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roadHOG
the House of God on the road



Hello and welcome to the April edition of the roadHoG Newsletter.

Springing forward

Hello everyone, I trust that you had a good Easter and have now recovered from the chocolate overdose? That's the usual greeting I have been getting from most people this year – no mention of amazing sacrifice of God's Son, His resurrection from the dead and the gift of new life that is offered freely to all through Him. Thankfully, due to the craft, the quiz and the various signs aboard the roadHoG, the Teams have been equipped to share the TRUE meaning of Easter with the young people who have been aboard over the past few weeks. I find it sad that many of the young people that we meet have such a poor understanding of the truth of Jesus Christ. I wasn't brought up in a particularly religious family, but from an early age I knew the basics of the Christian calendar and had some idea of who Jesus was, etc, but now the name of Jesus Christ is known by so many only as a swear word.

I'd like to express my thanks here to all the Team Members who have worked so diligently over the Easter weeks to share the bible knowledge and their personal faith with our young visitors.



A problem at a Stop, stops the Bus

In an attempt to prevent itinerant travelers from getting into the Tunnard Street Car Park, Boston Borough Council have erected a height restricting barrier across the entrance. Whilst their logic is sound, it has meant that we are not able to get the Bus into the Car Park on alternate Monday evenings as we have for the past 10-12 years.

We are hoping to be allowed to take the Bus into the Central Park on the evenings that would have been ear-marked for Tunnard Street, but if we are grant permission to do that, it will only be for the Summer Months. So that leaves us currently unable to get into Tunnard car park and, for the moment, into Central Park. Ideas for a safe (and legal) place to park within the vicinity of Tunnard Street would be most welcome – as would your prayers for an equitable solution!

Bob and Dot Walker

When Tony Coe began seeking God's leading as to how to take forward the idea of setting up a mobile youth project in the Boston area, he was able to turn to a number of Godly folk for prayer and inspiration. One such couple were Dot and Bob Walker and with the passing into glory of Bob back in February, Tony felt the need to express his gratitude for all their help and support, here are his thoughts:

We would like to honour Bob and Dot Walker, supporters of roadHoG, especially after Bob died in February 2024.

From the early days, just before roadHoG got on the road, Bob and Dot Walker were supporters and encouragers to the roadHoG Bus Youth Project. Moving into Boston and starting to worship at Holy Trinity Church they soon connected with Tony.

In 2008, when the first bus tickets were sold to raise funds, Bob and Dot were the first ever to buy them and buy them regularly! Bob and Dot really encouraged Tony, especially with the foundation work needed to be done before the first bus was built. They could see the vision and the benefits to young people and those words of encouragement were like balm, especially when it often seemed such an impossible task. Never doubt how your words can make a difference!

When Dot passed into Glory in August 2020, Bob's love for roadHoG and the local church sharing the love of God, through Jesus, didn't waver. He continued to support the work and would read every word in the monthly newsletters and would ask lots of questions when Tony popped in to see him. In his last few visits to see Bob, Tony would take his laptop and show Bob the pictures of the new roadHoG Bus being built. It seems fitting that the new bus has arrived in Boston in the week of Bob's funeral to symbolise the ongoing nature of sharing the Gospel.



We are thankful to our Lord for help on the way from faithful supporters like Bob and Dot. We really miss them and all that they have done to help roadHoG on its way. Scripture reminds us (Hebrews 12:1) that we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses. Bob and Dot are certainly two of those witnesses who have helped us on the House of God on the road.



Thank you all for your support – as you can see from Tony's moving words – we value each and every one of you. Every blessing,

Kev!



New Bus Updates

I really couldn't get through this Newsletter without mentioning the New roadHoG Bus. Well it's here in Boston. It arrived behind a tow-truck on the 28 th March.

We elected to have the Bus towed here, as we had no idea as to the true state of the brakes, engine, etc and the last thing that we wanted was to cause an accident where people might get hurt. All we have to do now is figure out how to pay for the tow, the insurance, the necessary preparation work for the MOT e.t.c however, we are confident that God will supply our needs, as He has always done in the past!

We still have the Wi Fi and computer systems top link up, work out where to store everything, design operating procedures, train our Team Members on how to use it, etc, but being able to actually get our hands on it and undertake some work ourselves is a wonderful feeling and we can now begin to think how best to commission the Bus in a way that both glorifies God and allows us to get the message of His love and grace to as many people as possible.

The date we have fixed for the Commissioning of the new Bus and the decommissioning of the old Bus is Saturday 11 th May at Boston Rigby Club's premises at the Princess Royal Sports Arena (Great Fen Road, Boston PE21 7PB), commencing at 2pm and we'd love to see as many of our supporters there as possible, so please, please do try and make time to join us for this time of thanksgiving to God for His wonderful provision.

Prior to that we will have two weeks of training for the Bus Teams, as the operation of the new Bus is quite different from the old one. That means that the very last Stop for our current Bus will be on Thursday 25 th April at Butterwick. The very first Stop for the new Bus will be on Sunday 12 th May at Sibsey. I will produce a Diary for the Stops of the new Bus through May and June in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, please don't forget the Commissioning Service at Boston Rugby Club on the 11 th? Hopefully I'll see you all there from 2pm?