

FELLOWSHIP OF ST THOMAS.

From the President, Matthew S Bicket.

Greetings and good wishes for 2019. We had another enjoyable Annual Gathering in Dunblane last September, and a lovely lunch in the India Gate Restaurant. The later start worked well and Rev Aftab Gohar and Rev Aquila Singh led the Eucharist according to the liturgy of the Church of Pakistan in a very moving and meaningful way. In the afternoon, following a brief update of my 6 weeks in Bangladesh, we had a good discussion about the future of the Fellowship. There was an acceptance (albeit with a deal of sadness) that we were looking at the winding up of FOST in its current form in the not too distant future.

However, at our Committee meeting in October, we began planning for the Annual Celebration 2019. We hope to use a Sri Lankan liturgy but this will be confirmed later. However, we are delighted that Sandy Sneddon, Asia Secretary of World Mission Council, has accepted our invitation to speak at our afternoon session. With all that has been happening in Pakistan and Korea (to name just two), it will be good to get up to date news of what is happening in the area for which he has responsibility.

In the Church of Bangladesh, Rev Hemen Halder has been elected as the new Bishop of Kushtia and will be consecrated in Rajshahi on 27th January 2019. I have applied for a visa and hope to be able to be present for this service. I worked with Hemen for a month in Kalishpur in 2003 when I was on study leave and he stayed with us in Carnoustie in 2004 when he came to Ullapool on a Faithshare exchange. Bishop Sunil Mankhin is now Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh and when Bishop Paul retires in February, Sunil will become Bishop of Dhaka, and Hemen will formally become Bishop of Kushtia. Shaurobh Folia continues as Bishop of Barisal.

Attached is a subscription form for 2019.

The Fellowship is a good way of keeping in touch with the Sub-Continent, and it is hoped that what is done will continue to inspire all those for whom the area holds many memories.

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THE FELLOWSHIP OF ST THOMAS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2019

Membership renewal fees are now payable:- Single - £6; Couples - £9; Student - £1

Please pay by cheque made payable to "The Fellowship of St Thomas" and send to:-

Revd Val Nellist, 28 Glamis Gardens, Dalgety Bay KY11 9TD

Name

Address

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Post Code

Telephone

email address

Amount £.....