



2009

# MISSION COMMUNITY FESTIVAL APPRAISAL REPORT

Prepared by: Mike Tyler.  
Approved by the Festival Planning Team  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

To: Participating mission community agencies  
Church Leaders

## Festival Appraisal

### Objectives

The Festival objectives were to celebrate and encourage established townwide and overseas mission and charity services and inspire increased or new commitment to Jesus's command to go into all the world, be good news to the poor and share the Gospel.

### Planning

Planning started twelve months earlier with tentative discussion between several mission agency representatives and five church leaders. Planning meetings were kept to a minimum and wide use made of email communication. All local Church leaders were advised of the proposed mission event in February.

A Festival of this type has never been staged in Worthing and included a variety of component activities, linked to the theme of *Here am I...*, accepting that this would be a learning experience for us all. It is therefore hoped that this appraisal will be useful in helping leaders involved in any future townwide event planning.

Acknowledgement of the planning team and many other helpers is appended, with a directory of participating agencies.

### Promotion

It was hoped that promotion and credibility of the Festival concept would be helped by setting up an internet website ([www.worthingmission.community.officelive.com](http://www.worthingmission.community.officelive.com)) detailing the programme, planning team, objectives and participating agencies.

Details were sent by mail to each church in July, together with an introductory leaflet and planned sequence of weekly notices through to the Festival weekend



Details were mailed again to all church leaders in early September, with 4,500 leaflets distributed to 50 local churches, together with a poster featuring all participating agencies.

A half page advertisement plus a half page free feature was in the September *Heart of Sussex* issue

### Luis Palau Endorsement

Luis Palau was invited to contribute an encouragement from the US, to the Festival participants, and very kindly sent an emailed video message which was copied round to all 50 church leaders and shown at the Celebration – saying the Festival was visionary and ‘my kind of activity’ He intimated in the video, his interest to come to Worthing to help a major outreach programme if churches wanted to do this

Appraisal of each group of activities:

1. **Youth (School Workshops and Gig Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October)**

The six interactive workshops from the Bible Society, FEBA, Open Doors, Torch, Wycliffe Bible Translators and Worthing Churches Homeless Projects (Organized by Lisa Hector, of Link Romania with Bryan Kittlitz of O.C.) brought in 200 schoolchildren from six schools and were all much enjoyed, with very positive contacts established.

An evening Gig by well known Phatfish band (Organized by Rob Parkes WEC) was a ‘sell out’ and approaching 300 youngsters enjoyed an evening of Christian rock music and talks by youth worker Helder Favarin, from Brazil and Paul Cook who interviewed a young person just returned from a short term mission.

These events were both judged highly successful.

2. **The Prayer Breakfast (7.45am – 9.00am Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>)**

The prayer breakfast kindly hosted by the Worthing Tabernacle provided a good start to the day and was very well planned and led by Jan Whitmore and Mintie Nel (Mission Encouragement Trust - MET) with over fifty church and agency leaders present

3. **Flag and Band Parade** (From Pier to St.Paul’s 10<sup>th</sup> 10.20 – 10.35am)

The weather was excellent and the parade structure seemed good, with a large Festival banner at the front followed by the Stedfast bugle and drum band with the Brazilian band from Open gates Bognor at the rear – with plenty of flags and banners between,



About 70 folk took part and the parade attracted the attention of many surprised early shoppers and passers by. Some press photographers attended.

Police/Town Hall protocols had to be followed including taking out public liability insurance and submitting a safety risk assessment.

### Flag and Band Parade cont/

The two assigned police support officers were very helpful. Marshals were appointed, given reflective jackets and briefed before the parade set off.

Participation was less than hoped for but those present made up for it in their enthusiasm and those who took part said they felt good about it as an act of witness in the town.

The large fronting promotional banner seemed good to help ensure people were made aware of what the parade was about. Some brought banners showing 'love, 'peace' and 'hope' which were a great addition. The Brazilian band group (From Open Gates Church Bognor) led enabling some some lively worship both at the pier and also on the parade's arrival at St.Pauls.

#### 4. Exhibition (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – 11.00am to 3.30pm)

##### Special Festival Exhibition Guests

Speaking to the gathering on the steps of St.Paul's, former Mayor Councillor Christine Brown said she was delighted that the Festival was making such good use of the centre and that so many townwide and overseas Christian agencies were taking part in the exhibition there. Tim Loughton MP toured the exhibition and also told exhibitors how pleased he was to see so many mission and community services featuring their work, which is so often done quietly 'behind the scenes'.



The exhibition worked very well, with twenty five exhibitors using all available space and encouraging numbers attending. Networking with other missions and agencies was a benefit and feedback has been generally very positive.

An unexpected St.Paul's management ban on electricity cable extensions rather limited and disappointed some exhibitors. St.Paul's management required a full health and safety risk assessment and there were some other constraints, partly due to the newness of the premises.

#### 4. Exhibition cont/



On stage puppet show by Cindy Squires and team  
(Café Church)



Storm ministries on the steps to St.Pauls

Storm ministries and the new Café Church puppets ministry brought much appreciated contributions. A soup kitchen run by Sue Stevens of the Churches Homeless Projects was stationed outside on the steps and did a 'roaring trade' serving two varieties of freshly made soup and rolls.

#### 5. **Exhibition Workshops (10<sup>th</sup> 11.00-3.30pm)**



Helder Favarin (Brazil)  
talking on mission

The series of eleven workshops on a wide variety of topics and short inspirational films, in three separate rooms were mainly well attended. We are deeply indebted to Reality Christianity (Steve and Karen Clayton plus team) for provision and manning of all workshop and stage audio visual equipment. We also much appreciated the willingness of agencies to lead the many workshops.

#### 6. **Mission Community Celebration (10<sup>th</sup> evening 7.00pm)**

The evening Celebration at Christ Church Grafton Road, by kind courtesy of Ven. Lionel Whatley, was compered by Patrick Woodward. The church was not well suited to multimedia presentations but a 20ft screen, a truly massive flag banner (60ft x 30ft!), great teamwork and generous accommodations by the church staff led to it being seen as a well executed event.

All twenty five participating agencies were introduced and applauded for their work and commitment.



### Mission Community Celebration cont/

The video message from Luis Palau was shown and the Messenger Youth Gospel choir with soloist Beth Thomas brought songs of praise and encouragement, followed by a monolog drama from Tony Jackson of Storm Ministries.

Our guest speaker Canon George Kovoor, who is Principal of Trinity College Bristol, spoke passionately of the need for Christians and their churches to do things differently in these challenging times so as to be more effective in their witness, both here and overseas – saying the UK was now a major mission field for missionaries from countries like Brazil and Thailand

Sadly the Celebration, at the end of a very long day of events, was rather poorly attended

### 8. Cost Recovery

Costs for the Festival amounted to about £2,500. There was a financial loss, mainly arising from the poor attendance at the Celebration, where an offering was taken up. The loss is underwritten.

#### Financial Statement

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Communication and promotion	£1,081.60	Exhibitors (by invoice)	£620.00
Hire of St.Paul's Centre 2 days (With discount)	£490.00	(£150 pending)	
Decorations	£58.57	Celebration offering	£380.00
Public liability Insurance	£100.00	Church donations	£167.00
Visiting speaker and guest accommodation	£168.00	Carpenter Box sponsorship	£500.00
Donations to guest speaker and key helpers	£645.00		
<b>Total expense</b>	<b>£2,543.17</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£1,667.00</b>
<b>Net Loss (Covered by donation)</b>	<b>£876.17</b>		

Note: Phatfish Gig evening and Prayer Breakfast were run at breakeven

### 9. Venue of St.Pauls



3.5 x 1.5m Banner used to front parade

The St.Paul's centre was an excellent new venue as a location, although at present has no exterior promotional opportunities, no media or stage presentation equipment and very limited electrical access for exhibition displays. The concessionary café gave good service but was limited to drinks and cakes

## **Conclusions**

1. Planning this type of event requires a competent committed team and at least 12 months preparation. The 'man hours' requirement is very high
2. 'Parcelling' events out for planning and implementation by motivated groups worked very well, for the Youth Workshops (Lisa Hector), evening Gig (Rob Parkes) and the Prayer Breakfast (Jan Whitmore and Mintie Nel)
3. It was hoped that the eight months advance notice, the participation by so many well known local missions and charities plus extensive promotion via leaflets and posters, a ringing endorsement on DVD from Luis Palau and a full page feature in the Heart of Sussex would ensure a high level of church member attendance, which was not as high as hoped for at the morning parade and the evening celebration events.
4. The lower than hoped for attendance, did not however, detract from the general view that the Festival was very successful in its objective of celebrating existing missions and local agencies. There was a good measure of encouragement and hopefully new inspiration for mission and community service for the Lord.
5. Worthing based Mission and charity agencies are clearly very capable and sufficient in number to stage this type of event, which is complex, quite costly and very time consuming to organize, we are so grateful for all the help provided by so many.
6. Overall we are grateful to God and to very many people without whose enthusiasm and support this Festival could not have taken place. We pray this report will be a help and encouragement to both Church and mission community leaders in considering any future townwide initiatives

## **Potential Follow on Action Opportunities**

### 1. Seafront parade participation

There has not been any presence for many years in the August Rotary seafront parade– which has several thousand spectators. The Festival parade might provide a model for worthwhile participation, possibly linked with a townwide Alpha introduction?

### 2. Youth Workshops Day/s

The youth workshops and gig were perhaps the most successful activities of the Festival and the interactive workshops were much appreciated by schools staff and pupils who attended. They could perhaps provide an opportunity for repeat or for some form of ‘youth engagement strategy development’ between schools and Christian agencies/churches youth workers.

### 3. Luis Palau

It is left to church leaders, perhaps via CTW to consider if they would like to plan for a major outreach venture to which Luis Palau might be invited

### 4. Worthing Christian Network

Many new friends and contacts were established during the Festival and consideration will need to be given to the most appropriate structure and activities for the future of this informal leaders network

## Acknowledgements



We are very grateful to the planning team which comprised:

Mary and Peter Stewart (Bible Society), Chris Binstead (FEBA), Steve Bayes (CPO), Brian Kittlitz (O.C. UK), Lisa Hector (Link Romania) Stephanie and Larry Kraft (O.C.UK), Jan Whitmore and Mintie Net (MET), Sue Stevens (WCHP) and Mike Tyler (Aid for Trade) Missing from pic. are Gerald Thompson (Kosovo Print Ministries) John Ray (Hope or Lugazi - taking picture) and Rob Parkes (WEC)

We are very grateful for the help and support of the 25 participating mission and agencies plus :

Reality– christianity for loan of equipment and manpower help  
 Storm Ministries (Ginny Cassel and team)  
 The Messengers Youth Gospel Choir  
 Sandy Squires Café Church puppet ministry (01903 219657)  
 Jonathan Fisher- electrician (JJ Electrical.Tel:0795 7959867)  
 Mike Aldington - event audio services (Tel:0777 7623133)  
 Geoffrey Redman - Guest organist  
 First aider – Wanda Tyler  
 New Life Church Durrington for loan of big screen and flags  
 Sponsorship by Carpenter Box (Accountants)  
 Hille Cook Manager of St.Pauls Christian Centre  
 Ven. Lionel Whatley for use of Christ Church for the Celebration

We are grateful to the many volunteers helping as stewards and marshalls

The Festival was planned and managed by members of the Worthing Christian Network, an informal network of mission and charity leaders serving townwide in Worthing, or overseas

Publicity. Some favourable publicity was received after the Festival in the Worthing Sentinel, West Sussex Gazette and in Tim Loughton's newsletter:



**Newsletter featuring visits and contact made by Tim Loughton**



### **Worthing churches on a mission**

Tim praised the dedication and unsung contribution of Christian based projects in and around Worthing when he spoke at the recent mission community festival at St. Paul's church, which has been recently renovated and reopened. Over a Friday and Saturday earlier this month, a range of activities, exhibitions and workshops were put on by Worthing Christians, making a thoroughly enjoyable and engaging programme. Many thanks to organisers Lisa Hector and Mike Tyler (pictured)

## **Participating Mission and Christian Agencies**

### **Aid for Trade**

www.aidfortrade.org.uk      Email: miketyler@aidfortrade.org.uk      Tel: 01903 242499

### **Bible Society**

www.biblesociety.org.uk      Email: peterandmary1969@yahoo.co.uk      Tel: 01903 505987

### **Child2Child**

www.child2child.org      Email: child2child@googlemail.com      Tel: 07765 348471

### **Christian Ecology Link (CEL)**

www.christian-ecology.org.uk      Email: bjechlin@btinternet.com      Tel: 01424 219788

### **Christian Publicity & Outreach**

www.cop.co.uk      Email: stevebayes@cpo.org.uk      Tel: 01903 264556

### **Faith Though Mission (Walk of 1,000Men)**

www.t-f-m.org.uk      Email: robbieferg2@tiscali.co.uk      Tel: 01903 260504

### **FEBA**

www.feba.org.uk      Email: cbinstead@feba.org.uk      Tel: 01903 286434

### **Heart of West Sussex**

www.heartof.org.uk      Email: editorial@heartof.org.uk      Tel: 01903 504915

### **Hope for Lugazi**

www.hopeforlugazi.org.uk      Email: johnray@onetel.com      Tel: 01903 694433

### **Kosova Printing Ministries**

Email: gerald@printpromotions.co.uk      Tel: 09103 230772

### **Link Romania**

www.linkromania.co.uk      Email: lisahector@linkromania.co.uk      Tel: 01903 529333

### **Messengers Gospel Choir**

www.messengerschoir.org      Email: info@messengerschoir.org      Tel: 01273 463068

### **Mission Encouragement Trust**

www.met-uk.uk.com      Email: JanWhitmoreMET@aol.com      Tel: 01903 500464

### **Mission and Relief Services**

www.missionandrelief.com      Email: eric@missionandrelief.com      Tel: 01903 266256

### **Mission Tanzania**

Email: philip.tout@mypostoffice.co.uk      Tel: 01903 286434

### **OC (One Challenge International)**

www.oci.org      Email: larrysteph@worksmail.net      Tel: 01903 217251

### **Open Doors**

www.opendoorsuk.org      Email: gikananda@btinternet.com      Tel: 01273 306808

### **Shine (Causeway Prospects)**

www.Prospects.org.uk      Email: howard\_schnaar@o2.co.uk      Tel: 0118 9516978

### **Storm Ministries**

www.stormministries.org      Email: ginny.cassell@elimworth.org.uk      Tel: 01903 260236

### **Street Pastors**

www.streetpastors.co.uk Email: ginny.cassell@elimworthing.com Tel:01903 260236

**Through Faith Missions (Walk of 1,000 Men)**

www.t-f-m.org.uk Email: robbieferg2@tiscali.co.uk Tel: 01903 260504

**Torch Trust**

www.torchtrust.org Email:wi.mason@ntlworld.com Tel: 01903 609338

**Verite**

www.verite.co.uk Email: chrispowell@veritecm.com Tel: 01903 241975

**Way In Coffee Shop/Chapel Gifts Shop**

www.worthingtab.org.uk/shops  
Email graham.vince@worthingtab.org.uk Tel: 01903 213133

**WEC International (UK)**

www.wec-int.org.uk Email:welovestickyrice@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01903 260236

**Wesley Owen Bookshop**

www.wesleyowen.com Email:worthing@wesley-owen.com Tel: 01903 234566

**Worthing Churches Homeless Projects (WCHP)**

www.wchp.org.uk Email:sue.stevens@wchp.org.uk Tel: 01903 832 920



Festival poster