

SOUTH DISTRICT NEWS 6

Deaths

We report with sadness the deaths of three people active in our churches and in the District:

Jack Thompson died on 28 August 2006. Jack was secretary of Roby URC for many years and played a crucial role in maintaining the church's continuing development and the move from the old building to Roby's new building in the early 1970s.

Ken Ousby died on 7 October. Ken was the Church Secretary of Clayton Congregational Church and later St. Matthews URC. He was a District Representative for many years.

Peter Southern died on 9 October. Peter had been the Communications Officer for the old South East District and continued in this role for the new South District. He will be much missed for his work for both the District and the Synod.

General Assembly

The next General Assembly will be held in Manchester at the Fallowfield campus of The University of Manchester from 7 to 10 July 2007. 80 stewards will be needed to assist with registration of delegates, photocopying of daily assembly reports, directing delegates to various parts of the site, assisting at the information desk and helping at a Fairtrade Stall. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Angela Bogg.

District Council Meeting

The next meeting of the District Council will be on Saturday 24 February 07 at 10:00am at Grosvenor St Aidan's, Didsbury

Visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly

Revd Elizabeth Caswell, the Moderator of the General Assembly, visited the District on 18 to 19 November. She preached at the morning service at Wilmslow URC and other visits included New Mills in the Goyt Valley Pastorate, lunch at Café Unity Heald Green. St Mark's Wythenshawe and The Tree of Life project and a KISS (Keep it short and simple) student led service at St Peter's Church and Chaplaincy.

District News

The induction of Revd Sally Thomas as Inner Manchester Mission Network Facilitator was held on Sunday 1 October. Sally will be working with churches in both Central and South Districts and will be a member of both District Councils.

Revd John Piper, formerly a minister in South District has been inducted at Shaw and Heyside URC and Union Street from 1 October 2006.

The new Chaplain to Taiwanese students, Revd Shou-Hui Chung arrived in Manchester in August. She and two new chaplains to the Chaplaincy to Higher Education in Manchester, Revd Nathan Eddy, Free Church Chaplain and John Probhudan, Chaplain to International Students were welcomed at a service on 30 October 2006 when Peter Brain preached.

The hospitality scheme for Taiwanese students started by Jen-Ho Chang will be continuing. Volunteers to act as hosts are welcome and more information is available from Angela Bogg.

Revd Marion Tugwood has been appointed to a stipendiary appointment in the Goyt Valley Pastorate for a fixed term to develop further the vision of the project within New Mills church and the local community, and assisting New Mills church in the co-ordination and submission of funding bids for the next phases of the project. Marion recently raised over £9,000 in her preaching marathon for the project.

An ecumenical Statement of Intent was signed by The Heatons United Reformed Church, Heaton Moor Methodist Church and St Paul's Anglican Church, Heaton Moor on 24th September - which is good news!

Revd Mike Walsh has been appointed as District Evangelism and Emerging Church Advocate in addition to his ministry with Heald Green United Reformed Church. Mike has much to offer the churches of the District in their exploration and consideration of these matters, churches are encouraged to contact him.