WALDENSIAN MISSIONS AID SOCIETY, SCOTLAND

NEWSLETTER, JULY 2005

It is with pleasure that I can give intimation of the expected publication of the Book to be published by Mr. R. D. Kernohan, on the links between Scotland and the Reformed Churches in Italy. This has been in course of preparation for some time, and Mr. Kernohan participated in the visits in recent years, by groups from the Society, to Torre Pellice and Florence, to further the research for the publication. Details of the book will be sent to all supporters at time of publication.

Following the previous visits arranged by the Society, it is proposed to make a further visit to **Florence and Casa Cares**. The dates are from **Monday 3 April, to Monday 10 April, 2006**, based on 4 nights at the Foresteria at Gould Institute in Florence, and 3 nights at Casa Cares, which is some 20 miles East of Florence, in the Tuscan Countryside. The basis would be half-board at Casa Cares and Bed and Breakfast at the Foresteria. On present information, the total cost of the trip, with accommodation as noted above, all travel and connections, is in the region of £450. I have made tentative bookings, and I now invite expressions of definite interest, with a Deposit of £200 per person. I hope to be able to arrange for a visit on the Sunday, 9 April, to join with the Florence Waldensian Church Congregation where Pastor Gianna Sciclone is based, for their morning service. I do hope that all who are interested will let me know by **31 August 2005**.

The Annual meeting of the Committee will take place at the S.S.C. Library in Edinburgh on Wednesday **December 2002**.

I was pleased to accord hospitality, in the early summer, to Dr. Gianni Long, a leading member of the Waldensian/Methodist Church, who was in Scotland on the occasion of a meeting of the European Alliance of Reformed Churches. Dr. Long is a lawyer, as well as having interests in theology and musicology, and was formerly an official of the Italian Legislature.

I am very pleased to be able to report that I have had intimation that support from the Hope Trust, which supports causes which have a specific protestant religious objective, and which have no political allegiance, has been re-established this year.

Requests for further information, including copies of the Waldensian Review, will be welcomed most warmly. Likewise, donations for the ongoing work will be most welcome, and Gift Aid Declarations can be provided to donors who pay U.K. tax. The Society is usually able to provide a Speaker and a video or coloured slides, for presentations to any interested organisations, who may wish to know more of the work of the Waldensian and Methodist Church and Community in Italy.

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