



Whitefield Christian Trust  
Working to provide housing for long serving Christian workers

Registered under the Charities Act 1960 No 1004636



## News of the Whitefield Christian Trust – February 2008

I write on behalf of the **Trustees of the Whitefield Christian Trust** to thank you for your involvement with us. It is over a year since I last wrote and we have seen God at work in a number of ways providing for us as we have sought to help long term mission workers to find suitable and affordable housing in the UK. Your support has been invaluable for us as you have prayed and given. Above all we give thanks to our God our Heavenly Father for all that has been achieved in His name and strength.

Since the last newsletter we have accepted with regret the resignation of the founder of the Whitefield Christian Trust, Dr Pam Dodson. Pam had the vision for the trust as she was so aware of the problems faced by returning missionaries who had served God for many years, particularly in finding affordable housing. The Trust was registered in 1992 and has been a blessing to a number of people since then. Those who have received help and now enjoy their own homes include singles and couples. We want to express our gratitude to Pam as she resigns on health grounds for her vision and hard work.

We have welcomed a new Trustee, **Roger Snowdon**, a solicitor with the firm MacLachlans in Gillingham Dorset. He is giving us advice especially in legal matters. We thank **Alastair Watson** who remains a Trustee but has retired from his work as a solicitor. We are delighted that we can continue to benefit from his counsel. Alastair has been involved with WCT from its inception as has Peter Hellowell who is our financial advisor bringing much expertise to that role. **Dawn Weston** brings another set of skills to the Trust as well as her experience as a missionary in Pakistan. Now based with her family in the UK she has a ministry amongst the children of missionary families as they adjust to a new culture.

We have continued to benefit financially from **donations** from our supporters. This work could not continue without such generous gifts. Some are able to make a regular commitment through Standing Orders with their banks. Where donors are also tax

payers we can benefit from Gift Aid. We are grateful to those who have requested this information and filled out a form so that we can claim the tax refund. We have received some gifts from trusts and recently we received a major donation from The Douglas and Elizabeth Hawtin Charitable Settlement and we would specially like to thank the Trustees for their support. Whether a gift is large or small we are so grateful and so are those who receive help from WCT. We hope more will make use of the chance to give on-line through the protected site in our website (see link below) All the money given in this way is passed on to the Trust.

Now here is some news about those who have been able to benefit from WCT gifts. Since the last newsletter we have helped **Colin and Christine**, who have served for many years in Bangladesh, to purchase a house to which they will soon be returning in the UK. They will take up cross cultural ministries and it is a tremendous help to them to have a home as they cope with all the changes in their lives. As with all our grants the help is in the form of a shared equity so that money will return to our Trust when the properties are sold.



We have also enabled **Netty**, pictured above, to own her home in Scotland and she has written of what this means to her. She writes:

*'In the days when we missionaries left the homeland without much promise of financial support we went knowing that God had called us and that He had promised to supply all our needs (not wants!). During the years I have seen His marvellous provision not*



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continued...

*only for me personally but for the ministry in which I was involved. Among His wonderful provision was a little two bedroomed bungalow in a perfect location in the Highlands of Scotland which He provided by many miracles and involved a mortgage. However when I officially retired on 30th June 2007 after 40 years service as a nurse tutor in Kenya, the reality was that apart from my state pension and periodic gifts from friends, I could be financially in a difficult situation. As I was praying about how to solve the problem of my mortgage, a friend told me about WCT and gave me the contact address. When I wrote to Margaret, she was not sure if WCT could help me but encouraged me to apply anyway. Imagine the great delight and relief when she notified me that the WCT trustees had graciously agreed to pay off the rest of the mortgage and only required a % equity in the ownership of my house. Needless to say I am greatly overwhelmed and appreciative of this amazing and wonderful provision by WCT and thank those who contributed most sincerely. It is also good to know that when I go to be with the Lord some other missionaries will benefit from what I borrowed. God bless you all for your great generosity.'*

We are so pleased that it has also been possible to help **Angela**, pictured right, (who has worked over 22 years in Turkey) to buy a property near to her supporting church in Enfield. She hopes to continue her service in that country for several more years but her home will be there for her on retirement. In the meantime this property is rented and a proportion of that rental is income for WCT.



The most recent mission partner to find a home with the help of WCT is **Ann**, pictured right, who has worked as a teacher in Nepal for many years. She is now enjoying her home in Essex. She writes:



*"I want to say an official "Thank you" to WCT for making it possible for me to buy this home. I cannot express adequately the joy it is to be here. It's everything I have ever wanted, and every day I find new things to delight in, either in the house or in this lovely area. I wake every morning full of praise to God for such an amazing provision. I tell people we have rave parties here: Everyone who comes raves about the place! So far I have had over sixty visitors, and the house is a testament to God's goodness and generosity to me. Thank you so much for being such an important part of that."*

Now we look forward to helping others who are applying to us for assistance. There is no shortage of applicants and we hope to be able to use the money donated to us wisely to benefit those most in need. ■

**Margaret Gould Chairman WCT**