

The Quest



Covenant Players (UK) Trust

Volume VI, Issue I

Charles M. Tanner, Founder and Playwright
Bobbi M. Johnson-Tanner, International Director

Thy Word... a Lamp unto my Feet

Winter/Spring 2011

Dear Friends, God.

In recent weeks much media coverage has been given to the Bible in light of it being the **400th Anniversary** of the **Authorized Version**.

(My Welsh friends may argue that this was a relatively recent version, the Morgan Bible, in Welsh, having been completed in 1588.)

It has been encouraging to see such a positive, wide-ranging and timely celebration of the word of

As we turn on the news and listen to a litany of financial uncertainties and global catastrophes how much do we need the bedrock foundation of the word of God to speak into our situations and direct our action and response.

Initiatives such as Biblefresh



(www.biblefresh.com) are seeking to encourage and inspire individuals, churches, colleges and agencies across the UK to a greater confidence and appetite for the word of God.

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Recent Performances

- 6 FEBRUARY - CHRIST CHURCH, MAIDSTONE, KENT
- 8 FEBRUARY - HADLEY LAWNS RESIDENTIAL HOME, BARNET, HERTS
- 13 FEBRUARY - BOWTHORPE CHURCH CENTRE, NORWICH, NORFOLK
- 14 FEBRUARY - CHEVERTON LODGE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON
- 20 FEBRUARY - HMP BRIXTON, BRIXTON, LONDON
- 25-27 FEBRUARY - PSALMS ALIVE!, SHEFFIELD, S. YORKS
- 27 FEBRUARY - HMP BRONZEFIELD, ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX
- 6 MARCH - BATTERSEA CHAPEL, BATTERSEA, LONDON
- 13 MARCH - ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH, STOKE NEWINGTON, LONDON
- 13 MARCH - HMP WORMWOOD SCRUBS, SHEPHERDS BUSH, LONDON
- 14 MARCH - WESLEY GUILD, RAUNDS, NORTHANTS

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VIRGIN LONDON MARATHON

17 April 2011

If I can take you back to last spring, you may remember that Covenant Players was granted one of the highly coveted places in the **Virgin London Marathon**.

Our place was granted on a "once in every 5 years" basis, and we wanted to maximise this opportunity to raise sponsorship monies for Covenant Players. [Sir **Richard Branson**, founder of the Virgin

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Covenant Players (UK) Trust
 PO Box 86
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 UNITED KINGDOM

Performances:

- 15 MARCH - KEYSTONE ESCAPE YOUTH CENTRE, KETTERING, NORTHANTS
- 16 MARCH - BRIDGE TO CROSS TRUST, ABERGAVENNY, MONS
- 20 MARCH - HMP HOLLOWAY, HOLLOWAY, LONDON
- 21 MARCH - SOUTHILL DAY CENTRE, WEYMOUTH, DORSET
- 22 MARCH - THE SALVATION ARMY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON
- 24 MARCH - HOLLAND PARK SCHOOL, KENSINGTON, LONDON
- 25 MARCH - SPEC CENTRE, LONDON COLNEY, HERTS
- 27 MARCH - CAMPSFIELD HOUSE IMMIGRATION CENTRE, KIDLINGTON, OXON
- 29 MARCH - LONGTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, LONGTOWN, HEREFORDSHIRE
- 29 MARCH - THE SALVATION ARMY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON
- 31 MARCH - ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL, CHATHAM, KENT
- 2 APRIL - ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, NORWICH, NORFOLK
- 3 APRIL - SALVATION ARMY, DUSSINGDALE, NORWICH, NORFOLK
- 3 APRIL - SALVATION ARMY CITADEL, NORWICH, NORFOLK
- 5 APRIL - THE SALVATION ARMY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON
- 10 APRIL - HMP WORMWOOD SCRUBS, SHEPHERDS BUSH, LONDON
- 12 APRIL - THE SALVATION ARMY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON

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The Quest

Thy Word... (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

CP's founder and playwright, **Charles M. Tanner**, placed great emphasis on God's Word in both his teaching and his writing.

Amongst the vast and rich repertoire of plays he wrote for Covenant Players are plays which quite literally bring the incidents, characters and narratives of the Bible to life. These are plays that explore the nature of the Bible itself; plays that dramatically address the relevance and application of the Bible for His disciples seeking to follow Him in our 21st Century world.

This is an exciting and dynamic time for the church. As the world's answers and certainties seem not so certain, people are looking for answers and absolutes in new and different ways.

Covenant Players is actively committed to working alongside churches and organisations across the UK and Ireland in responding to that need.

If you are interested in how Covenant Players can serve your congregation and support your outreach, please feel free to contact the office for further information.

"The Bible, likewise, is to be used, read, studied, worn, written in and wrestled with—not to decorate an isolated spot on a shelf, in dusty quarantine."
 From TRANSIT GLORIA © Charles M. Tanner

BIO UNITS—

Genesis 2011



BIO Staff: Naomi Metz and National Directors Geoffrey & Debbie Allen



The ALBION Unit: Heather Auld and Unit Leaders Henrik & Brenda Hansen

Performances:

- 12 APRIL - FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL, PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE
- 16 APRIL - BURNT OAK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, EDGEWARE, LONDON
- 17 APRIL - LONDON MARATHON
- 17 APRIL - ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH, STOKE NEWINGTON, LONDON
- 19 APRIL - THE SALVATION ARMY, WESTMINSTER, LONDON
- 21 APRIL - HARROW BAPTIST CHURCH, HARROW, GREATER LONDON
- 22 APRIL - ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DEDHAM, ESSEX
- 22 APRIL - GOOD NEWS CHURCH, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE
- 23-24 APRIL - ABBEYFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH, COLCHESTER, ESSEX
- 24 APRIL - GOOD NEWS CHURCH, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE
- 1 MAY - ST. SWITHUN'S CHURCH, HITHER GREEN, LONDON
- 1 MAY - SUREWAY INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, HERNE HILL, LONDON
- 10 MAY - HMP EXETER, EXETER, DEVON
- 14 MAY - SING FOR JESUS MINISTRIES, MOSTON, GREATER MANCHESTER
- 15 MAY - HMP LEYHILL, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, GLOUCS
- 15 MAY - HARROW INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, HARROW, GREATER LONDON
- 17 MAY - WINDMILL MANOR, OXTED, SURREY
- 22 MAY - ROMFORD ELIM PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, ROMFORD, ESSEX
- 5 JUNE - HMP THE MOUNT, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS
- 5 JUNE - CAMPSFIELD HOUSE IMMIGRATION CENTRE, KIDLINGTON, OXON
- 7 JUNE - BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH, BEAUFORT, GWENT

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VIRGIN LONDON MARATHON (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Group, records this as “the single biggest fundraising day on the planet.”]

Lining up for Covenant Players alongside the



Robin Goettl (centre) at the finish of the San Francisco Marathon.

world’s elite athletes, para-athletes and members of the general public - *running for thousands of good causes* - was supposed to be CPer **Robin Goettl**.

A certain “volcanic incident” meant that Robin was unable to fly and so a team of 5 Covenant Players walked the 26.2 mile course a week later in Robin’s stead. Robin simultaneously ran 26.2 miles on a running machine in the States. (He completed it in a much better time but couldn’t match the views of London!!)

Last year, through your participation and support for this event, we raised over **£1,200**. *The monies raised are already being used to help fund perform-*

ances; supporting churches, outreach programmes, and disadvantaged groups and organisations across the UK and Ireland.

Because Robin was unable to attend last year, our place has now rolled over to **2011** and – prayerfully – he will be competing on our behalf.

Robin, who has run a number of Marathons on behalf of Covenant Players, is thrilled at the prospect of *finally* adding the London event – one of the five World Marathon Majors – to his achievements.

Included with your Quest Newsletter is one of our sponsorship forms. Would you please help support this event by passing this form around at your church, at work or amongst your social circle? This is a very practical way in which YOU can support the growing work of our ministry across the UK.

If you would like addi-

tional copies of the sponsorship form – or a PDF version which can be emailed or copied – please contact the office. (We are also very happy to supply you with materials that speak in detail about our work if these would be helpful to you.)

Robin is currently “pounding the pavements” in preparation for this event. It would be wonderful if as many of us as possible could “pound the pavements” on behalf of CP by taking this sponsorship form out and about amongst our friends and neighbours. **All gifts – no**



matter how large or small – will be used to fund performances in service to churches, prisons, schools and with disadvantaged organisations across the UK and Ireland.

Thank You!

Performances:

- 7 JUNE - ST. JAMES' METH. CHURCH, EBBW VALE, GWENT
- 11 JUNE - SALVATION ARMY MAIDSTONE CORPS, MAIDSTONE, KENT
- 11 JUNE - CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EBBW VALE, EBBW VALE, GWENT
- 17-19 JUNE - ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, MARKS TEY, ESSEX
- 21 JUNE - BRIDGE TO CROSS TRUST, ABERGAVENNY, MONS

UK Tax Payers: Please ask your sponsors to indicate on your sponsorship form - or with your on-line donations - whether CP may claim Gift Aid on individual gifts to benefit the work of Covenant Players.



ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO CONFIRM THE UPDATED PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

01495-740 481 OR 07904-868 822

CHECK OUT THE QUEST AT

<http://www.covenantplayers.org>

and click on the link for newsletters

Forms and donations can be returned to the office. You may also make donations to Covenant Players on-line at [virginmoneygiving](http://virginmoneygiving.com). Go to the homepage and under SPONSOR A FRIEND, type ROBIN GOETTL or go to: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RobinGoettl>



Bringing the community to life – bringing LIFE to the community!

Covenant Players (UK) Trust

MISSION STATEMENT

Covenant Players exists to communicate the Lord Jesus Christ through the medium of drama.

To that end we commit ourselves to:

- Go where the people are.
- Serve the leadership of the church and the community.
- Live a life worthy of our call.
- Love each other and those we serve.

In Covenant with God and one another, we dedicate ourselves to this task.

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Please advise us of address changes and/or if you would like to receive this newsletter via email!

www.covenantplayers.org



“Never take your word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws. I will always obey your law, for ever and ever. I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts. I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame, for I delight in your commands because I love them.”

Psalm 119: 43-47 (NIV)

Prayer Guide

OUR deep and heart-felt thanks go to all of you who support us and participate with us in so many ways - and most importantly - with your prayers.

WE give thanks for God’s Word, and pray for further opportunities to work with churches and organisations in inspiring individuals to reach for their Bibles.

WE thank God for His hand of protection upon the **Pacific Gate Unit** of Covenant Players. They left Japan only the day before the earthquake and tsunami hit. We pray for our Christian friends and supporters and for all those caught up in the aftermath of these events.

PLEASE pray for financial wisdom as we seek to be good stewards of the Lord’s

gifts and resources to us. With so many organisations and charities affected by the recent “austerity measures”, we pray that the **VIRGIN LONDON MARATHON** will help fund a variety of ministry opportunities across the UK and Ireland.

PLEASE pray for our **European Office staff**, currently seeking a new home and office facility for Covenant Players—Europe. For the Lord’s timely provision of a building that serves the needs of His ministry, both now and for the future, and for financial and logistical provision and discernment.

THANK YOU for your continued prayers for the leadership of Covenant Players and for our ministry here in the UK and Ireland. We hope to be able to host a

prayer day later in the year and seek wisdom in developing our prayer initiatives.

PLEASE join us in praying specifically about:

- New Missioners to join the ministry.
- Financial Provision—for the ministry and for our missioners.
- Our vehicles.
- Balancing an increasing administrative load against the needs of field ministry.
- Maintaining our field presence and involvement with churches and organisations across the UK and Ireland.

(We would love to receive your thoughts and insights!)

THANK YOU!