

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Arthur Wood is the newest member of our Committee, having joined at the beginning of the year. He has been married to Mavis since 1965 and they have two children with families of their own.

In 1983 Arthur totally surrendered his life to the Lord and was not only saved but delivered from an addiction to gambling. He was called to Bible College and in 1989 he became Pastor of Nantwich Pentecostal Church, being ordained as an Elim minister in 1991. Mavis and Arthur have been involved in several churches as pastor and wife in their ministry within Elim, their last church being in Drifffield, East Yorkshire. They retired from full time service within Elim in 2007, moving to Chesterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire. They now have fellowship at the New Life Church in Congleton, Cheshire.

Following retirement, Arthur felt ready for a "new season" in his life. Peter Smith, our Secretary, had a stand at the Elim Conference and gave him Randy Alcorn's small book, *Why Pro-Life?* Arthur recalls his reaction: *God took hold of me as I looked at the not-unfamiliar picture of the 20-week old baby on the back cover. I wept and wept for a long time. I knew I wanted to speak up for the unborn child for the rest of my life.*

Mavis shares with Arthur the passion to speak out for the unborn. We are delighted to welcome him to the Committee.



Arthur and Mavis Wood (right) at January's Committee meeting

THIS YEAR

On page 3, George and Jan Bell reported on our stand at the Christian Education Europe Conference. We hope to continue having a stand at various conferences and events. If you know of any denominational or other conferences and you think we could have a stand there, please let us know. This year we plan to be at the Christian Resources Exhibition (CRE) at Esher again from 10-13 May. It is a large event, so additional volunteers on the stand would be greatly appreciated: please let us know if you could help. What sees the annual Elim conference, so if you are going, do look out for us there too.

AND FINALLY ...

We hope that you have found plenty in this issue to inform and encourage you. Please do bring these things to the Lord in prayer ... in particular the ways in which you yourself can be involved in pro-life work for Him.



Defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Spring 2011

Dear Christian Friends,
It is a cold wet day today, and it is very tempting just to curl up in front of the fire, and forget about everything outside. While this may be all right for a day or so, we can't afford to be 'asleep' for very long. While we're sleeping, our adversary the devil is using his agents to try to destroy our godly work. We are called to be vigilant and watchful, innocent as doves, but wise as serpents. There is much work for us to do this year. God will give the victory, already won at Calvary, in His own time. 1 Thess. 5:6, 1 Peter 5:8.

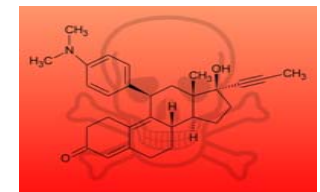
Jan Bell Chairman

'BEDROOM ABORTIONS' REJECTED

We give thanks to God that an attempt to relax the restrictions in the Abortion Act has been defeated. BPAS (the British Pregnancy Advisory Service) had applied to the High Court for a declaration that it was lawful to give a woman drugs to take away and administer to herself in the second stage of an RU486 abortion (an abortion induced by drugs). SPUC intervened in the

case, and was the only pro-life group represented in court. The judgement was given on February 14th. Chemical abortions are in some ways more risky than surgical abortions. However, if this case had succeeded, abortion could have been presented more readily as a safe and easy procedure. The result would have been to increase the pressure on women to have an abortion. It would also have boosted the campaign to promote chemical abortion procedures in the developing world.

We are concerned that the Secretary of State for Health, Andrew Lansley, may now be persuaded to use his legal powers to bring about the same change. Please ask your MP to seek an assurance from Mr Lansley that he will not sanction any new 'class of place' where abortions can be provided.



Chemical abortion – not safe and easy

Compiled and edited by SPUC Evangelicals.
Published by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children
3 Whitacre Mews, Stannary Street, London SE11 4AB
Tel: 020 7091 7091 Email: evangelicals@spuc.org.uk

PETER'S PROGRESS

Peter Smith reports on events at the UN

This year has been very busy so far. I have been twice to the USA. On the first trip I was in Washington to see my good friend and colleague, Jeanne Head of National Right to Life, get a Life Prize of \$100,000. Jeanne has been a pro-life volunteer for forty years without getting a penny in salary. I then spent a week at the UN, in the NGO committee, helping good non-governmental organisations to be accredited.



At the Washington award ceremony with my friends from National Right to Life (left to right: Olivia Ganz, Jeanne Head, Wayne Cockfield, Peter Smith and Holly Gatling)

My second trip was to the annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The document this year was not as radical as previous years, as the Holy See had a great team of negotiators and the African Group, Caricom (the Caribbean community) and the Muslim delegates all stood up well to the anti-life policies of the EU and USA.

Future travel diary

Apr 3-7 Various meetings, London
Apr 10-20 Lobby at Commission on Population & Development, UN, New York
May 9-13 Stall at Christian Resources Exhibition, Esher
May 16-21 Attend NGO committee, UN, New York
May 24-27 Trip to Iran
Jun 7-12 Various meetings, London and Oxford

PASTOR FRANK BROOKES

Frank went to be with the Lord on 12 March. He had been diagnosed with a brain tumour late last summer. Frank was a tremendous asset during his short time on the Committee, and we shall miss him greatly. Please pray for his wife, Vandrene, and their young daughters, Olivia and Grace. There is a fuller appreciation of Frank on our website.



Frank at a recent National Conference (with Katherine Hampton, Conference Organiser)

SEX IN SCHOOLS – AGAIN

A year ago the last government was forced to drop damaging sex education provisions from its legislation. Nevertheless, we knew that the onslaught on our nation's children would continue, priming them for early sex and abortion. There remains a powerful lobby that is promoting an explicit approach to teaching this subject in schools; that is pressing to introduce it at a very young age; and that wishes to make it a compulsory part of every school curriculum. This is of great concern at a time when the present government is planning a review of the national curriculum.

We are enclosing the latest SPUC Campaign Bulletin with full details. The story of Lisa Bullivant and her 7-year old daughter, on page 1, gives an illustration of the damage that can be done to children and their families. Please do write to your MP about this, and find out what is happening at your child's school if you are a parent.

In 1 Corinthians 12:23, Paul refers to the modest way in which 'unpresentable' parts of the body are treated. It is a sad reflection that the natural modesty he assumed to exist even in notorious Corinth no longer prevails in our schools.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EUROPE Conference held in Swindon, 19th and 20th November

It was the first time we had been at this conference, and we were made very welcome. The event is designed to support evangelical Christian schools and home educators. There

were between 150 and 200 people present, including many young people and young families. Our stand was right at the front of the main hall and could not be missed. George was able to speak on the work of SPUC Evangelicals and to encourage people to become more active in the pro-life cause. Afterwards there were many questions and some discussion on how best to push forward. Our message was welcomed and once again we were able to see that serious Christians have pro-life hearts. We must continue to work hard and pray hard that we may awaken this latent good will. After this conference we remain convinced that many people just need educating in the issues and then leading in the practical matters of reaching out to society and changing the law. We have to thank our Patrons, Arthur and Vivienne Roderick for this great opportunity.

George and Jan Bell



Our conference stall