



Solidarity in Action

Emmaus Gloucestershire April 1010

**Maureen had a little lamb
It's fleece was white as snow.....**



Maureen, Liam and Jake went on an evening farm visit where they made friends with some newly born lambs. This is not the start of an EG farm, or even a butchers shop; more a chance for a bit of bucolic R and R after work. We did think of having a caption competition for the photo but general opinion was that this could be step too far....

Chequers Road

Following the merchandising training led for us by Kevin Steel the team at Chequers Road have put a fantastic effort into creating room sets in order to give customers a better idea of how furniture might look once in place in their homes. The effect on sales has been very positive and visitors to the shop have been very pleased with the result. Neil G has spent many a happy hour working out how to place things but the results have been well worth it. Work will now start on further aspects of the re-look of the shop. Look out for the picture wall, bookshop, and a new lighting and small electrical section.



One of the room settings created at Chequers Road by our creative designer, Neil G

Welcome aboard

Steve has joined us as driver and is doing a really great job. No scrapes so far! Linsey has started at Cheltenham and will be working there as well as doing some driving and other things at Chequers Road and Nailsworth. Lindsey and Dave, two new volunteers are helping us with Ebay sales and the woodwork shop.

PR

We have had a lot of coverage in the last month, with mentions on Radio 5 Live, BBC Gloucester, Heart FM, Gloucester Citizen and Echo, Metro Magazine, and even the Belfast Telegraph! Customers are mentioning the publicity to us in the shops, so I guess it's all to the good. For all those wondering..... no, the owner of Imogen's

ashes has still not come forward. We'll keep you posted if there's any change.

Bike Ride Challenge.

Saturday May 15th will see the great Emmaus Gloucestershire bike ride, from Nailsworth, to Chequers Road, then on to Cheltenham, where the team will be greeted by a mystery celebrity guest and the massed ranks of the news media! I would love to reveal the identity of the mystery guest, but that would rather spoil the fun... a mystery shared is no longer a mystery, and besides we have been sworn to secrecy. You can make a guess, however, and win a prize worth at least 10 pence, carefully selected from our bric a brac stores. All entries to info@emmausglos.org.uk



The big question is, of course, why would a bunch of sane and reasonable people want to do something as crazy as riding vast numbers of miles from shop to shop to shop? We talked to one of the riders, Helen, who was busy polishing her saddle and pumping up her tyres for yet another practice run.

"We want to raise as much money as possible for a charity called The Railway Children", she told us, "They help street kids all over the world and try and save them from slavery, prostitution, and starvation. Apart from that, it's going to be a great day out and I shall be able to show that I am the best cyclist Emmaus Gloucestershire has got!"

Actually we made that last bit up to try and stir up the rivalry between the riders. Honest.

If you'd like to find out a bit more about The Railway Children have a look at their

website:

<http://www.railwaychildren.org.uk/>

Do try and support the bike ride. You can help us to help these street kids in a number of ways:

Sponsor a rider or the team, turn up at one of the shops and cheer, just send some money for us to send on. Even just checking out the Railway Children web site and informing yourself can be a help. If you need help just go to our website <http://www.emmausglos.org.uk/> and contact us through that.

Here's a picture of the Cheltenham shop in Henrietta Street, or the Finish Line as it is now known. If you look carefully you just might spot a clue as to the identity of the mystery celebrity.....



See you there on the 15th May!