

An initiative to bring peace & stability to the Balkans through Love, Forgiveness, Understanding and Acceptance.

Forgetting the wrongs of the past & looking to a Peaceful Future.



Building Broken Bridges

Andrew & Grethe Stanley

May Newsletter 2007

Hi to all our wonderful supporters



For the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being caught. Prov.3:26

This month we have endeavored to bring you a newsletter that is a little more user friendly by adding some photographs. It is something that we have wanted to do for a long time, but have never had the time to sit down and work out how to do it. We hope that you enjoy this new format. For those of you who still like to track our day to day happenings, you can do so by Scrolling down to the date you want to read about.

May has been a very full month for us. Mike and Vivian Jeffs breezed in for a quick visit.

Enjoying good food & fellowship with Mike and Viv at a local Fish Restaurant



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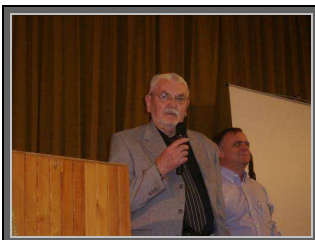
Seminar in Zagreb – Pastor Alan Vincent.

Scroll down to 2nd & 3rd May



Conference in Hungary

Scroll down to 4th to 6th May- Andrew sharing about Reconciliation



Praise Points Thank you Lord

- Provision for us to go to France for the Horizon Conference & good contacts made
- Mike & Viv Jeff's visit
- Successful meetings with Sheena Ryan
- Safe Travel
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Prayer Points

- Pray for political situation between Serbia and Kosovo to be resolved to the satisfaction of both sides.
- For a date to be decided on a meeting between Bosnian Pastors
- Wisdom to make the right decisions
- Protection for us and our families
- Continued good health
- Continued favor where God leads us to share about reconciliation

Horizon Conference held in Paris France.

Scroll down to May 15th to 20th



Grethe with three other delegates.

Good contacts were made at the Horizon Conference. Unity is very much on everyone's heart

The Conference was attended by representatives from every continent in the world.



This is Pastor Robert Baxter interviewing Andrew about what we are doing in the Balkans.

Pastor Sheena Ryan from COC Sunshine Coast Australia

Scroll down to May 21st to 23rd



Sheena speaking – Snjezana is interpreting for her.

“Sheena did not know anything about the people, her prophetic words were very accurate.”

We organized two meetings for her – one in Rijeka (our church) and one in Karlovac.



Pastor's Oliver, Marija and their children with Sheena & Susie (she pastor's a church in England with her husband) who traveled with her.

It was a jam packed time whilst Sheena was here; we showed her the sights in the day time and then off to the meeting in the evening

Relaxing in a café in Opatija,



Serbia visit's Croatia

Scroll down to May 25th – 26th

This meeting is a direct result of the Vukovar reconciliation gathering in August 2006. (You may remember that Jasmin took a team to Novi Sad, Serbia in November last year). It was a precious time and for some it was the first time in Croatia. We had a BBQ together.



Saturday night Pastor Aca from Serbia spoke to a group of about 200 Croatian on the importance of what started in Vukovar in Aug 2006.

Then we went to one of the house churches and had communion together. This was a very moving time; as these young men had fought against each other in the last war.



Andrew had the privilege of dedicating a baby boy who was named Andrija (Andrew)

The group from Serbia visiting Croatia



Andrew & Grethe's May 07 Newsletter **Building Broken Bridges Initiative**

Tuesday May 1

We celebrated Andrew's 74th Birthday, by going out to dinner. It was nice to reflect how the Lord has led Andrew. We thank God for the health and the strength that he has granted us.

Wednesday May 2 & Thursday May 3

We went to Zagreb to a two day seminar with Alan Vincent & Franz Lippi. We stayed with a young couple who have three children, (she came to the Daughter of the King Conference). It was good to be able to encourage her. Thursday morning there was a meeting for pastors and leaders where Alan shared. During the time of prayer at the end, one young pastor (he belongs to a group who doesn't believe that women should be in ministry) had a revelation from God regarding women. Basically the Lord showed him that there is no difference between male and female (that may seem pretty basic, but believe me in this part of the world it is huge). He began to sob and repented of the way this movement has suppressed women for the past 10 years.

Friday May 4 to Sunday May 6

We left Zagreb to go to Hungary; to a conference where Alan Vincent was the speaker (he is 77 years old, he did 7 sessions, he is amazing, his teaching is so grounded in God's Word with a very practical application). The Conference was organized by Pastor Pal & Kati (they are part of the BLAST Team - Balkan loving apostolic service team). We did not really know why we should go, except that Franz Lippi had invited us and when we prayed about it, we felt we should be there. Andrew did get an opportunity to share briefly about why we are in Europe. God gave Andrew a vision of the third wave of Christian expansion in Europe (Islam wants to take over Europe) if anyone of you are interested in getting a copy of it, just email us and we will send it to you. The place we went to is called Szekesfehervar.

Tuesday May 8

Mid week Bible Study – Andrew taking us through the book of James

Thursday May 10

Andrew went to Fuzine to meet up with Tihomir from ROM (Renewing of the Mind). He went there to strengthen relationships and also to discuss putting in a proposal for funding for future conferences. Grethe stayed home to do administration for Sheena Ryan's meetings, posters emails etc.

Saturday May 12

We met Pastor Oliver Buljat in Opatija for coffee. He has been in Rijeka for the past 3 nights doing follow up meetings from the ship Logos II

Sunday May 13 – Wednesday May 15

We went to church in the morning. Mike and Vivian Jeffs arrived late afternoon to spend three nights with us. We had two wonderful days of fun & great fellowship with them. We were able to show them a little of Croatia and they encouraged us as they always do. Thank God for wonderful friends. They left us about 10 am Wednesday morning.

Wednesday May 15 – Sunday May 20

After Mike and Viv left, we packed and drove to Zagreb to fly to Paris for a Conference organized by Horizon Ministries. (Before you think "wow" Paris. All we saw was the air-port, our bed and the Conference centre). It was a full Conference. We would leave the house we were staying in at 8 am and return at 11 pm at night. It was however very worthwhile; we made some great contacts, just to give you an idea, there was a couple there from Holland and when she met us, she said "at last I have met you, I have heard about you everywhere I have been for the past year and people have been telling me that I need to meet with you". It would appear that God is extending our borders. There were delegates from every Continent in the World. We hear the same theme coming through everywhere we go and it is "unity, intimacy with God, cleaning up our thought life, allowing God into the secret places of the heart. We are on the edge of a new move of God and we have to be prepared. We made very good contacts and we were also given an opportunity to share what we are doing.

Friday May 25 & Saturday May 26th

We traveled to Zagreb to meet with Pastor Aca, his wife Jasna and his team from Novi Sad, Serbia and met with the pastors & families from the Zagreb house churches led by Jasmin. Pastor Oliver from Karlovac and his wife Marija and their children were also there. This meeting is a direct result of the Vukovar reconciliation gathering in August 2006. (You may remember that Jasmin took a team to Novi Sad, Serbia in November last year). It was a precious time and for some it was the first time in Croatia since the last war. First we had a BBQ together then we went to one of the house churches and had communion together (very moving as these young men had fought against each other in the last war).

During the evening Andrew had a talk with Aca regarding taking a group of Serbian pastors into Kosovo. Aca felt that at this stage it would be dangerous to go into Kosovo until the United Nations make a decision concerning the status of Kosovo; and that it would require a full six months after that decision before it would be safe enough for Serbs to travel to Kosovo. Please continue to pray that this event will come and bear fruit; it is an important part of the reconciliation process.

Saturday was spent getting to know one another. Saturday night there was a meeting attended by over 200 mostly young people (early 30's to mid 40's). Pastor Aca (from Serbia) gave a powerful word from Coll:1. Aca mentioned the gathering in Vukovar how the process of reconciliation had begun, but there was still much work to do. He encouraged everyone present to carry & live out the reconciliation message.

This event may not seem like much to a peaceful nation like Australia; however for Serbia and Croatia this was a HUGE step. There are plans to continue to hold similar meetings and hopefully other churches will also get involved. It is very much a one step at a time task that we have.

One of the young pastors and his wife had just had a baby boy, they called him Andrija (Andrew) they asked Andrew to dedicate him to the Lord and pray over his life. This was a great honor for Andrew.

Tuesday May 29

Mid week Bible Study – Andrew is still taking us through James

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