

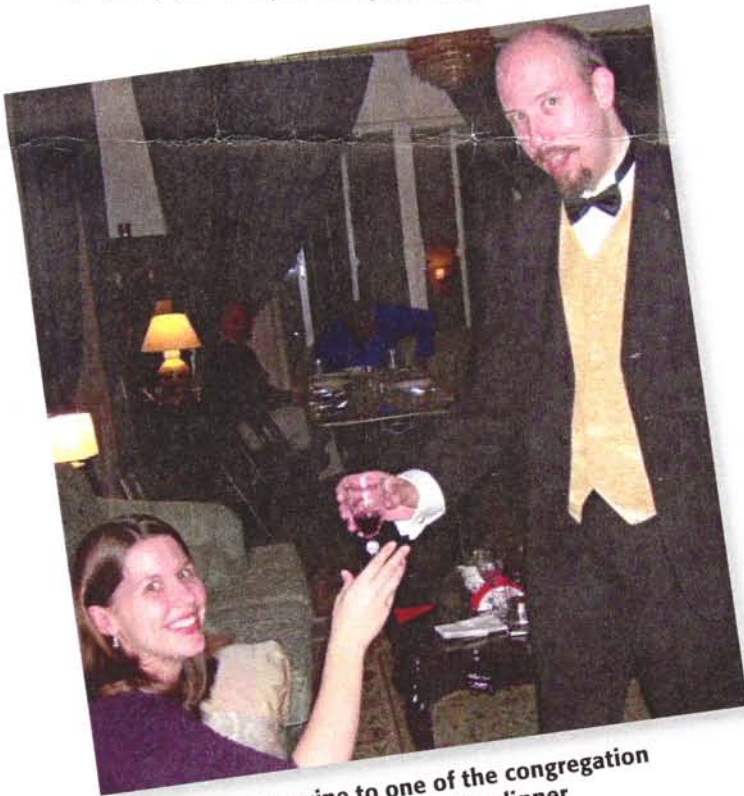
## Link Letter No.22 April 2009

*You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.*

James 4:2-3 (ESV)

**Dear friends,**

*as salaam 9alaykum* (Peace be upon you), *kull 9am intu bi khayr* (every year and you're in goodness).



Serving wine to one of the congregation at the progressive dinner

It was when thinking about Jordan's lack of rain that I started to dwell on the biblical verses above; how apt they are! I realised just how many things these verses apply to within our lives:



**Michael Green**  
CMS mission partner  
**(Jordan)**

work, housing, relationships, everything. If we can only focus on how to use God's gifts to glorify him then we can ask and he will give us. I have seen this in my work, and I hope you have too.

### Feasts and fasts

After celebrating a meal and service at the Salt Deaf School (HLID), I went to Amman for the arrival of Christmas with the English Speaking Anglican Congregation (ESAC) at the midnight service. I returned to Salt the next day and celebrated with my friends at the parish church there. Then I went to the Deaf School for Christmas lunch.

At ESAC we have also celebrated some other feasts, including Australia Day, which was a great occasion of food and fellowship. Just recently we also had a 'progressive dinner', moving from house to house, and we were able to raise 850 Jordanian Dinars for our lent projects (Jofeh centre and UN Health Centres). We will be celebrating Easter on the Eastern date (18 April) at Mount Nebo, with a 6am service.

PO Box 15  
Salt  
19110  
Jordan  
Home tel: +962 6505 2101  
Mobile: +962 777 839099  
alaxdar@yahoo.com



**Salaam - the little girl in Sai9diyya (see text below)**

#### Work

I have now moved from a period of inactivity to being excessively busy, but praise God! I am also please to say that I now have mentors in Dr Angie and Rick Schupp, who have already proved invaluable in their advice.

One time consuming activity has been to prepare a presentation on epilepsy for the team, including a handout. I hope to use this resource again.

■ **Jofeh:** Currently, due to the priorities of the director, I am running health checks for each of the classes run by the centre in the community.

■ **Sai9diyya:** Here I have seen great improvements in the little girl with Lamellar Ichthyosis and again I am planning an eye operation. I am also developing a continence programme with Lena, our Occupational Therapist (OT). I have also started visiting several government schools, where I have done checks regarding breathing difficulties, common especially during the varied spring weather.

■ **Other:** The Qassar boys (Mustapha and Mahmoud) are well (Epidermolysis Bullosa Dystrophica), and I now live close by and have visited them socially. Mustapha has a machine now to help him breathe at night.

I have also met a man in Mafraq with terminal lung cancer; he is without nationality and thus cannot get free healthcare. I am trying to make him as comfortable as possible at home. *See photo, right.*

Lastly, I have also started visiting on behalf of the Church and the 'Hope Clinic' in Amman. I was able to visit a British lady in ICU at the Military Hospital, and support her husband.

#### Arabic

I have returned to Kelsey School where I am studying Reading and Preparing Sunday School classes. This now



**Mahmoud Qassar (see text above)**



**With some of Mafraq's family and friends  
(see text left)**

takes up a lot of time in homework! (Although having a goal has helped me to improve my verbal Arabic too.)

#### **A new house**

Please be aware of the new telephone number; I will continue to collect my post from Salt.

#### **Friends**

I still need a new prayer partner. Although I have not made many new friends in my area I have a good relationship with the local pharmacist and I'm also making new friends at the hospital. It is still hard to meet my Salti friends. I have enjoyed taking regular walks with Dick and we hope to make this a monthly feature, and soon complete Wadi Shu'aib.

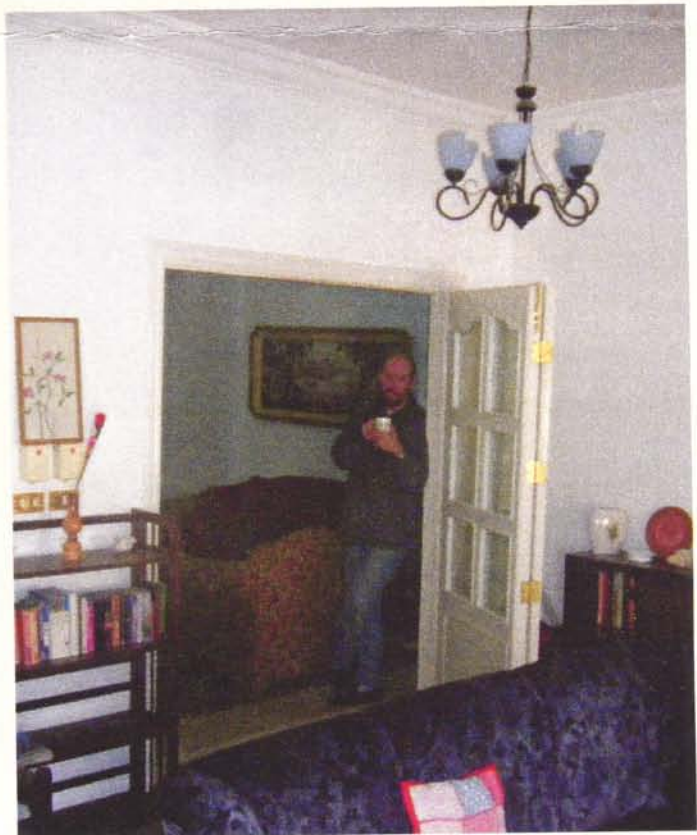
#### **Church life**

Being on the ESAC church council has been a real blessing, especially serving with such a blessed group.

I am continuing to get involved with home groups, but not yet a "Christianity Explored" course. I am hoping that in the next term we can develop youth work. Regarding Arabic church, I have not truly settled, but am frequently going to Marka, a small parish with a regular congregation of 15. There is also a Free church meeting during the week, at the end of my street.

#### **Fact file: Transport**

As most of you know I cannot drive due to epilepsy; I therefore rely on public transport and the generosity of friends. Because of this, it is perhaps ironic to reflect that in Britain, a developed country, it would not be possible for me to do my job (at least outside London), but here in Jordan I can. *How is this possible?* In Jordan we have taxis, buses and service routes. In Amman taxis run on a meter, but you have to negotiate a fair price before you start your journey.



**Enjoying the new house...**

Buses run all over Jordan to the remotest places but they don't have a timetable; they go when they fill up and are very practical. They are also very cheap. I can travel from Amman to Salt (30km) for 40p! The white coloured taxis behave like buses, following set routes and going only when they fill up. The only problem is that you can never tell how long a journey will take and how long you will have to wait at the bus stations. Still this provides the opportunity to take a hot shot of caffeine and to make friends. (See photo below)

#### Want more?

Have you considered visiting me, or volunteering? If you have any questions feel free to contact me. For more information or to become a member of CMS and receive their magazine Yes, contact CMS on [action@cms-uk.org](mailto:action@cms-uk.org)

For a colourful version of my letter join my e-link by contacting: [jamespat@btinternet.com](mailto:jamespat@btinternet.com) or by contacting CMS on: [jonathan.self@cms-uk.org](mailto:jonathan.self@cms-uk.org)

So then let us proclaim this truth: Christ is Risen! (il-masih qaam).

#### Praise points

- Praise God for my new work and opportunities
- Praise God for the rain that he brought
- Thank God for providing good mentors
- Thank God for the relationships here in Jordan
- Thank God that this current life is not all we have

#### Prayer points

- Pray for the King's new Government (Proverbs 25:5)
- Please pray for wisdom in the use of my time
- Ask God to direct me to those in need: in body, mind or spirit

- Please pray for Mr Sabri, my CBR Team, and our work
- Please continue to pray for a new prayer partner for me
- Please pray for continued good health

If you require any more information please contact me, or CMS.

Good Bye (*ma9 as salaama*) and God Bless (*Allah yibaarikum*).

Yours in Christ,

*Michael*



**Abu Shagra serving tea at the bus station  
(see text above)**

[www.cms-uk.org](http://www.cms-uk.org)

