaching / Church work - Attendances although the holiday makers are few and far between have kept up well during the month, a couple of **Dutch ladies came from a tract in their bike basket**, the second week, they met friends from their home town that go to another church, they seemed amazed, fortunately one of the young ladies **Jo-Lyn played the keyboard for us**, we have been thrilled to have **Italian Austrian, German, and Dutch Christians with us, a French Pastor from Switzerland, a lovely Austrian Christian David who came out and gave out tracts** with Alec he seemed to be very keen. Our tract table is attracting a lot of interest, one brother took several different languages to give to people in the hotel that he had spoken too.

Greek Newspapers – Glyn is continuing to deliver the newspapers on her own as part of her daily work, sadly she has not had any positive

Brothers & Sisters, as Margaret and Alec shared a few nights ago.
Robert Murray Mc.Cheyne hymn " When this passing world is done "

When this passing world is done,
When has sunk yon radiant sun,
When I stand with Christ on high,
Looking o'er life's history,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know,
Not till then, how much I owe.

The Lord Bless you all. ALEC & GLYN.

PRAYER POINTS

Special – For Alec’s sister as she suffers with terminal cancer and Alec’s visit back to UK to see her.

Greek Newspapers that the Lord will continue to challenge those that read them.

For Tom Meador in the USA as continues to produce the Evanglos Fos.

Friendship – Pray for the Greek contacts, Especially the Greek group. Babis to find a job that does not have Sunday work, Nico and Eugene, Eugene his son has had an operation to chest, George & Tina at this difficult work time.

Dave and his on going problems with boat sale. Hassan so open to the gospel, but steeped in culture.

Church work Preaching/Ministry – as an increasing number of track & cd’s are taken the will find their way to right people. That tourist will come and that Alec will be faith in preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mission Board work Beaches /Tracting – The new tract postcard from Kos will be greatly used, this month for Roman, Jody & Simon. + the thousand put in bike basket & car windscreens.

Helpers – that Brenda will have been blessed for her time she spent here, also for unexpected pleasure of hosting **Christian Cynthia and Olga**, due this month **Mark & Jacque from Ipswich**

Prison – as later this month we deliver further 20-30 bibles. + some Albanians copies.

Future – That the Lord will fully reveal all things for the future days here and back in the UK.

Thank you all again, sorry this Prayer letter has be prepare in hast, so much going on. Yet surely a wonderful time, a well know brother has just sent news of his wife cancer, and another his wife Alzheimer’s. All give a view of Glory????

reactions, **had a couple of grumpy people** but that is part and parcel of the work.

Friendship Evangelism – Attila you may have noted has appeared in our prayer letters, we believe that in March this year he made a real commitment to Christ and with so much evangelism it is a team event, we are very thankful to Gerard and Philippa Chrispin that we have shared much with over the past year, it was about this time last year they met Attila.

To be a real Christian is costly and many that have been Christians for years will not give as much for the Lord, but it appears that Attila has given up much for the Lord. **When we met Attila last year** on the water front he was working at the Aegean Village in the Animation team, this means he did water sports, aerobics, water aerobics, polo, and other sports and was part of the evening entertainment team, this involved dancing, telling jokes, dressing up as a clown plus other sordid items drag and playing gays etc. Of course, for an ordinary young man of 24 this would have been just part and parcel of growing up into an ever depraved world.

Last year, when we met Attila to dress up as a woman was already starting to haunt him, as you will know by the grace of God he came to the animation team at the Platanista Hotel a few hundred meters from where we meet on a Sunday.

From the outset Attila has not looked a particularly happy man this year, and has become increasingly close to us, meeting regularly for prayer and bible study, he has been coming on Sunday nights to the services, he asked Glyn if he could use the washing machine, of course, being Glyn meant that she happily did it for him.

On Wednesday this week we received a phone call, would I go and pick him up from the hotel as I cannot stay here any longer, I cannot do this job any more and I must get out. Clearly we are the only ones he could turn too, we settled him into our second bedroom, and then he asked Alec if he would go with him on his own to talk things over.

Alec and Attila spent an hour sitting in the sea, that is the best place to speak, no one around and it was cool.

Attila tells Alec that he cannot stay in the Animation team, as he’d told Alec earlier that he would not do any of the drag and homosexual

jokes, but he had continued to do them as this was part of the job, and he was convicted by God that it was a very bad sin.

His problem now, no job, no money, no money to get home, and he will not get paid for the time he has worked.

So after a long talk and prayer, we will see if it is possible for Attila to come to the UK when Glyn returns and see if we can find him some employment and settle him in, as his mum and dad and sister have not worked for a number of years, as there is no work in Romania.

Then looms another problem, it just so happens this week that a lady called Sarah from Manchester that he obviously has some feelings towards, which he met in Kos a year ago, is staying at the hotel for the week.

We advised Attila that as a Christian he should not get into any relationship with a young lady that is not a Christian, many young people have tried to convert a partner for the cause of a relationship it is not biblical. On Thursday morning Attila advised us that if he went to the UK with us now, his thoughts may be directed towards Manchester, and this would be wrong. So after much prayer and thought the Lord made it clear through Attila's own words 'I must return to Romania'.

On Friday morning we managed to get him a flight via Athens back to Bucharest having spoken to his mother.

Our hope is that if it is God's will, Attila may be able to come to the UK later this year when we will be able to disciple him, especially as he has experienced a difficult background.

The lesson seems to be here, a young man who is very young in the faith, but by conviction of sin clearly has given up his job and will not come to the UK at present in case he may fall into sin.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ATILA THAT THIS WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF GOD DEALING WITH THIS MAN, AND THAT HE MAY BE GREATLY USED OF GOD IN THE COMING DAYS.



Attila as he leaves

Prison– We are due to deliver the next batch of bibles in about 10 days time.

Helpers – Olga as we said appeared for a short period of time, and soon spoke to an **Albanian man called Vasili** whom she met last year and promised to give him a Albanian NT, he took a Letter for You also. **Brenda who has been helping** us for most of the month of June, struck up a friendship with a British couple close to where she lived, called **Val and Ted, she gave them a UQ, Val's remarks were** 'you are not trying to make us religious are you'.

Important footnote

So often Alec's name is mentioned as though he is the only one that is doing anything, Glyn is fully involved in this and is an equal partner.