

# Andy Dye's Prayer Letter from Grenada May 2010

[andrewldyeuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andrewldyeuk@yahoo.co.uk)

Methodist Church Office, Lucas Street, St. Georges, Grenada

Towards the end of May, we have seen a proper start to the rainy season. During the dry season, we had drought and for a couple of months, there were a lot of fires in the hills. The rainy season is welcome for the water that it brings, however, it also brings some problems. Heavy rain can cause the land to slide. This is especially a problem on the roads which can be covered in mud and rocks after the rain. In the worst cases, roads can even be damaged or destroyed as the rocks underneath them slip away. The other problem is flooding. This is especially the case in the area where my school, Wesley College is. In the last week of May, we had a situation with extremely heavy rain during the night and into the day. The local drains and river were on the verge of over flowing. In the past, waist high flooding has hit the school with frightening speed and local people from the community urged us to leave the school. So the principle took the decision to send the children home. Thankfully on this occasion, the rain stopped about an hour later, but it was definitely better to be safe than sorry. For both staff and students, the day became like a 'snow day', a day off you don't expect, just a bit wetter and warmer.

During this month, I have twice been given the opportunity to take services in the Methodist Church on the island of Carriacou. Carriacou is the second largest island in the Tri-island state of Grenada. The other island in the nation is called Petite Martinique. For a Sunday service, you take 1-2 hour boat ride from Grenada to Carriacou, which starts in the pretty harbour of St Georges. Around the harbour are lots of small fishing boats which are often painted in eye catching colours. The boat that takes you to Carriacou is an open topped double decker catamaran. As it slips away from the harbour at 8 am and speeds northwards you get a great view of the villages and palm tree lined bays on the coast of Grenada, backed by rugged rainforest covered hills. Imagine the landscape from the film Jurassic park, or the classic 'The Land that Time Forgot'! The boat ride is a bit up and down but then after an hour, you come in to the gap between the islands, where there is an undersea volcano called 'Kick 'em Jenny', and this is the point where everyone starts feeling queasy. The ride gets very bumpy, with ups, downs and swirling around all in the hazy heat from the sun. This uncomfortable time lasts about 20 minutes until you come in to the shelter of the island of Carriacou. It is beautiful and seems to make the ride worthwhile. Lots of tiny islands surround the main island, which has a beach with the name Paradise Beach (which says it all!). There are also many reefs to explore by snorkelling. With your stomach still turning a little, it is a welcome relief to slide in to the jetty. From there,



you jump in to a taxi for the short 10 minute ride to Bogles Methodist Church, and as you arrive to take the service, the chapel bell is rung to invite everyone. After the service, there is an hour or two for a quick walk to a near by beach, although the last time I went, I took the opportunity for a nap in the bed they have made up in one of the rooms for visiting preachers! The boat home leaves at about 3.30pm and sitting in the afternoon sun, the boat ride seems much gentler on the way back. As the boat docks back in St. Georges, it is the end of a long but enjoyable day.

This month has also seen the Grenada Methodist Circuit Convention. It's an all day get together of all the churches in the circuit for worship, prayers, fellowship, encouragement, teaching and outreach. I was able to join in with



the band and play guitar for the morning worship. Very importantly, there was a talk given about issues of child abuse which many authorities believe is a too little talked about problem in Grenada. There were also talks on 'A Call to Ministry' and 'What are You afraid of?'. It was great to see so many people responding to Gods promptings and asking for prayer both in the morning worship and the outdoor celebration.

It is also mango season here and there are many delicious types to try. Before I came here, I had rarely eaten them, apart from in mango chutney, but I recommend that you try one (or many). Get ready to have a wash afterwards because despite the best advice on mango eating technique from my colleges at school, I manage to get covered!

Prayer points:

- Give thanks that the students are enjoying their new science lab at Wesley College, please pray for the teachers as they seek to get the best use out of this facility.
- Pray for safety for those who travel on the roads during the rainy season and a solution to the flooding in the area of Wesley College.
- Give thanks for all those who responded to the messages given during the convention. Pray that individuals may be able to grow as Jesus followers.
- Pray for the youth work at Bethel Church; we have a newly started band and youth group.

Please feel free to drop me an e-mail at the address above.

God bless,  
Andy