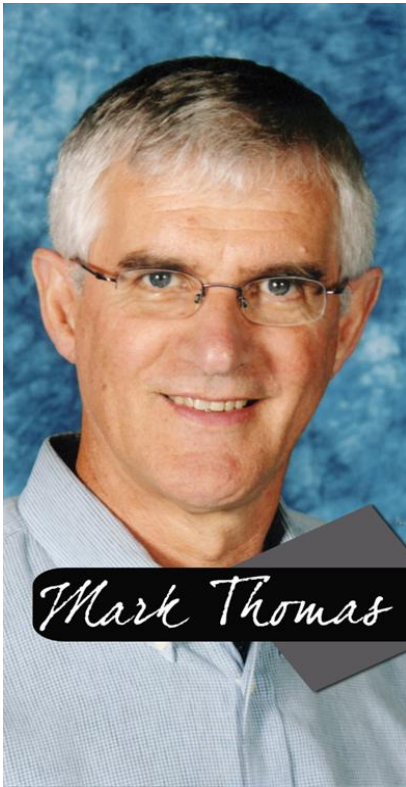




ISSUE: 02 | MAY 2011



I can't wait...

Those words to a parent from a child on a journey with a certain inflection means "stop the car now daddy" or a desperate little cry from the front pew on Sunday morning "I need to go to the loo!". "I can't wait," said with some excitement, may mean the anticipated holiday next month in an exotic part of the world cannot come soon enough. "I can't wait" breathed with a sigh for someone for whom a 65th birthday looms large but hastens slowly may mean away from work will be "sooner the better!" We have all said it but there are times when we have no option or alternative but to wait. Waiting may not always be easy but it certainly may be necessary.

It was the word that Jesus used on one occasion when eating with the apostles after his resurrection. "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my father promised, which you have heard me speak about." Acts 1:4 they had agonized over His absence by His death but now were energized by his presence through resurrection. The instruction the Lord Jesus gave them before the Passover feast about His departure and the coming of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, which is so clear to us now must have been so cloudy to them then. Soon Pentecost, as more than a feast from the past, would make sense and waiting would take on a totally new dimension.

Here we are and for another year the sun- rise services are over and the tomb is empty. Jesus is very much alive. In just a few weeks Ascension Day and Pentecost should get our attention for a double dose of waiting is linked to these wonderful celebrations for God's family. Luke's account in His Acts is almost written as a matter of fact for he states that on the Mount of Olives "he (Jesus) was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight." For the apostles, that day was an amazing memory while for us a remarkable event in history. As it was for them and is for us now, we are "waiters" anticipating the returnee from heaven as the angels of Acts promised and the New Testament repeatedly reminds us. Titus 2:13

"while we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ."

But then what does Pentecost make us but "waiters" if I may have the liberty to adapt the word. The Holy Spirit came to fill us full with Christ, to en-corporate us as His Body, to be God's church on earth to serve the world. We are waiters who serve up the Lords' grace and compassion, who are to lay out the Gospel news to a world that does not wait for Christ's return but will know when he does!

The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God." 1 Thessalonians 4:16. Until then wait we must, but well equipped in time through the promise of God's Spirit who, "when the day of Pentecost came," made us Christ's witnesses and waiters.



In December I had a holiday! I went to Israel – I'd never been before. Two thousand years earlier might have been more interesting, but I suppose now is not a time for regrets!

I think most of us would agree that any holiday should be fun and refreshing. After this point we might split into two different views... Some might prefer familiarity and predictability, to help them relax. Others would choose new and different to bring on new experiences. I like both.

I knew a bit about the layout of Israel and so there was familiarity but specific sights and the locations of one site and it's relationship to another was new. Very interesting. The time was fun but mostly refreshing. I still don't have an accurate picture of what life was like in Bible times, but my picture is clearer than it was.

Our holiday called CONNECT for 11-13 year olds was in early April, and our theme was looking through a book that should be published... 'Easter for Dummies'! It was a lot of fun, and very refreshing to throw out (or at least put aside for a few days) the bunnies, daffodils and eggs and look at the bible to see what was left of Easter. The trial, the corruption, the amazement of all – very exciting. Some holiday snaps appeared (hopefully not too many) and the young people could appreciate a bit more of how and where things happened to Jesus.

But WHY these things happened was, is, and always should be more important than WHERE they happened.

im·pact!
for 18-25's

im·pact

noun - the strong effect that something or somebody has

verb - to have an immediate and strong effect on something or somebody

holiday - more fun than you can poke a stick at!

27th Aug - 3rd Sept 2011



Bible teaching has always been integral to a holiday at Capernwray, there is familiarity and predictability in that but there will also be new and different thoughts and challenges that come out of listening to God's word,

whatever the age of our guest.

Please consider a holiday at Capernwray: fun and refreshment guaranteed!
Where you go with the other options is up to you!

110 young people left with a clearer, Biblical understanding of what Easter is about and Who Jesus Christ is. An inspiring teacher, often unpredictable in His actions, obedient to His Father and loving to those around Him. Our example but more as our Saviour.

Dougie Roy



My time at Connect - Pete Atkinson

I was one of ten junior leaders amongst a large team of staff. I had volunteered to be on the staff team for a number of reasons. I am currently completing my Duke of Edinburgh gold award and my volunteer work at Capernwray fulfilled a part of the criteria. I also saw the week as an opportunity to challenge myself through sharing my faith, encouraging others and building my own faith as well as wanting to help give the guests as good a week at Connect as I have enjoyed as a guest in previous years.

Through the week the youngsters enjoyed a range of activities from archery and football to juggling and film making. I enjoyed helping with a number of these activities and also appreciated the opportunity to be room leader for a group of eight guests along with another member of staff.

It was encouraging to see the young people in both the 'room time' and the main meetings simply listening and showing an interest in Jesus and what following Him is about, something sadly, I don't see much of in my day to day school life.

Personally I felt I was challenged to be more open about my faith, something I struggle with at school. I was also able to focus on the true reason Easter is celebrated as it is very easy to lose sight of the Easter message through chocolate, eggs and rabbits.

My first Connect week as a staff team member was fun, challenging, encouraging and tiring!





CAPERNRAY ONLINE MP3 STORE

We have now started making messages and lectures available for download in mp3 format. You will find an initial selection in the online shop, including the messages from the recent ladies' weekends with Jill Briscoe, as well as series by Major Thomas, Billy Strachan, Rob Whittaker and others.

Great value at only £1.25 per message - why not listen to one on your way to work or college - a great investment of your time.

Just visit - www.capernray.org.uk/Store.php

Ladies Conference 2011



Ladies' Conference is a wonderful opportunity to recharge spiritual, physical and emotional batteries. At Capernwray we are provided with lovely staff members who make us feel so welcome and special. There is a perfect balance of organised activities and free time. The five Bible teaching sessions are the main focus of the weekend and the speaker usually leaves us with challenges, encouragement and words from the Lord that we can dwell on over the weekend and in the days to come.

Meal times are a highlight as having our meals prepared and cooked for us is such a treat as well as not having to do the dishes! There is always plenty to eat with numerous cups of tea and coffee on offer. Capernwray Hall is set in beautiful surroundings and there are many opportunities to walk around the grounds and enjoy the signs of spring. Saturday afternoon is free time so I tend to head off to Kirkby Lonsdale, a picturesque village nearby where shopping, a walk along the river and coffee are all on the agenda. In the evening, all the ladies together enjoy a time of fun and games followed by a hot chocolate in the Beehive - the perfect late night wind down.

On the Sunday, we share communion together and an offering is taken up for mission work overseas. At our last meal together we each receive a hand made card decorated in the theme of the weekend with a personalised bible text as a farewell message from the staff. Sometimes it can be just the right verse for that time. For a several years now I have attended the ladies conference with a number of friends from my church. It is a great time in which to deepen friendships, laugh and chat over issues that are real in our lives at the time. Go once and I guarantee you'll not need persuading to return.



Prayer Point

We're grateful to so many who regularly pray for Capernwray and hopefully as we seek to send out newsletters more regularly, we can give a clearer focus for those prayers.

Praise God for:

The impact that Andy Thomas and students had on their recent mission trip to Kenya.

Those who have already booked for this year's holidays and conferences.

The opportunity to work with over 400 teens currently booked in through Family Weeks and International Youth Weeks.

Please pray for:

Brett Norton, who has been part of the projects team at Capernwray Hall since August 2009 is now leaving us, please pray for him and his search for future employment. Please also pray for Khwan Seekanya who is also preparing for a future away from Capernwray Hall.

We assemble a new staff every summer to work with our holiday guests - volunteers and permanent staff, please pray for an understanding of hospitality, service and refreshment that we want our guest to experience, and for the staff team to enjoy giving that together.

Freshness for the speakers as they prepare for their Bible teaching responsibilities and their valuable interaction with guests personally. Jim Wright, Zane Black and Peter Reid are all speaking at two weeks plus we have Derek Page, Michael Cornell, Rob Whittaker, Michael Bretton, David Oakley, Sue Gilmore, Pete and Gabby Reid and Simon Ladd each doing one week.

We want to encourage more bible reading this year in light of the 400th anniversary of the Authorised Version 'Read More to Know Him More'. Pray that our guests are refreshed after their holiday and leave having discovered more about Jesus Christ - no matter how much or little they knew of Him on their arrival!

We have our annual Open Day on 21st May when up to 1000 visitors may come to Capernwray. Please pray for boldness and sensitivity for students and staff as they respond to opportunities to share Christ during the afternoon.



Capernwray Hall

OPEN DAY

Swimming . face painting
BOUNCY CASTLE . TUG-OF-WAR
GAMES . BBQ . GUIDED TOURS
CREAM TEAS . CHIPS . CRAFTS
INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION
AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

Capernwray Hall - Carnforth - Lancs

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FOR DIRECTIONS GO TO

WWW.CAPERNRWAY.ORG.UK

Saturday 21st May
2.00PM - 5.00PM

free admission

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