March 2025

"REFURBISHING!"

THERE COMES A POINT WHEN SOMETHING that is worn out or obsolete needs major repair or replacement. Our kitchen has been in that category for some time, with little space to welcome visitors.

So finally we grasped the nettle, and called workmen in to convert two rooms into one! Hopefully more space will serve well, not just for ourselves, but for our Thai friends and other visitors.

Similarly in our Thai work this last month we have been able to help in various situations where some "refurbishing" was needed. For example

In South Shields, the group there has recently expanded with the formation of a 'daughter group' at Whitley Bay. In the growing hiatus, the question arose as to who should lead what?

The solution was to invite two members of the South Shield group to become the leader and assistant leader of the group, and to invite the former group leader to become the new leader for Whitley Bay. All were happy to serve in this way!

Pray for each one in their new responsibilities.

The administration of the Thai Network is undergoing refurbishment at the moment. Instead of the chairman (David & Mary) bearing most of the admin load, a sharing of responsibilities was recently agreed. This is now being rolled out this year.

In the new structure, the eight person committee has three departments, these covering admin,

member care, and finance. Already David has spent several hours with each of the department leaders, and they are pressing ahead well with their new tasks. *Pray that this progressive handover will work well.*

Member care is a prime concern, with many looking to us (especially Mary) for pastoral care. They each desire to experience 'newness of life' in the Lord Jesus, but help is needed at times.

In some cases there are moral issues, with at least 4 'couples' co-habiting, with marriage being denied by unhelpful male partners.

"He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" (Rev 21.5]

Several are struggling with health challenges, with one lady hurting with a heavy chemo coure, following operations for cancer.

Others face ostracism because of their clear stand as Christians, either by other Thai here in the UK, or by relatives back in Thailand.

Pray we may have daily wisdom to advise well.

Applications for Camp are down this year, and we are not sure why. Do we need a change in format, or in our publicity? Some are chosing to visit Thai camps in

other countries rather than their own here.

We are wondering is the price is too high for some, and maybe subsidies are needed. Clearly some creative changes are needed. Pray for wisdom in finding appropriate answers.

Also for prayer

- * **Baptism**. Mrs Maiow (Manchester group) has her baptism on 2nd March. *Pray* it will greatly strengthen her faith in the Lord Jesus.
- *. **Fellowship Weekend**, 18-19 April, when the focus is on the meaning of Easter; *pray* for all preparations, including programme, and speakers. .
- *.Summer Camp, *Pray* for the preparation of our speaker Rev Manoonsak from Thailand, for seminar leaders, and for the children's & men's programmes.
 - * Thailand visit (22 Aug 5 Sept). During our first week we plan to visit our Camp speakers for 2026 & 2027. *Pray* for good rapport with them both.
 - * Book promotion.
 Continue to pray for good outflow of the book. May it be used to strengthen faith!



From Amazon or 10ofThose.com

* Mary's chemo course finishes at the end of March, with no signs of recurrence. We give thanks to the Lord for this, and for all who prayed.

Thanks for praying!

David and Mary

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- * Donations to Robinsons' UK Thai ministry: by cheque or via: # <u>Stewardship</u>, <u>www.stewardship.org.uk</u> (a/c: 20111644)

