

## Prayer Items

*Praise God for the twenty years of ministry that CIS is celebrating this year.*

*Thank God for the assemblies, lessons and lunchtime clubs that have been taken and the opportunities for involvement via Pastoral and Chaplaincy work in our local schools.*

*Thank God for all those who have been involved with CIS over the years and particularly for Chris Jenkins as he moves on to take on a new Pastorate in Wales.*

*Please pray for:*

### **Assemblies and Other Activities**

**St. Mary's C of E Academy** 1st October; **Etonbury Academy** 4th, 14th to 18th and 25th October, 13th December; **Gothic Mede Academy** 11th October and 29th December; **Norton St. Nicholas** 14th October, 18th November and 9th December; **St. Francis College Prep.** 18th October, 18th November and 9th December; **Grange Academy** 23rd October, 20th November and 18th December; **Pix Brook Academy** 9th to 13th December; **SPACE at Norton St. Nicholas** 9th October; **Christmas Journey at St. Paul's** 2nd to 6th December

### **Speaking Engagements**

**King's Baptist Church, Stotfold** 10th November; **New Life Church** 8th December

### **Other Events**

**CIS Annual Celebration** 22nd October; **CIS Quiz** 29th November

**You can donate to CIS online at [www.stewardship.org.uk](http://www.stewardship.org.uk)**



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As many of you will know I had the privilege of taking a three month Sabbatical between June and August (Thank you to the Trustees for giving me that opportunity). During the time away Jane and I had the opportunity to visit Shetland, something we had always wanted to do and, as I've discovered since returning home, so do many people. Maybe that has something to do with the adaptation of the Anne

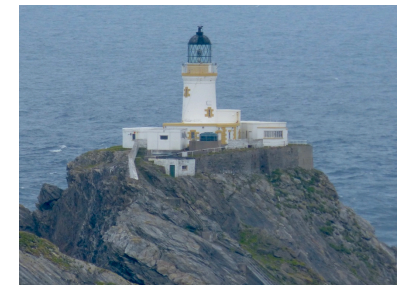
Cleeves Detective Jimmy Perez books in the BBC TV series 'Shetland.'

We had a wonderful time on the islands, experienced four seasons in one day on one occasion but that didn't dampen our enthusiasm for travelling around and across the islands. The scenery and wildlife were amazing and the islanders themselves were incredibly welcoming.

On the northern most island of Unst we visited the RSPB reserve at Hermaness. The bird life was spectacular with Gannets, Puffins, Great Skuas (Bonxies) in close proximity. At the northern most point is the lighthouse on the small island of Muckle Flugga. Although automated, the lighthouse still shines out to warn shipping of the danger coming close to shore could bring.

In the Sermon on the Mount, as recorded in Matthew chapters 5 to 7, Jesus calls His followers to be light in the world, that our light is not to be hidden but visible for all to see, and that our lights point to the one who is the Light and Saviour of the World. Over twenty years of ministry that is what CIS has aimed to do. Thousands of children and young people have heard the message of Jesus in assemblies, lessons and lunchtime clubs through those of us who have had the privilege to serve as schools workers during that time. And that continues to be our aim as we serve Him in the schools that He has called us to minister to. To God be the glory, great things He has done. Amen.

**Christopher Baker - Schools Worker**





*After sixteen years of involvement with CIS Chris Jenkins is stepping down as Chair of Trustee as he and his wife Becca will be moving away to take on a Pastoral ministry at Ebenezer Church, Talbot Green in Wales. Here Chris shares some thoughts from his time with CIS.*

It has been an enormous privilege to serve as a trustee for CIS for the last sixteen years and to have been chairman for twelve. Very sadly my time of serving with CIS is coming to an end as I am moving to a pastorate in South Wales. During this time we have seen the faithfulness of God. It has been a pleasure to work with all the other trustees and of course with Christopher. Christopher is a wonderful example of a life poured out in the service of the gospel.

A number of things occur to me as I prepare to hand on the baton.

Firstly, the Gospel remains the power of God for the salvation of people. As Romans 1:17 says: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.” Christopher is not allowed to proselytise in assemblies. He can educate children in what Christians believe and he can give them an opportunity to respond in prayer or reflection. Nonetheless the Gospel shapes all Christopher’s presentations. Without the Gospel we have nothing to say.

Secondly, God answers prayer. Ephesians 6:18 says “pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.” It has been a delight to meet with others to pray for the work of CIS. We have seen God provide for all the needs of the trust.

Thirdly, there is great joy in Christian service together with others. Paul speaks of “partnership in the gospel” in Philippians 1:5. It has

been wonderful to meet monthly with Christopher to review the work and to pray. We have become close friends. It has also been fantastic to work with the other trustees who have also become special friends.

Fourthly, it is very healthy when Christians come together to support a project like CIS from across a variety of churches. Inevitably we spend most of our time with Christians from our own church and so when CIS events draw a wider selection of Christians that is very enriching. In Heaven we will all be together and it is wise to prepare for that day now.

Fifthly, God is gracious and forgiving. We are none of us without sin and sometimes our fallen nature shows itself when we are under pressure. But God’s mercies are new every morning. He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins when we repent because Jesus has dealt with our sin (1 John 1:9). God blesses us in the work despite our frailties.

Sixthly, God likes to stretch our faith before He meets our needs. God doesn’t always answer prayer immediately. Very often He allows us to pray and to express our trust in Him for quite a while before He acts. This causes our faith to strengthen and develop.

Seventhly, we need to remember that Jesus has won the victory. Serving God is to engage spiritual warfare. Ephesians 6:12 says that “our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms”. The way we wage war spiritually is by being committed to prayer and faithful to the Gospel. It is never wise to compromise on Biblical truth.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel over all these years. May God continue to be glorified in and through CIS

***Chris Jenkins - Chair***