



Eastwords: news from Eastern Synod March 2009

E-eastwords

Issue Number 4

www.urc-eastern.org.uk

Church in Society Alerts

Church in Society Forum keeps informed about things touching the lives of people in the region, such as farming, rural affairs and Post Office closures. We would be interested to hear of any initiatives to set up sessional Post Offices in churches, hoping these are ecumenical.

Many wider issues touch us locally: the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, with reception centres at Oakington and Yarlswood, and of immigrants in the area. These cannot be addressed in isolation and thus we are arranging the **JUSTICE MATTERS** Day on June 13th at Stowmarket URC, looking at a whole range of justice issues. Registration forms will be at Synod and on the Synod Website. Public events help to raise awareness about issues.

'A vibrant and haunting theatre piece, **Go to Gaza, Drink the Sea**, at Teatro Technics, 26 Crowndale Road, London, NW1 1TT, on until **March 14th**, promises to transport the audience directly to Gaza to experience what happened during the

recent Israeli military assault.' See www.gotogaza.wordpress.com for more. And also you could join the **Lobby of Parliament** concerning Gaza on **March 11th**. See www.palestinecampaign.org. Sunday, **March 15th** sees the People's Premiere of **The Age of Stupid** beamed from London into 60 cinemas around the country, including Cambridge, Norwich (already fully booked), Romford and Watford. 'It is the world's first truly 100% ecofriendly film premiere.' Then on **March 19th**, Christian Aid holds a **Climate Change Day of Action** in Coventry. Book at campaigns@christian-aid.org.

And finally.... Fairtrade Fortnight is a good time to be reminded of **Commitment for Life** through which the URC supports projects in Bangladesh, Jamaica, Palestine and Zimbabwe through praying, giving and campaigning for change. Some Churches in the Synod have yet to join this programme.

Chris Wright
Convenor, Church in Society Forum



God is still Speaking 

Inter-Assembly Youth Event 2009

20-23 July 2009

Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton

Contact: Heather Latimer or John Brown at the Youth Office

tel: 020 7916 8682, email: youth@urc.org.uk

or Henry Playle on eastern.ylto@urc.org.uk

www.stillspeakingurc.org.uk

FURY

The Central Ipswich Christian Aid committee are running another "Ipswich Monopoly Sponsored Walk" on Saturday April 25th. It starts and finishes at Christ Church and is a short walk around central Ipswich taking in ten places from the Monopoly board and answering a location specific question at each place. The correct answers will be put in a hat and the first drawn out will get an Ipswich Monopoly Game donated by the Ipswich Information Centre. There may be other gifts too. The walk is suitable for all ages and you can meander and do your shopping or stop and have a meal or coffee half way around. All the money raised will go to the Christian Aid Ethiopian Project with their partners Water Aid. The EU have offered that for every £1 raised they will add another £3! What a bargain!!

People interested should contact me, Moira Kleissner for details and sponsor forms from March. Tel: 01473 462566
Email: mkleissner@btinternet.com



Congratulations go to **Mrs Gladys Sexton** and **Mr William Scarff** both have been invited to attend the Maundy service at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral in April to recognise their many years work for the United Reformed Church in Suffolk. Mrs Sexton has for many years been a lay preacher and is involved with the Bible Society Action Group. Mr Scarff has also been a lay preacher for many years. He has raised money for Combs Chapel, and has been involved with Christian Aid, Tools with a Mission and many other charities.

The new Eastern Synod Lay Preaching Advocate is Milly Dalgleish

Milly has lived in the Synod since 1986 – initially near Cambridge and latterly in Hadleigh, Suffolk where her husband, Jim, is Minister. They have two grown up children and two grandchildren.



Milly led worship on an informal basis for many years before following the TLS training course. She sees her new role as being one of helping Lay Preachers as they take on more responsibilities following Deployment, and encouraging other church members to consider training in leading worship.

The next issue of **E-astwords** will go out in August; we will be pleased to receive material that you wish to include. We are interested in feedback so please let me know what you think of this 'single page' format:

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