



Christian Music Ministries

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July/August 2017 Prayer Warrior Letter

Dear Friends,

We hope you are having a good summer and perhaps enjoying a change of scenery to lift and refresh the heart.

Roger and Mary have just enjoyed a cruise on the Baltic, visiting places like St Petersburg, Tallin and Copenhagen. They were particularly impressed with the circular church built into solid rock in Helsinki – a church where Annie sang many years ago on a choir tour!

ABBOT HALL

We had a really blessed music week in Grange-over-Sands with *Angel Voices*. It is encouraging that so many of the guests are open to the Holy Spirit and willing to be challenged and prayed for. One lady in particular had a real breakthrough, after painful memories and issues surfaced for her as the week progressed. Roger and Annie only had a limited time to pray with her on the last day, but afterwards, praying on her own, the Holy Spirit continued to do a very deep work of healing.

URC MINISTERS' SUMMER SCHOOL

Roger, Annie and Ann Steer spent a week in Cambridge leading worship and workshops with East Midlands URC ministers. There was a 'mixed bag' theologically speaking, but many were really encouraged and built up by the teaching and sung worship. Amy Carter joined us for a day, and we appreciated her ministry in song and on the clarinet.

LEE ABBEY

Next week is our annual family music week with *Angel Voices* on the beautiful North Devon coast. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in the guests of all ages – and for the community members who live and work at Lee

Abbey. As in previous years, Tim, Emma, Michael and Bethany Jones will be with us, as well as Sally & Karl Taylor with Mollie and Petra. Michael Jones will be leading worship on the Tuesday morning. It is so encouraging for Mary and Roger to see their next generation growing in the Lord.

We have just heard that **Bill & Barbara Carpenter** are joining the Community at Lee Abbey from October. Barbara will be one of the resident Chaplains, and Bill will have plenty of opportunities to use his many gifts. Please pray for them as they pack up and leave Stoke St Gregory where Barbara has been the Baptist minister for many years.

SCARGILL HOUSE

Towards the end of August we will be at Scargill again for an *Angel Voices* music week. We are very pleased that **Helen Pollard** will be coming to train the choir. Helen's mum **Viv** will be coming to look after Michael while Helen is taking rehearsals. Here's a photo of baby Michael (now 4 months old) with his dad, James, for whom you have been praying.



SPIRIT WORKS

We are beginning to get bookings for *Spirit Works* evenings and weekends for 2018. Please pray that the Lord will use these to great effect, and that we will be led clearly as we plan and prepare.

CMM CHOIR

We had 4 exciting productions of *Jail Break*, during June and July in local churches. Our next project will be *Stargazers* with productions in November, December and January/February, as it is an Epiphany musical.

Please pray that members of both the choirs (Mondays in Harborne with Sylvia Whalley and Tuesdays in Ward End with myself) will continue to grow in grace, and continue to find the fellowship, Bible teaching and music-making each week a source of joy and strength in their walk with the Lord.

RACHEL HADDON – INTERN

Roger has always sought to mentor and train up younger Christians, and CMM has over the years given opportunities to young musicians through gap years, work experience, etc. In September this year we will be welcoming CMM Intern **Rachel Haddon**. Rachel plays oboe and is studying music at Leeds University. She will be spending an academic year with us, involved in all aspects of CMM, both office-based and the wider music ministry. Please pray that this will be a fruitful and fulfilling time for all of us.

DIARY EVENTS

Lee Abbey family music week – *Angel Voices*
Sat 5 to Sat 12 August

Scargill House family music week – *Angel Voices*
Sat 26 August to Saturday 2 September

Scotland tour with *Barnabas* – Fri 15 to Fri 22 September. Productions at Inverness, Kildary, Lossiemouth and Aberlour. Team: Roger & Mary Jones, Alan Walker, Devon Brown, Bill Carpenter, Sarah Harley, Ann Steer*, Marilyn & Chris Ellis, Ben Bolton-Maggs (*Prayer for Ann particularly as her mother is seriously ill in a nursing home)

CMM Choir rehearsals start from 18 September – Mondays with Sylvia Whalley in Harborne, and Tuesdays with Annie in East Birmingham

Penrith Methodist Church weekend en route home from Scotland – Sat 23 to Sun 24 Sept

Cricklade musical-in-a-day (Annie and team) – *Apostle* Sat 7 October

Mappleborough Green, Warks - Morning service - Sunday 15 October (Roger and Rachel)
Brunel Manor, Torquay (new venue) – music week *While Shepherds Watched* – Sun 22 to Sat 28 October

Bearwood Chapel ladies' fellowship meeting – Monday 30 October (Annie) + Rachel Haddon
Jump (Barnsley) *Spirit Works* weekend – Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October

Bishop Michael Whinney thanksgiving service at Birmingham Cathedral. Sat 18 November (Roger and Annie)

Ilkley – Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 November – *Simeon* (Roger, Rachel and team)

Sutton Coldfield Baptist ladies fellowship – Thursday 7 December – annual Advent meeting - 'Love came down' (Annie, Rachel and team)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS ?

Roger writes: "We are seeking the Lord about the ministry ahead, and although I am not planning to retire, I am trying to reduce some of my own events, veering more towards *Spirit Works* and *Worship Works* evenings, days and weekends. Alison Fuggle and I are meeting to consider a healing-type album of songs to be used in services in 'open to the Spirit' times. Please pray that they are led and inspired as to content and themes.

"We are also looking to set up a structure of Choirs and Choir-trainers through the UK (and further afield?) who would continue and develop the use and ministry of CMM musicals. Please pray that we are led to the right people."

And Lindsay writes: "All our events are listed on Facebook and in our online Blog. If you use social media please do share information and links to our Blog, Facebook and Twitter pages.

"We are trying to gather more personal stories of change and development for the Blog. Alison Rushton features on it at the moment, and we hope to add more stories so if you have a story you'd be willing to tell, please contact Lindsay by emailing events@cmm.org.uk"

With love in Christ,

Annie

If, when you are praying for us, the Lord gives you any words, pictures, Scripture verses, lines of hymns, etc for us, please do pass these on: office@cmm.org.uk Thank you!