

## Great Malvern Priory

Mission Prayer Letter

July 2010

*We give thanks, O God, for our unity in Jesus Christ, enabling Christians from all nations to work together for the fulfilment of your kingdom.*

A prayer from the Mission Aviation Fellowship prayer diary

### **Asian Fellowship, Wolverhampton**

**Thu 1** Narindar Mehat asks for prayer as she continues to disciple women, helping them to understand the Christian faith. Narindar will come to Malvern with the group from Wolverhampton on August 14th. Pray for preparations for the visit. RW

### **Crosslinks – Dan and Rosie Button, Kampala, Uganda**

**Fri 2** Pray for them both as they lecture at Uganda Christian University in Mukono. They teach in the theology department, training men and women for ministry and leadership in the Church of Uganda and churches in Uganda and all over East Africa. RW

### **Crosslinks – Craig and Claudia Smith, Kabale, Uganda**

**Sat 3** As we approach 2 years in Uganda, we want again to thank everyone for their support of us in so many ways. We had a memorable function to open the water tank for the development project, attended by over 300 people, including most of the county leaders. This has been very helpful in opening doors to seeking support for the project. Pray for wisdom as we consider different paths to expand the scope of the project and for Emmy and the other project managers as they balance their studies and the demands of the project. Pray for further government support.

**Sun 4** We thank God for increasing opportunities at the National Theological College. This term Craig has finished the OT course and is looking at doing both an OT and NT course in the new academic year starting in October. Pray for the students as we try to study the Bible in a way to help them in their future ministries. We have also had the opportunity to speak at the annual Christian Union conference at the college, which was very well attended. Pray for Craig as he begins School Practice Supervision, visiting student teachers teaching in diverse schools around the Kabale district. It is a great chance to interact with these students and influence their teaching.

**Mon 5** Pray for Claudia as she explores further possible opportunities for training and counselling. She has been at NAFODU (a human rights organisation) where a spot on the local radio, talking about the counselling

service, helped to raise the profile. Training opportunities continue to open up. She led a session for the Peer counselling training at Bishop Barham University and co-led a workshop for local church leaders on counselling those who are HIV+. The Sunday school teacher training group also continues to meet each week and is making good progress. CS

### **Mothers' Union**

**Tue 6** Pray for the visit of our sisters from our link dioceses in Uganda to Worcester diocese. May their visit be a blessing to all involved. DK

### **St Katharina's Wolmirstedt**

**Wed 7** Give thanks for emails and cards which reinforce friendships between members of the Priory and St Katharina's. Swantje Schroeter regularly sends greetings at the time of major church festivals. Wolmirstedt friends remember with pleasure our last visit to them, and look forward to coming to Malvern next year. Pray for them and particularly for their pastor, Ulrike Reichardt. JK

### **CARE**

**Thu 8** Thank God for the newly elected Christian MPs who will make the Christian voice heard in Parliament. Pray for continued guidance for them as they face moral and ethical concerns and work for the good of those who elected them. Issues such as assisted dying, freedom of speech and equality will continue to be debated and a robust defence of the Christian position will be necessary. Pray for all new MPs, including Harriet Baldwin in Worcestershire West. Pray that the coalition will not lead to watering down of principles or obscuring of promises made during the run-up to the election. ECD

### **Bible Society**

**Fri 9** Botswana: Thank God for the Kalanga New Testament with Psalms, which has been received with thankful hearts. Give thanks for progress in translating the Naro and Kalanga Old Testaments. Praise God for faithful partners who support these translation projects. Thank God for the peaceful elections that took place last autumn. Pray that Botswana may continue to be politically and economically stable.

**Sat 10** Zambia: Thank God for increased sales as a result of shop renovations. Thank God for increased Scripture distribution, the Lozi Bible revision, support for the Nkoya Bible and the expansion of the *Faith Comes By Hearing* programme. The *Good Samaritan* programme is having an impact; pray for more support so that the Society can help to fight HIV and AIDS.

**Sun 11** South Africa: Praise God for the dynamic growth in Bible work. Pray for translation projects – the first Southern Ndebele Bible and the new Afrikaans and Zulu translations. Thank God for the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the Xhosa Bible. The final of the football World Cup hosted by South Africa is scheduled for today. Pray that visitors from many countries who have received Bibles will read them to good effect.

## **Tearfund**

**Mon 12** Tearfund currently has disaster teams working in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Darfur, South Sudan, Afghanistan and Haiti. Pray for each of these locations, for restored stability and normality and for the work of Tearfund's teams as they bring Christ's compassion into these challenging and often dangerous locations. Pray that teams will be given the wisdom to identify priorities and the skills to be astute stewards of the funds given to this work. Pray for strong relationships between team members.

**Tue 13** Tearfund's response to the Haiti earthquake has been to raise well over £5million, enabling them to meet the immediate needs of devastated communities. The work of Haiti partners and emergency teams will be long-term, helping communities rebuild and prepare for future crises. Pray for the continuing relief work in Haiti.

**Wed 14** Pray for vulnerable communities in Nepal suffering from more frequent and intense flooding due to climate change. Nepal and other developing countries suffer most from climate change, even though they have contributed little to the problem. Pray for Carbon Fast which has helped thousands of Christians in the UK to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.  
ESC

## **Mission Aviation Fellowship**

**Thu 15** Give thanks that the MAF training base in South Africa has passed an audit inspection and is now a registered flight school for MAF. Pray for training base captains Stuart Fitch and Marco Koffeman. Mike Riley's many duties as the Operations Training and Quality Manager involve overseeing MAF flight operations right across the Africa region. He also serves as a pilot. His wife Jo volunteers part-time as a nurse with Oasis. Pray for them in their daily lives.

**Fri 16** Since beginning operations in Mozambique in 1999 MAF have been busy supporting community development projects, increasing the evangelistic capacity of missions, Bible translation and leadership development for struggling, indigenous churches and developing a flying doctor service. Praise God for this service and pray for its further development. The monthly shuttle flight to Mozambique is proving popular. Give thanks that it carries mission staff into the country as well as useful cargo for them such as essential medicine and car parts.

**Sat 17** Praise God that MAF can respond in times of emergency in Lesotho through the government's Flying Doctor Service. Pray for safety for the pilots as they fly across this mountainous country, often saving days of painful travel for sick patients. LT

## **Christian Aid**

**Sun 18** Pray for the people of Afghanistan, the poorest country in the world outside of Africa. 40% of the population there do not meet their daily food

needs and a quarter of all children will die before their fifth birthday. Poverty and desperation strengthen the hand of anti-governmental forces.

**Mon 19** Pray for Christian Aid partner STARS, helping Afghan people to diversify their food sources by growing vegetable gardens and also helping to train women on pregnancy, birth and post-natal care. Pray for Christian Aid partner ANAB, working with blind people to challenge discrimination. Pray for Christian Aid partner AJC, working to improve knowledge and understanding of HIV through local radio.

### **Mid-Africa Ministry**

**Tue 20** Pray for Bisoki Balikanga, provincial youth worker in the Democratic Republic of Congo and his assistant Jean-Bosco, as they plan the activities for the next few months. Pray for wisdom and the necessary funding for them to be able to achieve all that they feel led to do.

**Wed 21** Pray for all mission partners who are required to learn a new language. In particular pray for Alison Gill and Lucy and Steve Mullhenny as they learn Kirundi, Annette Cooper learning Kinyarwanda and Ian Harvey learning Swahili. Pray for helpful teachers, a good ear, courage to speak and patience to persevere.

**Thu 22** Pray for an increase in safety on Uganda's dangerous roads. Over a period of three weeks earlier in the year four leaders in the Church of Uganda lost their lives in road traffic accidents. Pray for the families of the church leaders and all who mourn. AW

### **Barnabas Fund**

**Fri 23** The Moroccan authorities have been cracking down on expatriate Christian workers in their country, with many being deported recently. These include orphanage staff whose sudden forced departure leaves the orphans without the foster parents who have cared for them for years. Pray for all those affected by these deportations and for Moroccan Christian associates who will be vulnerable to harassment by the authorities.

### **Wycliffe Bible Translators**

**Sat 24** Singers and song-writers in Ivory Coast from the four Kru language groups have developed songs in the distinctive Kru style, based on the Kru translation of Mark. When these have been recorded, cassettes/CDs will be distributed around the churches. Pray that they will appeal to worship leaders and drive home the message of God's Word.

**Sun 25** For more than ten years Grace International School (GIS) in Thailand has enabled hundreds of missionaries, including Wycliffe members, to work in SE Asia. Now a legal ruling requires GIS to hand over the property. An appeal is in progress but in any case GIS is bursting at the seams and needs to relocate. Pray for a speedy resolution.

### **Paul and Nicky Webster**

**Mon 26** Praise God for our friends who visited recently and are planning another longer holiday. Paul's photography was successful in a recent Show and 14 photos are currently part of a local art exhibition. This has encouraged us to go ahead with preparations to sell them as mounted prints and cards at Boulders. Buying the building adjoining Boulders now is a priority because long-term it will save us financially and benefit the Boulders project. Pray for success in negotiations with the owner.

**Tue 27** Pray for the family, struggling with sickness in a house where we are trying to juggle Paul's work, manage the kids, do Boulders-related business, keep the house clean... Pray for a friend who is very sick and has been told he has only a few months to live. Pray that he will come to know God in a real and personal way and for healing. NW

### **Lifewords**

**Wed 28** Pray for Clenir Xavier dos Santos who is the Global Technical Coordinator for the *Pavement Project* among street children in Brazil, Columbia, Africa, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines. Started four years ago it uses *Picture Me*, a Bible-based therapeutic counselling process. Children see love in action and encounter God through the workers as well as the stories they tell.

**Thu 29** Pray for the children who, through the *Picture Me* process, begin to see themselves differently. The pictures include coloured cards depicting children in different circumstances and the process starts as the child is invited to choose the card he or she thinks best describes their particular experience. They have proved very effective "conversation openers". Praise God for His abundant blessing on this project. LT

### **Church Mission Society**

**Fri 30** The Neema crafts café in Tanzania, run by mission partners Andy and Sue Hart, is staffed entirely by deaf Tanzanians. It won a newspaper award for restaurant ventures run by expatriate Britons around the world. Pray for its operation and witness.

**Sat 31** Marcus and Tamara Throup live in João Pessoa in Brazil where Marcus teaches at the Pro-Cathedral and lectures in theology at the seminary, helping train new church leaders. Pray for work to initiate a major regional seminary.