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*Dear Friends,*

**TT – Travelling Together' (52)**

**October 2013**

This is another 'First' for us – **we are writing to you from abroad!** Today (2<sup>nd</sup> Oct.) is the last day of our week-long break near Pula in Croatia, at the southernmost tip of the Istrian peninsula. We have had a refreshing week and we spent the Sunday (29<sup>th</sup> Sept.) at the little **church in Umag (Croatia)** faithfully nurtured and led by our Bosnian workers **Josip and Sofija Cukic**, together with the elderly but still very active Slovenian couple Blaz and Marija. Hans-Georg preached in the morning service. In the afternoon we used the time for a **discussion with our fellow workers**, in which we took stock of their church planting work, analysed their current situation and made plans for the future. We had a great time of fellowship, and got a **clear insight** into their work for the Lord and their family situation. **This was SO helpful, both for us and for them!** After an extended time of prayer and fellowship it was really hard for us to say goodbye to them..! For our last evening we have been invited by our hosts to the local **'Word of Life' fellowship in Pula** to share something of our life and work.

### **Earthquake...**

At about 4.00 a.m. on 20<sup>th</sup> September we – along with the people of north Burgenland – were rudely awoken from our sleep by an earthquake measuring **4.3 on the Richter scale**. It reminded us again how fragile our seemingly 'safe little world' around us is! (<http://noe.orf.at/news/stories/2604698/>). We need an unshakeable foundation which lasts for eternity! Shortly before we sent off this 'TT' there was another 'aftershock'...

### **News of Thirza...**

You will remember our friend whose former illness has returned. Recently she wrote to us: "At the moment I feel OK. Funny really, I've got all these secondary growths and I don't feel a thing! Perhaps they've shrunk through prayer, therapy and a sugar-free diet... Anyway I know I'm **safe in God's hands** – I will stand on that, even if I get worse..!"

### **THANK YOU for your support!**

For example during our ministry in the Tyrol: nearly thirty people came from various local churches to our workshop on "Funerals and Supporting the Bereaved". A good friend and colleague came especially from the Black Forest (S. Germany) and travelled back the same evening. Another workshop is planned for the **23<sup>rd</sup> November in Feldkirch, Vorarlberg** (western end of Austria). It was a lovely time of fellowship and celebration attended by various churches from the local area.

### **The long road to the official recognition of the 'Free Churches in Austria'...**

From the initial deliberations to the signing by the Federal Minister, you can follow the process in an informative and interesting video which has been produced with much effort and dedication:  
[www.beg.or.at/downloads/prasentationen-und-videos.html](http://www.beg.or.at/downloads/prasentationen-und-videos.html).

### **Coming up in October...**

**5<sup>th</sup> October in Graz**, Styria and **12<sup>th</sup> October in Bad Leonfelden**, Upper Austria: Margret has been speaking at **two ladies' breakfast meetings**. On both occasions there was a passionate appeal given to the women attending to put their trust in the Lord Jesus. It would be really lovely if many of them find a living faith!

**9<sup>th</sup> October: "Crossover Charity Gospel Concert"**, in Eisenstadt. This was the big event that we have been working towards and preparing for so much. We were looking forward to the spiritual input, the Christian songs and personal testimonies from this choir from Brunswick (north Germany). It turned out to be an immensely enjoyable evening with lots of people coming and listening to the clear Gospel message! There had been blanket coverage in the distribution of invitations, and the local newspapers had been supporting us and advertising it for free. **Lukas**, a young doctor and also our FORUM worker, has introduced and led through the concert and has done such a good job! This was the first time for him to do something like that! Please pray that the concert would have a lasting effect here in Eisenstadt and that hearts would be changed.

**We are taking the bold step**, with the agreement of our FORUM workers' team, of **holding our Sunday morning service every week** from the start of October (it has been fortnightly up till now). This will be a big challenge for our little flock! But we are trusting that the LORD will give us the strength and the resources! At the moment we are in the middle of a **series of sermons from the Book of Acts**: "The church as a building site", and Hans-Georg was preaching again on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

**18<sup>th</sup> October** the **FORUM leadership team** is meeting to pray and make plans for the coming year.

**25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October**: Hans-Georg is travelling to **Nuremberg** for a busy **weekend of deputation work**.

Your faithful intercession is a tremendous help for us in all our challenges! THANK YOU so much!

**You are our partners! Partnership thrives on contact, otherwise it goes to sleep!**

This is all the more reason for us to be glad to receive invitations to take part in various events, for example the annual **Autumn weekend** in Nuremberg (see above) or the **church weekend away** at Lake Constance shortly afterwards.

It is always a highlight for us to have **visits** from friends, or a surprise **phone call to say**: "We just wanted to know how things are with you at the moment..!"

**We are eternally GRATEFUL for your active support and that you have read this TT right through... ! WOW!**

In partnership with you in the Lord Jesus,