

News from Keston College

The last few months at Keston College have been extraordinarily busy, even by our standards. As many readers will know, I had to go at 12 hours notice to New York to be with Georgi Vins during his first week in the West, in fulfilment of the promise I had made to his wife two years ago. It was a deeply rewarding experience finally to meet the man whose biography I had written. Jane Ellis later spent two weeks with Pastor Vins, working for him at his request.

All this came a month after my visit to Siberia in March. There I was able to meet a wide variety of Christians for three days in Irkutsk, before moving on to the very different country of Mongolia, where there are no Christians at all.

Among many other events involving Keston College staff, the Pope's visit to Poland stood out, and again it was gratifying that so many representatives of the media were in touch with us for comments which received wide publicity. Sadly, Alexander Tomsky's projected trip to report on the Pope's visit for the *Catholic Herald* was prevented because the Polish Embassy refused to give him a visa.

We have made more efforts than ever before to enable the general public to know about our work, which, more often than not, goes unnoticed behind the scenes. Our Patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury, graciously attended the première of our new film, *The Right to Believe*. This is now being booked for extensive showings in the autumn, and thanks are due to Tony Tew and Ronald Allison for giving their services as producer and commentator respectively. We hope to feature the film at our Annual General Meeting on 13 October, when as usual there will be an array of good speakers and Cornish pasties. During the course of the day we shall dedicate the new block, reconstructed in memory of my late wife, and now completed. It is in every way a suitable tribute to the work she did at Keston.

June, 1979

MICHAEL BOURDEAUX