

Glenfall Church Reports 2012-13

Incarnational; Intentional; Incremental; Inspirational

1.1 Leader's report – Ashley

Wow what a year! In last year's annual report I wrote about our leaving St Edward's, as a kind of Exodus and wrote of the coming year,

“The sense in all of this is of God preparing our hearts and liberating our ways. So that we are fixed in that habit of trusting only in Him but also so that we have shaken off any set assumptions about how ‘church’ should operate.”

I had not anticipated that God would lead us into a church building or shake us out of our assumptions over service times. It is true that most of Glenfall's membership still struggle with 4.30pm for Sunday gatherings and our assumption must be a return to a main morning service as soon as possible but it has shown us that we can work outside the box when we need to, even if we might still prefer things as they were. One of the great strengths of Glenfall is that it is able to experiment, to pioneer, to break new ground and I think that flexibility makes us very valuable in the kingdom (and the Church of England). I recognise that this has been a hard year for Glenfall members and I pray that it would not be too much longer before God leads us into all that he has for us.

Our time in Dean Close was a good one, if too brief ☺ and the hospitality we have received from St Paul's has been incredible. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Leonard Browne at Dean Close and Roger Widdicombe at St Paul's for their enormous generosity toward us. It was particularly good to share Christmas morning with the members of St Paul's and I am looking forward to this coming Easter Sunday shared with them and the members of Godfirst Church. We have also continued to hold Cluster Sundays with very successful gatherings in the London Inn in Charlton Kings and at House Church Sundays in Hatherley. Venue must never become the defining feature for Glenfall's ministry but, as our time at St Paul's is limited, it is important that we carry on in prayer for a suitable venue to be revealed, and I will keep on in the search.

Throughout 2012 we continued to speak of incarnational, intentional, incremental faith but one of the most significant shifts in our structure has been the development of Network Groups. At last year's annual meeting I spoke about the importance of having gatherings of different sizes and this was brought into focus for a group of us who were fortunate enough to attend the New Wine Leaders conference in Harrogate. We heard from the 'missiologist' Alan Hirsch who outlined the need to release church members to shape their group-life with more freedom from the directives of the central church leadership. This seemed to be a very Glenfall shaped model and, although taking a while to roll out, is now starting to bear fruit.

The first half of 2012 was hard for the worship team. The lack of on-site storage at Dean Close meant working with a smaller, portable PA system and a more difficult set-up. Sarah and Dave did an amazing job but with the imminent arrival of baby Peter it became obvious that the burden we were placing on them, at such a key time of life, was inappropriate. It was, therefore, a great blessing when we were able to borrow Jimmy from Trinity to take over as head of worship through until the summer of 2013. It has been great to have Jimmy with us and to benefit from his many gifts.

During the year it became obvious that we needed to look at the more long-term place of Glenfall within the church of England and much of my time has been focussed on working behind the scenes with the Diocese to look at how we might better fit into the structures in order to be enabled to get on with the business of the kingdom. The conclusion was that a Bishop's Mission Order would provide us with a

legal identity within the Deanery (the whole of Cheltenham) and freedom from unnecessary obstacles. A proposal was developed through the second half of 2012 and submitted early in 2013. I am delighted to say that Bishop Michael has accepted the proposal for consideration and it now begins a consultation phase expected to take a good chunk of this year. However, as Spiderman tells us, "...with great power comes great responsibility." A BMO will not mean that we can ride roughshod over every parish. Please hold this process in your prayers as I believe it may be a key to our future.

Personally I have been blessed to have an increasing involvement in Balcarras, culminating in being asked to give the 'religious bit' in their all school Christmas assembly. I regard this as a great privilege and continue to make it a priority. I was also delighted to be able to bless the marriage of Richard and Denise as well as my own father and step-mother and to give thanks for the birth of Oliver with a service of dedication. It was an incredible privilege to take Frank Nitka's funeral at Trinity as a time of both sadness and celebration. We continue to remember Frank and lift up Geraldine and the family. I continued to have opportunities to teach at Westminster Theological Centre (WTC) and to lead seminars at New Wine's summer conference and I am delighted to be now working toward an MA in Kingdom Theology with WTC.

I would characterise 2012 as a time of building largely hidden foundations. There has been so much happening below the surface that is yet to see fruit but I have huge confidence that he who begun a good work in us will see it through to completion.

Thank you to all who have worked so hard to make this last year such a good one. Let us all continue to pray that we would stay in the centre of God's purposes.

Love and blessings
Ashley

2.1 Trustees Report 2011-12, Angus Johnson

2012 has been perhaps the most challenging in Glenfall. It has also been the year when the sustainable longer term has been actively considered.

At Easter the church left its Sunday morning venue of over ten years due to pressure on accommodation at the host St Edward's Junior School. There are very few suitable venues available on Sunday mornings in Cheltenham. After a short stay at another school the church has moved its main Sunday meeting from the morning to the afternoon and meets in St Paul's church, Cheltenham. As well as the change in time there has been the added challenge that very few church members live close to St Paul's. Not surprisingly number some of those previously involved found the new arrangements do not work for them. It is however encouraging that the vast majority continue to be committed.

One factor in this is that work within the Church of England is progressing in a Bishops Mission Order – a governance document that would, once approved, formally define and recognise the role of Glenfall within the Diocese as a church rather than as currently a congregation. It is also intended that the church will return to a main morning meeting at a better location during 2013, although suitable venues continue to be difficult to find.

The church again supported IHA-UDP's Ethiopian charity work amongst the poor in Addis Ababa. This work is also experiencing 'churn' due to changes in the Ethiopian regulatory environment and some of the larger donors (not Glenfall) questioning the level of support. At Glenfall we have considered it vital to maintain our links and support whilst practical arrangements are going through a period of change on the

ground. The poor continue to have a huge need and the years of practical success by the local team give confidence that benefit will continue to be provided.

During 2012 the Trustees, vicar and church council became concerned about the financial position and it is pleasing to see that at the end of 2012 the balance has increased. The financial position remains under active review and will be a subject for the church AGM in February 2013.

3.1 Council and Leadership Team

Currently the Church Council is made up as follows:

Leader – Ashley Collishaw

Elected members:

Jane Plant

Catherine Walker

Carole Whyborn

John Robinson

Terry Young

Frank Booth

Sue Fisher

Angus Johnson

David Meade

In addition ex-officio members are:

Chris Hughes (treasurer and trustee)

Dick and Susie Tallents, representing the Trustees

(NB Angus is also a trustee of Glenfall)

This year Terry, John and Frank all come to the end of their three year term. Huge thanks to them for their hard work and dedicated service on the council. As we 'go to press' all three have confirmed they will be standing again for election and we have received nominations and seconders for them.

The council standing committee is made up of: the church leader, treasurer, two trustees and two elected members of the council. Currently that means: Ashley, Chris Hughes, Susie Tallents, Angus Johnson, David Meade and Frank Booth. In addition Lyndsay Wyer is a co-opted member of the group as a key staff member. The standing committee is essentially a smaller group from within the council that is able to meet more often and at short notice to keep things moving in between council meetings. In the past year the committee did not need to meet.

At the end of 2012 the council created a sub-committee to oversee our giving. Glenfall is committed to give away 10% of its income each year. The council representatives on the giving sub-committee are Frank Booth and Carole Whyborn and two non-council members are seconded each year. This year the two non-council members are Sue Brown and Dave Hatten. The sub-committee will meet for the first time at the end of February 2013.

4.1 Prayer

Prayer continues to be a huge priority for us. We began the year with a week of 24:7 prayer and God spoke very strongly through it. We continued the pattern of monthly Thursday night prayer meetings and from the autumn onwards these have become embedded in a worship setting through 'Play and Pray'. We continue to underpin the prayer life of the church with regular weekly meetings every Tuesday and Saturday. It has been particularly good to have the Tuesday prayer meeting give time to praying

for the spiritual life of Hatherley including several prayer-walks in the area. In addition to all of this the PrayerNet email network has allowed us to rapidly respond to needs within the church and beyond. Thank you to all who have made (and continue to make) these things possible.

5.1 Worship Report

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who has served on the worship team over the past year – words, PA and musicians.

2012 was full of interesting challenges – starting the year in the familiar surroundings of St. Edwards, moving on to Dean Close and then arriving at St. Paul's via the London Inn. Dean Close created the biggest challenges, with us needing to bring in portable PA each week, contrasting with St. Paul's with the luxury of a PA that is always set up and ready to use – we like this!

Through these changes, the worship life of the church has continued to develop and grow, seeking to go ever deeper and closer to God. It is a privilege and joy to lead the worship team and be part of a worshipping church.

Our vision has been to push more into the Holy Spirit, aiming for even more spirit led worship – this is still a work in progress, but we have found the venue at St Pauls creates a more helpful atmosphere for such worship.

During the year a number of people left the team or have had to change their level of involvement, largely due the change of service time. We would like to thank them for their faithful service in the past and hope they will be able to resume their involvement in the future.

Personally, the biggest changes for us have been the arrival of Peter and the start of our much appreciated sabbatical, and enjoying the leadership of Jimmy which started in October.

Dave & Sarah Meade

6.1 Mission & Community, (3 faces)

Often 'mission' can be a confusing term, meaning different things to different people. For some Christians there is only one mission and that is to bring other people to faith. Whenever they hear the word mission they hear 'evangelism' and judge any church mission work on whether people become Christians. For others mission is about going out and caring for a broken world, engaging in social action, hands on. When they look at a church's mission they want to know things like 'how have the poor been helped?', 'how have we healed the broken hearted?', 'who have we lifted up?'. For some mission is about transforming society, challenging unjust structures, fighting the big issues that cause so much brokenness and pain. All three of these aspects of mission are true Biblical faces of Christ's call to us. So to make sure we are engaging fully in the work of the kingdom we think it would be good to specifically engage with each.

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Outreach | (Hospitality & Evangelism) |
| 2. | Care | (Social Action, Mercy mission) |
| 3. | Campaigning | (Peace and justice) |

Some of the things we do will, of course, cover more than one of these areas.

6.2 Outreach (Hospitality and Evangelism)

It has been a busy year for outreach. Our difficulties with venues has created several Sunday opportunities with house church in Hatherley and pub church in Charlton kings. Two skittles nights at the Brown Jug in Leckhampton drew in several non-church folk and the Plant's opened up their home to draw in church and neighbours for Christmas 'mince pies and mulled wine' as well as a Burn's Night.

On an individual level Ashley has continued to regularly take assemblies at Balcarras school, and took a small group of Glenfall youth to Alpha at Trinity. Of course the prime way that outreach continues to happen at Glenfall is through individual members involved in a range of personal mission opportunities.

The occasional cluster services have also provided an excellent opportunity to draw in friends and family.

6.3 Care (Social Action, Mercy Mission)

6.3.1 YMCA monthly meals, Lyndsay Wyer

The YMCA monthly meals have continued over the last 12 months, with meals in Jan - July 2012, and a Christmas meal in December 2012. There was a planned gap between July and December due to the fact that Cheltenham YMCA started a major redevelopment project in August (which is still ongoing), and the facilities which we had been using were changing.

The Christmas meal in December was the first meal where we were using different facilities (both kitchen and where the event is held), and whilst this was workable, it was certainly more of a challenge than the Café Y. We are currently in discussions with the YMCA to see if this can be improved in any way.

The meals are due to start regularly again in April. During this interim period we have been gently building up relations with some of the residents. We have helped a couple of them who were in need of furniture, cooking utensils; and three other residents helped out with planning and publicity for the Christmas meal. We have also been liaising with a different contact at the YMCA, who is very enthusiastic about the project.

The project has of necessity been a bit quiet over the last 6 months or so, and during that time, both the residents and staff of the YMCA have been asking when we will be restarting the meals – they were clearly appreciated and have been much missed.

Big thankyou to the Glenfall team who have faithfully helped on each night and in the background with prayer support: Pete Barnes, Alex Collishaw, Beryl Francis, Annie Green, Dave & Judy Hatten, Bev Hughes, Angus & Sheila Johnson, Fiona Jones, Sarah Meade, Rob & Catherine Walker, Carole Whyborn.

6.3.2 Food bank, Carole Whyborn

Our food bank collections are shared between Trinity's "Garage" project, and County Community Projects (CCP.) For most of 2012 I have been able to take a donation to each project once a month. A huge thank you to all who have contributed.

We also took part in the CCP Christmas Project, the "Hamper Scamper", and between us as a Church, Glenfall was able to make up 9 food hampers for distribution to needy families. This was a wonderful response, and I have had a message from CCP thanking us greatly for our contribution.

Since Christmas, contributions to the regular food bank collection have been less, and it's only this week that I've gathered enough together to pass on. The needs in the community are ever increasing, and changes in the benefits system planned from this April are likely to lead to even more families and individuals seeking help from

food banks. Please do prayerfully consider making contributions, of non – perishable foods. The box will be at the back of the church each week.

6.3.3 New ID, Alex Collishaw

New ID is a 6 week course for people who struggle with eating disorders (anorexia, bulimia and compulsive eating) with the message that complete freedom is possible. The format of a typical evening is:

- testimony,
- teaching,
- discussion groups,
- prayer ministry.

The third Cheltenham New ID Course was run during Oct/Nov 2012. 5 attendees and 2 helpers joined the course from several different Cheltenham churches. One of the helpers this time was a previous attendee and it was wonderful to welcome her to the team and have her bringing her own experience to the course. Having previous course members become helpers is one of the visions and values of New ID as they are not only able to share their own story, but are the embodiment of the message that complete freedom is possible. They are also able to share how New ID helped them to achieve that aim through the teaching and prayer and they have the compassion and understanding that is needed to reach those who are still struggling.

Once again the course was held at Glebe Cottages (huge thanks to Paul Wilkinson and St Peters' church) which has proven to be a really suitable venue as it provides the small and intimate atmosphere and is a very safe place for the attendees. The cost of running the course is £160 (£120 venue & £40 advertising). For the first time, attendees were charged £10 to attend the course, however the fee goes directly to supporting the ongoing work of the New ID Charity rather than reimbursing Glenfall.

The major difference between this course and the previous ones is the follow-up care. The New ID Charity has set up an on-line community called 'MyNewID' which is private and only course members may join. This has proven to be a great resource as there is further teaching available in the form of videos and articles. All members who have done the New ID course all over the world are encouraged to join this on-line community and they have access to the wider New ID family as well as a private area for their own particular group. This has been a widely used resource by the Glenfall group and members really engaged with the on-line facility as a way of continuing the course and building on the relationships that started during the 6 weeks together.

I have committed to running the New ID course annually and expect to hold it each time in the autumn. On a personal note I would like to thank Glenfall and my wonderful helpers for supporting New ID as it is such a privilege to serve our wider community with this vital ministry.

6.4 Campaigning (Peace and Justice 2012-13), Susie Tallents

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” Proverbs 31:8-9

This is about what we can all do as individuals in our work place or neighbourhood, dealing with the causes of injustice, campaigning for change and raising awareness of these issues. Below is a list of organisations that we might be motivated by, maybe by joining in their campaigns or starting our own initiatives. You may have your own personal choices other than these.

- **Community Transformation**
Care Trust (political issues) Care for the Family, Church Action on Poverty, CCP, Credit Action
- **The elderly sick and disabled**
Care and Support Alliance, Scope, Age UK
- **The environment**
Christian Ecology Link, Operation Noah, Gloucestershire Churches Environmental Justice Network, Transition Town Cheltenham
- **Overseas issues**
Christian Aid, Traidcraft, Tear Fund, Fair Trade Foundation

What have we done this year?

We are now a **Fair Trade Church** – Bev arranged a stall last year during Fair Trade fortnight and we joined in the Fair Trade Foundation’s ‘Take a Step’ campaign. Since the Vine closed and Rendezvous was in temporary accommodation over the summer it was difficult to get stock later in the year; however, we will return to holding a pre-Christmas stall in the autumn if there is demand for it. Rendezvous, now known as Global Footsteps, is back in Portland Street with refurbished premises so we have a local supplier. Fair Trade fortnight starts at the end of February and we are planning a stall plus a Fair Trade café and baking competition alongside a Fair Trade theme in the service.

Energy Neighbourhoods – this is an energy saving scheme which Roger Whyborn got involved with and received training in how to run our own Glenfall “Energy Neighbourhood”. Fiona Jones, the Hattens, the Ratnayakes, the Collishaws, the Whyborns and the Tallents have been monitoring their energy use from 1st December to the end of March, making as many small energy saving steps as they can. There is a prize for the neighbourhood with the highest energy saving, but the main aim is to educate us into making small changes in our every day lives to save energy and money, and by doing so help reduce our impact on the planet.

We also:

- Promoted a drama at St Pauls in December by CCP young people about homelessness.
- Promoted IHA-UDP locally and on-line.
- Grew moustaches (some of us!) in “Movember” to raise awareness of prostate cancer
- Iain Stewart ran Race the Sun to raise money and awareness of Action Medical Research
- Voted to get funding for our local Riding for Disabled group
- Promoted the Waitrose shopping tokens scheme in aid of the local YMCA
- Promoted the government consultation for on-line safety for children
- Promoted the AgeUK petition to urge the government to reform the care system

Well done to everyone who got involved.

7.1 Discipleship, pastoral & family

7.1.1 Glenfall Kids, Neil Plant

We continue to use the Scripture Union material for all groups, so that the children of any age have similar topics each week. The aim is to increase their Christian faith and bible knowledge, as well as having fun within their peer groups.

The children have definitely benefitted from the facilities at St Paul’s. The larger rooms have made it easier to accommodate all our groups. Rock and Next Gen meet in the large hall with access to table football, table tennis & indoor football as well as an upstairs classroom. The biggest limitation is not going outside during the summer.

I would like to thank all our leaders & helpers for the valuable work they do in caring for our children. Their support is very much appreciated by both the children and their parents!

Please contact Ashley or Neil if you would like to get involved in this important aspect of our church ministry.

Matthew 13 v8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

7.1.2 Kids Together Events

In late 2011 we started a new Sunday morning gathering for our kids. Whilst the adults gathered in the main hall instead of the kids of different ages going to separate groups they all gathered together in an alternative hall for their own 'service'. We instigated kids together services for three main reasons...

- To enable the kids to interact across the age ranges and learn from each other.
- To give the usual kids leaders a week off and get others involved.
- As an alternative to an all-age service.

In 2012 we managed to hold a couple in St Edwards before we left but they were simply not possible at Dean Close. With the facilities currently available to us at St Paul's we have been able to start them again and they have proved a great success. Enormous thanks are due to Michelle Niblett for her initial vision and energy in getting them going.

7.2.1 Pastoral Care, Ashley

Last year we celebrated the fact that 90% of Glenfall regulars were involved in some form of midweek small group. We had 9 different groups meeting across Cheltenham. In the autumn we began talking about the idea of moving to 'Network groups'.

In the past small groups have tended to be viewed as a one-size-fits-all solution to what church members do as Christians away from Sunday Church. They were program driven from the central church leadership and their format and timing (and often their membership) were set by the 'vicar'. Networks are about freeing groups up to operate in a range of different ways. Some will continue to be exactly like the old small groups, that is places of discipling, support and fellowship but they can also look very different too.

Currently we have 7 networks operating as traditional style small groups but in addition we have:

- Charlton Kings Cluster – an umbrella gathering for Charlton Kings small groups, offering common vision, leadership and support for engagement in the Charlton Kings area
- Hatherley Cluster – an occasional gathering bringing together the small groups in the Hatherley area
- YMCA network – once a month meals and care for residents at the YMCA
- The volunteering network (just started, to support those involved in volunteering)
- Next Gen – fun and friendship for teens connected to Glenfall and their friends
- WOTS network – a daytime study group based around the Way of the Spirit Course
- Be Transformed group – a temporary network for the Lent Course 'Be Transformed'
- Ladies Bookclub – meeting every 6 weeks or so to chat about particular books
- Old Farts Fit Club – an all men's group that is exactly what it sounds like
- Tuesday Prayers – a weekly prayer meeting engaging with a wide range of issues
- Saturday Prayers – a weekly prayer meeting praying for new initiatives at Glengfall

- Beth Moore – a daytime Bible study using Beth Moore’s courses
- There are a handful of other non-public network groups that are not open to new members but are accountable to the leadership.

By developing Networks we allow a range of different groups to exist and we give opportunity for the individual skills and abilities of the membership to be released.

An important reason for moving to Network Groups is a need to put in place a culture of creative engagement whilst we are still ‘homeless’, otherwise when God gives us a building we will simply focus all of our efforts on that and become, to all intents and purposes, a parish church.

Most of the burden of day-to-day pastoral care is still picked up by small group leaders and I would like to say a huge thank you to them and to the way that church members have continually come together to care for each other at times of crisis. Much of this care goes unseen but it is the glue that holds us together.

Thanks in particular to those who make it their ministry to look out for those in need of practical help and encouragement. You don’t like your ‘good deeds to be seen before men’ but you are an incredible blessing to us. You know who you are, thank you.

7.3.1 Training

Once again one of the most transformational events in the year was the New Wine Leaders conference in May in Harrogate. A small group of Glenfall leaders were fortunate to hear Alan Hirsch speak and were challenged to consider how we might become more mission minded in the way we do what we do.

7.4.1 Men’s and Women’s ministry

In the last year the women have enjoyed, film nights, women’s teaching days, the Trinity Splendour events and Beth Moore Bible studies. The Bookclub has been a very welcome and popular addition to the women’s ministry and Clare Holland deserves huge credit for making it happen.

The men have only really managed a couple of curry nights but this coming year will see the birth of the Old Farts Fitness Club as well as a men’s weekend away in march.

Thank you to Alex Collishaw, Sarah Meade, Manda Stewart and Rosemary Saunders for their work in the women’s ministry and to Dave Meade for sorting the curry nights and to Keith Holland for setting up the Men’s weekend.

7.5.1 Social

In addition to the men’s and women’s ministry events we have enjoyed a variety of social events with quiz nights at St Luke’s, summer barbeques, skittle night and a Christmas ‘wassail’ and quiz. These events continue to be a place of welcome and connection for friends on the edge of church. Huge thanks to everyone involved in making these a success, particularly Anne Green, Bev Hughes, Sue Brown and Sheila Robinson.

8.1 Financial Report, Chris Hughes (treasurer)

To follow

9.1 Mission Partners

9.1.1 Mission Encouragement Trust, final report, Ashley

2012 was a significant year in the life of MET and in the relationship with Glenfall. After 20 years it seemed the right time for Jan and Mintie to take stock and assess the future direction of their ministry. After a long period of reflection they felt that God was leading them into a time of closure for the current phase of their work. They decided that, given their life stages, health issues and a sense of God's redirection, MET would close in 2015. In the run up to that point Jan and Mintie felt it right to concentrate on passing on the baton and engage in the training and discipleship of others who might do work in a similar vein to MET's original vision. It seemed right for Glenfall to take this opportunity to consider our connection and after discussion at the council, and with Jan and Mintie, we agreed that it was a good time to bring closure on our official partnership. It has been a privilege for Glenfall to be a part of the significant work of MET over the past 20 years and we offer our blessings and best wishes for Jan and Mintie as they look to the future and what God has for them next. We continue to hold them in our prayers.

9.1.2 Andy and Ching Yee Castro, Dave Hatten

Report For Andy Ching-yee and Jonah 2012/2013

Main events in Andy and Ching-yee's life since the last report in April 2012. This is a very brief summary. More is available from their news sheets which can be reprinted for the year if people want more details.

2012

April – May

Andy did his final survey trip for the minority group he and Ching-yee are working with. So the work remaining involved analysing data and writing up the survey results. He also did some training for University teachers in 'Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language'. It was only 2 lectures but he had to do it in Chinese.

June – July

Melissa their survey assistant returned to her home and Daisy the team leader went back to Taiwan. July and August were quiet months so Andy and Ching-yee took the opportunity to visit some friends in a city near Beijing and pray with them about possible future plans.

August - September

Andy and Ching-yee had a good time with their friends and as a result decided that it would be good to return to England for a time, probably about a year. Because of the need for Ching-yee to get a visa for Britain it would not be until at least summer 2013. As they were going to be around for at least a year Andy was able to take over the role of Director for the whole region. This was necessary as the Team Leader Daisy would be in Beijing for a year and the Regional Director went on home leave for eight months. So things worked out well. God had it planned already.

October – November

Sadly Ching-yee had a miscarriage. Andy was very busy doing the work of director as well as the language work for the minority people group. It was quite a stressful time especially as their flat was on the 5th floor and Jonah had to be carried up and down. Andy decided to apply to do a Masters degree in teaching Chinese as a foreign language for when they come to England in a year's time. Ching-yee's parents visited in October which was a good family time among the sad and stressful things they had to deal with.

December – Present

At the end of November they both had health problems. Ching-yee had unexplained bleeding following on from the miscarriage and Andy had a recurrence of a back problem. Much prayer went on for them and Ching-yee is now much better and

everything is normal according to a recent check-up, Ultrasound and HCG. Andy's back has improved but his thigh and lower leg is still painful. They have also moved into a first floor flat which has a 'house helper' to help with the housework. Andy is still finishing work on the minority group materials such as the Dialect Survey Book.

Future

- They have had their residence permits renewed and the team leader Daisy has returned.
- Andy has been accepted on a Masters course at Sheffield University in September 2013. So they are hoping Ching-yee can get a visa in time for her to come to England with Andy in September.
- In the mean time they need to finish off some language work including the Dialect Survey book and some of the 'Book' translation work in the minority language.
- Prayer Points
Good health and protection for them all in the coming months.
Ching-yee's visa application in April.
Finishing of the language work.
God's hand and guiding of future plans.

Contact Dave Hatten direct for a copy of their newsletters.

9.1.3 IHA-UDP, Chris Hughes

To follow