

Anabaptist Network Newsletter

June 2004

Open Letter

This issue of the newsletter is half the normal size because it is accompanied by an Open Letter to all who are on our mailing list. This letter contains an update on the Anabaptist Network, mentions some changes of focus and invites your response. Please read the letter and let us know what you think.

A Network of Churches?

The open letter mentions the idea of a network of churches 'affiliated' to the Anabaptist Network. We are not sure what this might mean, but a first tentative step towards this will be a consultation on **Saturday 2 October**. If you are interested in participating in this, please ask for further details.

Anabaptism Today

The June 2004 issue includes the following:

- Vic Thiessen on *The Passion of the Christ* and the meaning of the atonement.
- Alan Kreider on learning from the early church about Christian initiation.
- David Cockburn on the work of Christian Peacemaker Teams.

Complimentary copies are available on request. Back issues are available at half price (£2). An index of authors and subjects can also be supplied.

Events

- On 20 March, 40 people participated in our *Subversive Manifesto* conference in Northampton (several attending their first Network event). The feedback has been very positive.
- Bookings are now being taken for the Anabaptist Network's residential event at Barnes Close (near Birmingham) on **28-30 May 2005**.
- The next meeting of the Anabaptist Theology Forum is on 7-8 December.
- **11-15 October 2004: Skills Training for Mediation and Facilitation in the Church**, led by Alastair McKay and others, at Coventry Cathedral. For details, contact Charletta Erb (tel: 0845-4500 214)

Root and Branch

Christian Peacemaker Teams is the eighth group to join the *Root & Branch* 'network of networks' that also comprises the Anabaptist Network, the London Mennonite Centre, Urban Expression, Workshop, Ekklesia, SPEAK and Wood Green Mennonite Church.

We met again in March to continue exploring ways of working more closely together, and the first three monthly *Root & Branch* emails (with news items, articles and stories drawn from all of the groups) have been sent out to over 800 people. If you would like to receive these (or have items to contribute), please email jon@xalt.co.uk

Study groups

Study groups meet in various parts of the UK:

Bristol: Ruth Gouldbourne, Bristol Baptist College, Duncan House, The Promenade, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3NF (0117 946 7050)

Oxford: Trisha Dale, 4 Mistletoe Green, Oxford OX4 7FY (01865 773403)

North London: Vic Thiessen, 14 Shepherds Hill, London N6 5AQ (020 8340 8775)

South London: Alun Morinan, 37 Piquet Road, London SE20 7XY (020 8778 7018)

West Midlands: Tim Foley (07966 391729)

Yorkshire: Jonathan Blakeborough, 20 Arundel Grove, Woodthorpe, York YO24 2RZ (01904 703710). *Now in Leeds/Bradford and York/Hull.*

Edinburgh: Jim Purves, Bristo Baptist Church, Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh EH4 3DJ (0131 332 3682)

Portadown: Tim Foley: 2 Market Lane, Portadown, Craigavon, Co. Armagh BT63 3JY (07966 391729)

Leyland: Joan & Barry Williamson, 74 Albert Road, Leyland PR25 4YJ (01772 455158)

Lockerbie: David & Mary Kirkman, 1 Kettleholm Cottage, Kettleholm, Lockerbie DG11 1BU

East London: Karen Stallard: 20 Garnet Street, London E1W 3QT (020 7265 1727)

Resource houses

We have now established 16 resource houses in different parts of the UK. If you want to make use of these, please contact the hosts directly. The resource houses are located as follows:

- Chris & Catherine Horton: 81 Compton Road, Wolverhampton WV3 9QH (01902 424214) chris@horton.nildram.co.uk
- Joan & Barry Williamson: 74 Albert Road, Leyland PR25 4YJ (01772 455158) joanbaz@mac.com
- Glennis Attwood: Brantthorpe House, Ryecroft Way, Glusburn, Keighley BD20 8PT (01535 632880) royattwood@lineone.net
- Simon Barrow: 8 Lower Avenue, Exeter EX1 2PR simon_barrow@hotmail.com
- John Woffenden: 148 Highthorn Road, Kilnhurst, Mexborough, S. Yorks S64 5TX (01709 585034) woffendenjohn@aol.com
- Duncan Johnstone: 58 Hinton Road, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8NX (01604 842347) jhnst2@aol.com
- Andy Potter: 71 Northumberland Avenue, Cliftonville, Margate, Kent CT9 3LY (01843 223200) andywithsarah@lineone.net
- Simon Mattholie: 13 Abbots Ann Road, Winchester SO22 6ND (01962 884769) simon.mattholie@btconnect.com
- Mary Wilson: 1 Parmin Way, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2JU (01823 277573)
- Ian Milligan: 230 Kenmure Street, Pollockshields, Glasgow G41 2JF (0141 423 0883) ian@milldyer.freeserve.co.uk
- Tim Foley: 2 Market Lane, Portadown, Craigavon, Co. Armagh BT63 3JY (07966 391729) timf@clara.co.uk
- Harry Sprange: Moffat Cottage, Heriot Street, Inverkeithing Fife KY11 1ND (01383 413925 – but contact by letter preferable)
- Chris Walton: Ringsfield Hall, Ringsfield, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 8JR (01502 713020) info@ringsfield-hall.freeserve.co.uk
- Karen Stallard: 20 Garnet Street, London E1W 3QT (020 7265 1727) karenstallard@boltblue.com
- Michael Mealing: ‘Ivanhoe’, Heath Road, Bradfield, Essex CO11 2UZ (01255 870624) mikemealing@clara.co.uk
- John Weaver: South Wales Baptist College, 54-58 Richmond Road, Cardiff CF24 3UR (029 2025 6060) johnweaver@the-baptists4.ndo.co.uk

NEW: Advanced Workshop

Advanced Workshop is designed to build on the Workshop teaching programme which has been running since 1983. It was conceived jointly by Noel Moules, Workshop’s director, and Lloyd Pietersen. The course assumes Workshop’s ethos and values. For this reason it is essential that all students have successfully completed Workshop prior to attending this course.

As far as we are aware, there is no other course at this level currently being offered anywhere in the UK that focuses on a combination of apologetics, ethics and hermeneutics. A particular feature of the course will be a dialogue with leading scholars from alternative religious traditions.

For further details, contact Dr Lloyd Pietersen, 7 The Brimbles, Northville, Bristol BS7 0RU (email advancedworkshop@anvil.org.uk).

Urban Expression

Urban Expression is an inner-city church planting agency with Anabaptist values that works through self-funding teams.

In April we welcomed **6 new team members** and we will be launching **two new teams** in the autumn – in North Stepney and Kidbrooke.

For further information, write to us at Urban Expression, P.O. Box 35238, London E1 0YA or visit www.urbanexpression.org.uk

About this newsletter

Thrice-yearly newsletters from the Anabaptist Network are sent free of charge to subscribers to our journal, *Anabaptism Today*, and to others who are on our mailing list because you have asked to be or have attended events we have organised.

However, if you would prefer not to receive future issues, please inform us and we will remove your name from the distribution list. Do also contact us if you would like to receive email versions of this newsletter, a complimentary copy of *Anabaptism Today*, or if you want further information about anything.

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