

# CONTACT

News & Views from  
Tavistock United Reformed Church  
& Salvation Army, Russell Street.



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[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/tavistock](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/tavistock)

## OCTOBER 2008

SUNDAY 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion - Rev Rog
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting: Garth Sanders
SUNDAY 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Worship led by Mrs Janet Dashper.
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting: Captain Penny
SUNDAY 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Worship led by Revd Mrs Phyllis Ball.
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting: Captain Penny
SUNDAY 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Worship - Rev Rog.
	6:00pm	United Service for Bible Sunday @ URC led by Major Carol & Captain Penny.

*Worship  
With Us*



*All Are Welcome*



The United Reformed Church has special qualities and should face the future with confidence, according to the Revd Roberta Rominger, newly appointed general secretary of the United Reformed Church.

Speaking just before her induction at the URC's general assembly in Edinburgh, she said: "While I share the URC commitment to walk in unity with other churches, I believe that God still has a purpose for the United Reformed Church. We have the flexibility, the openness, the experience of reformation, to respond to the challenges of a new day."

She elaborated: "If we can get the glue right between us, we have the capacity for a perfect combination: support and mutual accountability on the one hand, freedom for local imagination and initiative on the other. We are free to worship as the Spirit leads us. Our forms of congregational life can reflect it - have a building if you want, or don't have one. Stay where you are, or move. Expand, contract, unite, re-plant. Develop with insights from other cultures."

Reflecting on the priorities of her new post she pointed out the need partly to "stay out of the way." But she recognised also a need to: "Get the structures right, support a light-touch operation at the centre, make sure it's cost effective, give local churches what they need without burdening them with what they don't need. Enable those things we do jointly that we actually couldn't do on our own."

In public terms, Roberta Rominger said she felt her job was: "to be the face of our belonging to one another and to show a URC face to the world. Not an apologetic URC face, but one that radiates the confidence of the second largest Christian family in the world. We may be small here in Great Britain, but then we're so self-effacing. There is no virtue in being a well-kept secret."

You can read Roberta's full speech to Assembly at [www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk)

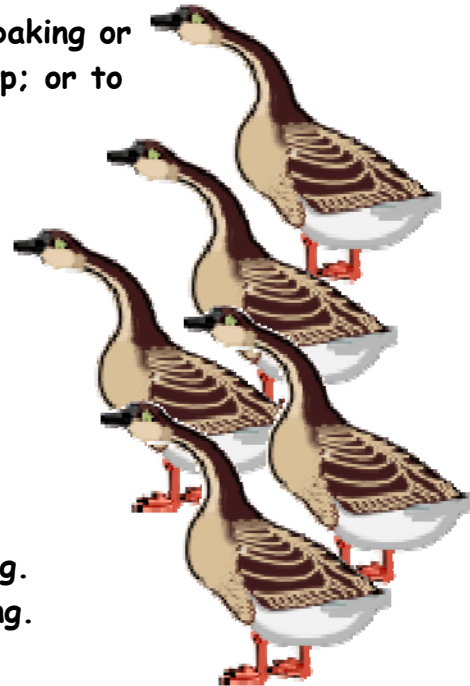
**GOOSE FAIR DAY - Wednesday October 8<sup>th</sup>** - is almost here- and it is not too late to offer YOUR help with a cash donation; making, baking or buying for the café ; volunteering to help set out and/or clear up; or to be a willing pair of hands on the day !

**Thank you if you have already pledged your support.**

All enquiries and offers for catering should be directed to Revd Phyllis (855731) and bric a brac to Anne Snook (614801). Setting out in the Church can be started on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and the Hall can be got ready on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>.

Donations for the café need to be in the kitchen  
on Tuesday between 10:30am -12noon  
or by 8am on the Wednesday morning.

The café will be open for serving at 9am until 4pm.  
The Hall needs to be cleared by 6pm on Wednesday evening.  
The Church needs to be ready for hire on Thursday morning.



We acknowledge with thanks a donation to the Roof Fund of £160 from members of the Millennium Bridge Club who meet in the Hall every Thursday evening throughout the year.

### **THE SHOE BOX APPEAL 2008**



The Link Romania Family Shoebox Appeal has been in existence since 1992 and has brought happiness and hope to many thousands of people over the years. It's a really simple idea and anyone in the UK can pack up a shoe box to send as a Christmas gift to a desperately poor family in Eastern Europe. Over the years, in excess of 400,000 shoe boxes have been sent to over 80 different locations.

These boxes are given to poor families many of whom do not have running water, heating or electricity. They live in terrible conditions and struggle to survive. This is why a shoe box at Christmas can show them that people they have never met and who live thousands of miles away care about them. However Link Romania is not just shoe boxes at Christmas - the charity runs a number of projects throughout the year amongst the poor and marginalised in Eastern Europe.



On **Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>** we shall be pleased to welcome **Mrs Linda Medland** , our local coordinator for the shoebox appeal, who will speak about this work during the morning service.

Until then, if you would like a leaflet explaining about the appeal please see **Mrs Janet Dashper**.  
Shoe boxes will need to be returned to the church by **Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup>** at the latest.

**Fill a shoebox  
full of smiles**

**Fill a shoebox  
full of smiles**

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full of smiles**



Every Christmas, thousands of people sing carols from the Bethlehem Carol Sheet without fully realising the important work done by the charity who produces it. BibleLands has been at the very heart of Christian, compassionate ministry for over 150 years, since its beginning in 1854 at the height of the Crimean War. BibleLands continues to work through more than 50 Christian-led Project Partners in Israel and the Occupied Territories, Lebanon and Egypt. This work ranges from medical and social care, education, special needs, adult training and work with refugees. Without the prayerful and financial ministry and encouragement of its supporters and donors, the valuable work of helping the vulnerable, especially the children, could not continue.

From Friday October 10<sup>th</sup> - Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> inclusive, Rev Rog and his son Matthew, in partnership with BibleLands, will be going on a 10 day visit to Israel and Palestine, along with a group from Milton Keynes. This is not a traditional pilgrimage as it has a training and educational aim. There will be an emphasis on meeting people and engaging with the living church. The group will have opportunities to meet with Christian leaders in order to listen and learn about the situation and circumstances facing the church today. Visits will be made to Bible Lands overseas partners and they will be able to see first hand practical, caring ministries in education, healthcare and community development.

Every year the Bible Society asks all churches to put aside one Sunday as "BIBLE SUNDAY". This year's service will be held on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> in the URC at 6:00pm hosted by the Salvation Army. This is for ALL the churches in the Tavistock area so theoretically should be packed out!! Based on Psalm 119, the theme is 'Buried Treasure?' and invites young and old to unearth the riches of the whole Bible in order to know God better and live his way.

And the morning after unearthing the Bible's riches - on Bible Monday - Christians will be encouraged to make the Bible part of everyday life by taking its message with them.

'These days people can have Moses on their Motorola, listen to God on their iPod, read Matthew instead of the Metro or look up Isaiah on the internet,' said Beth Read, Bible Society's Church Development Officer. 'The Bible's treasures are there waiting to be discovered. On Bible Sunday we unearth the Bible's message for ourselves, so on Bible Monday we can make it a part of our busy lives and help others encounter it too.'



During the week at Tavistock URC there are three different opportunities to look more closely at a Bible passage, character or Christian topic .

**You will be very welcome at any - or all- of them!!**



\*\*On **Tuesday** evenings at 7:30pm in the Church there is a film night watching a video/dvd on a religious or biblical topic.

\*\*The Salvation Army officers - Major Carol & Captain Penny - are starting a **Wednesday** afternoon "Bible Fellowship" meeting from October 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Church and then every other week i.e Oct 29<sup>th</sup>; Nov 12<sup>th</sup>; Nov 26<sup>th</sup> & Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*A "Home Bible Study" meets mostly at 14 Heather Close on **Thursday** mornings from 10am - 12noon. Further details from Revd Phyllis.