

## Prayer bulletin Number 5:

Robert writes:

The days up to our bike pilgrimage are slipping by. It won't be long before we're on the road. I have a confession.....my family were rather doubtful that I could actually make the whole ride, so, totally to my surprise, they bought me an "e-bike", so, at least I will be able to keep up.

Over twenty of you have signed up to ride and many others are deciding on the stages they will cover, but everyone, apart from those doing the whole journey, needs to sign up on the **RELEASE EVENTBRITE WEB-SITE**, and we are asking all riders to contribute a "one off" joining up fee of £25, which will go towards the costs of our daily refreshments

Paul and Karien Downes have been able to visit "host" churches in Kent. I have two more visits to make to Orpington and Dorking. Once completed, that will mean that all forty-five churches have been contacted face to face.

**Note:** Our next ZOOM meeting for information, updates and prayer will be on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9 am for one hour. Details will be sent out in the week on Tuesday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.

The murders of Christians in Northern Nigeria now number 17 a day. OPEN DOORS has now declared Afghanistan to be even worse for Christians than North Korea. It is for these courageous but terrified Christians that we are riding and praying.

**Note:** Sponsorship details will be sent out to everyone by mid-February, when RELEASE and CSW have devised the best ways in which this can be done

Do feel that you can phone me at any time on 01672 562907 or 07775124366. Its going to be great to meet up with so many of you, in Christ, Robert



Paul Robinson is CEO of Release International. He started his career as a bandsman in the Parachute Regiment. Paul has done several parachute jumps for RELEASE, but is now swapping his parachute for a bike and riding with us for a week.



Mark Eddison, who heads up MEPB Architects in London is riding with us from June 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> -from Truro to Dorchester. As a volunteer, Mark has spent much time with YOUTH WITH A MISSION (YWAM) designing buildings for NGOs in Africa.



**Many thanks to our back-up car drivers**

We are now almost covered for back-up car drivers. Most come from the Pewsey Vale and we are very grateful. They will carry a first aid kit, our luggage, and buy for us midway refreshments.

### Persistent prayer; persistent lobbying

**CSW's manifesto is: WE BELIEVE NO ONE SHOULD SUFFER DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT OR PERSECUTION BECAUSE OF THEIR RELIGION, BELIEF OR NON-BELIEF.**

Sometimes, there is good news to celebrate. Showing that prayer and lobbying really bring results. Shafcat Emmanuel and Shagufta Kauser, accused under Pakistan's awful blasphemy laws, had their death sentences overturned on June 3<sup>rd</sup> of last year.



China has millions of Christians, but this worries the government. Both registered and unregistered religious groups will feel the effects of new laws to be imposed on March 1<sup>st</sup>, banning any religious material "on line"

Paul certainly knew what it was to suffer for his faith, but could write this: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed but not in despair, persecuted but not abandoned, struck down but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed within us. (2 Corinthians chapter 4, vs 9-10)