



MISSION & ACTION GROUP

Meeting held on 26th April 2006

1. GROUP PROGRESS

The group re-capped on some of the things that we had done so far, including: buying a goat, Amnesty letter writing and the Peace Week campaign.

2. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Feedback from both the Amnesty & Peace Week campaigns had been very positive, with Amnesty using our letter and the photo of our display at their Manchester meeting and said they would keep us informed of next year's campaign. They invited us to attend their meetings which are at Cross St Chapel every second Wednesday of the Month. Next meeting: 10th May - Stephen to advertise and see if anyone wants lifts etc.

(Sorry I cannot make this meeting but can do Wednesday 14th June instead - Stephen)

It was suggested that we put feedback in the magazine about what had happened to some of the prisoners we prayed for and wrote letters to.

3. LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY REFORM BILL

This Bill is about to go through Parliament and there is concern that it could in effect grant the Government dictatorial rights to essentially change any law without parliamentary consent. Denzil and Stephen were unable to find out about the time-scale of the Bill or whether any other groups were campaigning. It was agreed we write to Gerald Kaufman MP about our concern and ask for information. Then possibly a letter could be drafted to campaign against the proposed legislation.

4. GIVE A HAND PROJECT

Stephen had been given details of a practical campaign to send basic supplies for children and the elderly in Jamaica. One year on from Hurricane Ivan there is still a shortage of basics. We propose to collect the items needed as a parish and send them via Old Trafford Youth Centre. All agreed that it was practical and easy way of showing our support. Items needed are: crayons, colouring books, pens, toys, footballs, crafts, toothpaste, denture tablets, combs, brushes, torches etc. Most items are relatively cheap and many cost less than £1. Stephen to see if the campaign is still running and, if so, advertise it.

5. LOCAL ISSUES

Some discussion took place about the aftermath of the shooting that took place during the community gardening afternoon in February. Nancy, Hugh and Stephen had all received visits from the police. Other local areas and issues were discussed including the recent incidents at both West Point and in the Northmoor area. Stephen encouraged members of the group to be aware of local campaigns and issues so that we as a church could be involved and support local residents.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 24th May 11.30am