



# THE WALDENSIAN REVIEW

---

## From the Editor

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you for your letters, phone messages, emails and ... cheques! There is now a substantial number of people who are happy to read our news online. The site [www.waldensian.org.uk](http://www.waldensian.org.uk) is working well. We invite you to consult it from time to time, to connect to the other links and to use the Waldensian 'foresterie' and guesthouses for your holidays in Italy. You can also buy books and calendars and we hope to be able to offer more variety soon. You can also VERY SAFELY and EASILY DONATE!

I would still like to hear from all those people who are receiving the paper magazine and have not made any contact of any kind, though!

Please send me an email message, write or leave a clear message on the answering machine telling me if you would like to be left on the mailing list and ideally sending me a small contribution. I have received some lovely letters and messages from long-lost friends, but still there are too many people unaccounted for. They will sooner or later face an ultimatum: **either get in touch or stop receiving the magazine.** I haven't yet given up hoping, though!

We had an enjoyable gathering at Wesley Chapel in October and author and judge Simonetta Agnello Hornby, starting from her own experience of knowing a Waldensian family in Agrigento when she was a little girl, spoke about the importance of meeting and knowing people of different faiths and beliefs. Non-conformity and variety make fertile soil for the growth of other liberties.

We are considering making the AWAYDAYS bi-annual and we have not as yet arranged any definite date or venue. However, we shall keep you informed.

---

No. 125

Christmas 2014

Editor: *Mrs Erica Scropo Newbury, 85 St Andrew's Road, Cambridge CB4 1DH.*  
*Telephone 01223-315753, email [ericascropo@hotmail.com](mailto:ericascropo@hotmail.com)*



I am in touch with **Noemi Falla** who, after her year at Wesley House, is back in Rome studying hard so as to finish all her remaining exams plus her dissertation by the Summer. She is still very grateful to everyone who contributed to make her studying in

Cambridge possible and asks all of us to keep her in our prayers.

In July–August she replaced for a month the minister of the Methodist Church in Milan, which is a bilingual (Italian/English) community of about 250 members, half of whom are non-Italians, mainly from the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Ghana. Noemi was pleased to be able to use her English for preaching and everyday communication, had a very enjoyable and profitable time there, and received love, friendship and gifts from the lively people who attended the services and the various gatherings.

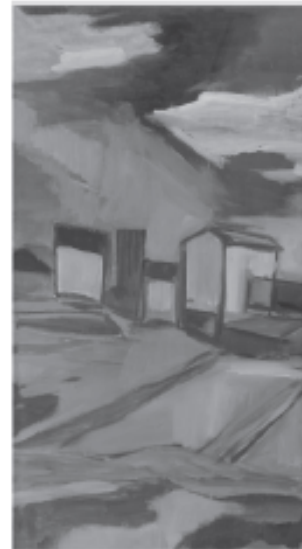
In September she attended a four-week training course at the Ospedale Evangelico of Genoa in Clinical Pastoral Education. Four student-ministers or future ministers spent nine hours every day in the hospital and learnt how to cope and help with people who were ill, suffering and dying and with the stress, the pain and the bereavement of their relatives. The tutor / trainer was pastor Sergio Manna, who is also a prison chaplain and is a great expert in these very important fields. Noemi felt that the direct contact with people who were experiencing grief or pain or were in a spiritual crisis was the best way to put into practice what she and the other students had been studying. These very intense exchanges of emotions also helped her to face her own problems and suffering and to share them.



Meanwhile there is another Italian student of Theology in Cambridge, **Marco Casci**, who is currently at Westminster College. The URC Waldensian Fellowship is collecting funds in order to help him financially and we would like our supporters to make a contribution also. Marco was raised as a Pentecostal. At 15 his heart 'opened to God in Jesus Christ' giving him 'hunger and thirst' for community service, knowledge of the Scriptures and evangelisation; but he did not think of training for the ministry until he was 19. While reading Economics at Palermo University, he met a member of the Waldensian Church and started attending worship and Bible study there. He found the history of the Reformation fascinating, became a member of the Church and contributed with passion to its life. After a few years, with the help of his pastor – our good friend Giuseppe Ficara! – and

## WALDENSIAN CALENDARS 2015

This special edition is proving very popular and the calendars are selling fast! The colourful paintings of the Waldensian Valleys by the painter **Filippo Scroppo** (1910–1993) will add joy to every month all the year round and the background information on the reverse pages is essential to understanding the long relationship between **England** and the **Waldensians**, starting from the Lollards in the fourteenth century up to the WCM today. There are also two pages describing the life of the painter, whose self-portrait on the cover is in Uffizi in Florence: a Waldensian from Sicily who read Theology, exhibited four times at La Biennale in Venice and organised 41 exhibitions of Contemporary Art in Torre Pellice (1949–1990).



£10.50 each: please send a cheque (payable to Waldensian Church Mission) to Milvia Walker: 19, Forest Approach, Woodford Green IG8 9BW Remember to include your own address!



the english committee in aid of the  
waldensian church missions

waldensian.org.uk

### [www.waldensian.org.uk](http://www.waldensian.org.uk)

For the first time, the English Committee in aid of the Waldensian Church Missions now has its own website. On the site you are able to download the latest copy of the Waldensian Review, but also access the archive of the magazine, going all the way back to 2005.

There are also useful links to other Waldensian websites and reading matter, in both English and Italian. These include some of the Waldensian guest houses which you can stay at while visiting Italy.

Perhaps most excitingly for the prospects of the committee, we now have the ability to take online donations to our funds. As well as details about how to set up a standing order, and gift aid your donations, you can easily click through to the donation pages and make an instant credit or debit card payment. These are supported free of



charge for charities by BT, so you can be sure that it is reliable and secure. Furthermore, the site can automatically reclaim gift aid on our behalf. What could be easier?

To round things off, the website has all the important contact details for the key committee members and a link to our online Charity Commission records.

We hope that this first foray into the internet will only be the beginning and the website will offer us many more possibilities in the future, including online sales of publications and plenty more reading matter.

So if you have any suggestions about what could feature on the site, or ways to improve it, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the website editor Alastair Morris with your ideas:  
[website@waldensian.org.uk](mailto:website@waldensian.org.uk)

And finally, please spread the word about the website, sharing the new web address online, linking to it from other sites and raising its profile. We hope that it will become one of the leading English language sites on the Waldensian Church.





the support of the Consistory [Church council] he realised that his call was to become a Waldensian minister of the word of God.

Therefore, 'supported by the love and prayers' of his whole community, he applied to the Waldensian Faculty of Theology and enrolled as a student. He is now spending in Cambridge the 'Year abroad', after a very interesting full immersion in the Calvinist tradition in a busy URC congregation in Nairn in Scotland, where for four months he shadowed the minister. With God's help his studies here will prove fruitful for his service in His name. Please also keep Marco in your prayers.

*The Huguenot Cross, symbol of Protestantism all over Europe*

**Huguenot Cross souvenirs and information can be obtained from:**

The Huguenot Society, University College, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT



**WALDENSIAN CHURCH MISSIONS**  
**Registered Charity No. 277255**

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**

To: Waldensian Church Missions, 5 Woodgate Close, Woodgate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 3TA

I (title) ..... (name) .....

(address) .....

.....

Postcode ..... Tel. no. ....

would like all donations I make to Waldensian Church Missions from the date of this declaration to be treated as Gift Aid donations. I understand I must be paying income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount being reclaimed by the Missions. I understand that I can cancel this Gift Aid declaration at any time.

Signature of donor ..... Date .....