



Spring is always that time of the year when we look at nature and see new beginnings. Vibrant colour seems to appear overnight from what was dark and brown in the winter months. It is wonderful to remember God does this with us too. He turns what was dark and dismal in our lives into something 'bright and beautiful' for Him.

As we look at this, perhaps we should all be reminded that there are a number of people who are still in the dormant stages of winter with their lives. It is up to us as Christians to let them know that they can come out of hibernation and find the life that God intended for them.

Fishponds Baptist

After a short break for Christmas we found ourselves on the road again to Bristol, where, on January 19th, the Main Band performed 'Past Imperfect, Future Tense'.

It is always a blessing for us to arrive at a church and find enthusiastic, helpful people to welcome us and we definitely felt that was the case at Fishponds Baptist Church.

The set up and sound check went well and we were then wonderfully fed and watered. It was also an unusual set up for us as Derek Brown, our video/DVD technician found himself in a room behind the stage, away from the performance hall, although he remained 'in visual touch' with a conveniently positioned camera.

As the band went out onto stage to start the show, it blessed us to see a full audience all eager and waiting. Despite a 'technical hitch', quickly overcome, at the start of the programme, we really felt God's presence that night. God is so good to us, as he not only gives us the opportunity to share something of Him with others, but He allows us to get a great deal of pleasure out of 'performing for Him'.

The feedback at the end of the concert was very encouraging and it was good to hear that there were a number of non-christians in the audience. Please pray that the small seeds sown that night will blossom into fruit for Him.

Classical Chrysalis is rapidly tuning up and with programme ideas almost overtaking us, we could play for hours, if not days! There is so much material out there so please pray we will be given wisdom in choosing pieces that the Lord wants us to use as programmes are finalised. We hope to produce a programme that entertains and reaches out to those who enjoy classical music and also to those who are regular concert goers. Our broader aim is that the programme will link together, showing that Christian principles apply not just in the cut and thrust of a musician's life but in all vocations.

We would really value your prayers so that we produce a balanced and spirit filled programme that speaks straight into the hearts of the audience. We look forward to playing to you soon!

PLEASE NOTE

Our new e-mail address is **office@chrysalis.org.uk**
Please could you delete the old and add this new address to your address book.

DIARY MARCH



- 14th** Management Meeting
- 17th** Youth Rehearsal
- 18th** Dress Rehearsal 'Brief Encounters'
- 22nd** 'Brief Encounters' at Broughton Church, Aylesbury.
- 24th** Youth Rehearsal
- 26th** Classical Rehearsal
- 31st** Youth Rehearsal

APRIL

- 2nd** Classical Rehearsal
- 5th** Nicki, Elaine, Alison & Tim at Holland On Sea Adoramus at Broadway Baptist Church Chesham
- 7th** Youth Rehearsal Classical Rehearsals
- 14th** Youth Rehearsal
- 15th** Mandy & Classical Team 'Adoramus' Mission to Italy
- 24th** Youth Rehearsal
- 28th** Youth Rehearsal

MAY

- 3rd** Youth Team Event 'Choices' Broadway Baptist, Chesham
- 10th** Nicki and Steve Pullen's Wedding
- 13th** Christian Resources
- 16th** Exhibition

Adoramus Concert and Mission to Italy

In April, the Classical team and Mandy, who takes time out of Phantom, will go on a mission to Italy with The Adoramus Choir and Orchestra. The team went to Torre Pelice, near Turin, two years ago and really saw God move in this unchurched rural area of Italy and so are going on a new mission to further the work that was done in partnership with the local churches from two years ago.

Italy is now one of the most irreligious countries in Europe and much needs to hear and experience the good news of the gospel. The team - a 30 piece orchestra with 40 piece choir and soloists - will be praying that as they present a mixed classical and gospel music programme, something that very much appeals to the Italian music lovers, that it will touch the many people who will attend the concerts as they experience the reality of God's love through the music, testimony and the message of the gospel that will be preached.

The majority of folk on the Adoramus team are paying their own way to go on the mission but as always there are other costs to be covered such as hiring of large instruments, PA and lighting, transportation, publicity, literature, Italian New Testaments and tracts costs etc etc! On Saturday April 5th at Broadway Baptist Church Chesham there is a fund raising concert to help raise funds for this mission and also a future mission planned for 2005 to Moldova with our friends from Luis Palau Evangelistic Association. The concert will feature members of Classical Chrysalis along with a host of others and promises to be an very entertaining evening. For details of reserving your seats please call the Chrysalis office.



Youth Event

Rehearsals are well underway in preparation for an event on May 3rd at Broadway Baptist Church.

Entitled 'Choices,' the evening will take a unique look through music, video and drama at decisions we make in our lives and how they can affect us.

The audience too will be participating through questions posed as the evening progresses.

Please pray for the band and Elaine as they prepare for this. A number of them have important exams this year and it is crucial that they know God's presence with them in their all too busy lives.

Pray also that opportunities will be taken up to invite young people to this event. If you wish to know more or would like to have some flyers to hand out at your church, please contact the Office.

Congratulations to Nicki Matthews and Steve Pullen who will be getting married on 10th May. We wish them God's richest blessing for the day and their future life together.

PLEASE PRAY

22nd March at Broughton Church, Aylesbury sees the first performance of our new production of 'Brief Encounters'. Please pray that everything goes smoothly both from a practical as well as spiritual viewpoint.



Derek's Desk -One Man and His dogs.

As I write, I see from the office window, many signs that spring has arrived. The bulbs opening and the trees beginning to leaf are signs bringing hope of brighter days to come. What a contrast this is to the news on TV, Radio and in the press. There the future doesn't look so rosy and many are asking 'Where is it all leading?' 'What next?'

Not so long ago conducting weekend services in the North of Scotland, I found that a visit to an Eventide Home was on the programme. How startled I was to hear the meeting leader assure the residents that God had two sheepdogs! A Scottish Revised Bible Version, surely? But no, this chap was serious. "Jesus said, I am the good Shepherd, and David confirms this in the 23rd Psalm, The Lord is my Shepherd. And", said my Scottish friend, "all shepherds have sheep dogs. The Lord has two. Their names are *Goodness* and *Mercy* and they will follow you all the days of your life".

It was a unique commentary on the Psalm, but it fixed the verse in my mind and I am sure the elderly people listening to him took heart for future days. Can we bring an equally positive message to our generation.