

CHRISTIAN WORKER



**Church of Christ
Adam Street**

**What is happening in
Leicester (p.3)**

**Ilkeston
Christians
reach out (p.8)**

**One new Christian!
(p.6)**

**'Best Friends' Tour
the UK (p.11)**

**Tribute to Billy
Smyth (p.10)**

From the editors:

Contents

Front cover – Ilkeston Christians at their stall at the Ilkeston Carnival

2 – From the editors

3 – Spotlight: 'Leicester'

6 – Congratulations!

6 – Directory changes

7 – British Bible School notes

8 – Family news

10 – Tribute to Billy Smyth

11 – 'Best Friends' Tour UK

12 – Notices

14 – Diary

16 – The Final Word

The *Christian Worker* is published monthly as a news magazine for Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom.



Editor-in-chief: Trevor Williams
twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk
(0115) 8376895



Production editor: Jon Galloway
www.churchesofchrist.co.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/christianworkeruk>
Deadline: 21st of each month

Summer is here! As I have been putting this month's magazine together, temperatures in Scotland have soared to a sweltering 30 C (85 F). After such a harsh winter it is wonderful to actually be getting summer!

It has already been a busy year and, from the look of the 'Diary' page, this is set to continue. There are study and fellowship activities to be involved in throughout the country, from special days to weekends spent with Christians. Support these events (and for those hosting them, don't forget to send in a report! – see below).

There is much good going on throughout this country. Be sure to thank God for the opportunities we have. And keep reading his word and encouraging each other!

Jon

Please Help the *Christian Worker*

1. Appoint someone in your congregation to be the *CW* correspondent. There is no reason why *every* congregation could not send something in at least once each year. Even if nothing is happening, say hello to your brothers and sisters.
2. Make sure everyone in your assembly receives the *CW* by email or printed copy. Each congregation can print off copies for non-computer users. This helps to keep the cost to a minimum.
3. For those who want a high quality printed copy of the *CW*, contact Trevor (but be prepared to pay £20 per year).
4. Please encourage your young people to know about the *CW* and share their ideas with us.
5. If you have laptop publishing skills or editing know-how, please join our group so we can keep on improving.
6. We receive advertising for events on the basis that you *will* send in a report about that event.
7. Pray for this venture. The *CW* is sent all over the world. We have no idea who reads the magazine. From time to time someone will say "Thank you," but sadly this happens less than ten times in a year.

Spotlight on Leicester

The congregation in Leicester began in November 2014. We can honestly say that God has not ceased working.

The work developed in ways that were not planned. Paul Hill was in secure employment and able to support himself initially. But after the congregation was formed there was rapid growth – so much that he became stretched to capacity. He then began to make plans to leave his employment and seek financial support in order to carry on the work more effectively. When his employers heard of his plans, his job security rapidly changed and within four weeks he lost the job he had been doing for 22 years.

With the support of the elders of the Northampton congregation and Christians in the USA they began to raise financial support and slowly gathered what was needed. It was a big transition and certainly a test of faith and trust in God.

Family

A crucial part of any work for the Lord is having a supporting family. From the beginning the Hill children were supportive of what their parents were trying to

accomplish in helping to begin a congregation in Leicester. For the younger ones this meant early starts on Sunday. Those who are married help to teach the teens in their homes during the week, even though they continue to be part of the Loughborough congregation.

A place to meet

The building the congregation uses on Sunday is a community centre that is also used as a musical arts centre. Although this was not our first choice, all the buildings we preferred were either not available or overpriced. It was the one we did not want that turned out to be the best location and the best price. Once again they learned that God knows best.

This building was perfect inside, located in the city centre, with classrooms, a kitchen, three halls and big reductions in costs from the outset. As we grew in number we've moved into larger rooms and we now meet in the largest

hall. We are currently in search of a building to rent or lease in order to have something we can better use and work in other areas.



Work with youth

For any congregation, working with young people is always a blessing.

Sometimes we hear that youth are the future but youth should be an active part of any congregation today. They are often the most able and willing to bring new people through the doors.

To this end the congregation have involved the youth in their worship, striving to have a modern but biblical approach. Christianity is a blessing and to share the joy of worship with all ages and generations is truly a wonderful form of praising a worthy and mighty God.

Working with the homeless

Our outreach to the homeless is a wonderful opportunity. In the evenings, several from the congregation go out with hot drinks and share these with those living on the streets. We sit and talk with them about God and pray with them.

Sunday School

What we are accomplishing is amazing and our teachers are passionate about the

young children. They do wonderful teaching with crafts, art, and taking our children on a journey through the Bible.



Our Sunday School is growing with children ranging from ages 1 to 12 years old. The children also attend the summer camps and holiday Bible days around the UK. Our Sunday School is held every Sunday morning during the adult class.

Once we have our own building, God willing, we will be able to hold events such as Bible clubs and Holiday Bible Schools.

Furniture bank

This idea came from a visit to the USA and seeing the results of a furniture bank. We

hired a garage from the council and fill it with donated furniture, fridges, cookers, microwaves, tables, chairs, beds, wardrobes, pots and pans, plates, cups, settees...and the list goes on. Currently we have been able to furnish houses and flats with items



people did not have. This is for those in need, people who move to the UK and have nothing or people struggling who need help.

Gospel Meetings

The gospel meetings are always a blessing and a great encouragement to the congregation. We also have held other events including a special day on 'Leadership' with speakers from the Sunset Bible Institute presenting the lessons.

We have had a number of visiting speakers from the USA: Todd Newman, Bruce Smith, Mike Wilson, James Landen Wright, David Stidham, Truitt Adair, Brandy Kendall, Tim Burrows, as well as Felix, a preacher from Nigeria, and Floyd Rawlins who is an elder at a congregation in Bermuda.

The Leicester congregation

We are such a blessed group of Christians with a diverse mix of nationalities: England, Ireland, Nigeria, Ghana, Bermuda and Italy. It truly makes a fellowship dinner a lovely experience!

We have talented and gifted Christians who are able to teach and preach and serve in so many ways.



Sadly for us over the last year some of the Christian families moved back to their original homelands. We pray that they will continue in their walk with God.

On the last Saturday each month the congregation holds a fellowship night in the homes of the Christians. We share food and fellowship and simply have a wonderful night together. These are always well attended and very encouraging.

The Leicester congregation is truly encouraged when we see and hear of all the work going on throughout the UK. We are so thankful that we can be united with you all as we together strive to serve God and make an impact on this country. To all the smaller groups: we thank you for your

perseverance and dedication and encourage you to keep going and trust God.

We are very excited about the work here and look forward to seeing how God will use our lives to reach out to the 400,000 people in this city. We keep you all in prayer as

we ask you to likewise remember the work here in Leicester.



Paul Hill

Congratulations!

Leicester: The Leicester congregation are rejoicing in the baptism of **Bradley Hill**. We give God all the glory as once again we witness the effects of His amazing message.

We ask that you keep him in your prayers as he embarks on his new walk with Jesus.

Paul Hill



Directory Updates

(all changes in **red**, the other information remains the same)

CUMBERNAULD (North Lanarkshire)

Christians: 57 Children: 10

Meeting place: 2 Carron House, Carron Way, Cumbernauld G67 1ER

Phone: (01236) 737942

Send post to: 15 Roseburn Court, Whitelees, Cumbernauld G67 3PS or
Cumbernauld@churchesofchrist.org.uk

Website: www.cumbernauldchurchofchrist.uk

KIRKCALDY (Fife)

Christians: 35 Children: 5

Meeting place: Hayfield Community Centre, Hayfield Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife KY2 5DG

Send post to: 1 Murray Place, (The Stables), Leslie KY6 3DL or joan-
tony1974@virginmedia.com

Website: www.wayoftruth.org.uk

Sunday meetings: Sunday School & Breaking Bread 11.00 am

Midweek: to be arranged after school holidays

DUBLIN

Christians: 55 Children: 20

Meeting place: The Seventh Day Adventist Church building, 47 Ranelagh Road,
Ranelagh, Dublin 6

Send post to: 36 The Heights, Woodpark, Ballinteer, Dublin 16 or tcoffey@indigo.ie

Website: www.bibleanswers.ie

Contacts:

Tony Coffey (w. Leslie). ☎ (00 353 1) 2987038 📱 (00 353 8) 68560724

💻 tcoffey@indigo.ie

British Bible School Notes

Northampton Study Weekends – British Bible School Study Weekends are now an annual event at Northampton. Having enjoyed previous studies from God’s Word our attention turned this time to “the Letters of John.”

Over two weekends Steven Whitehead and John Griffiths were the teachers. The first weekend was held 23rd-24th March and the second on 20th-21st April.

For those not familiar with the letters it was a good introduction, yet for those more familiar there was more to learn. It was good to have Christians travel to be with us from other congregations. However, studying in this way is also quite bonding for a congregation as we learn together just how much God loves us.



Understanding the background to what was written and giving an insight as to why it was written helped us lift the words from the page to give practical applications for today. Why were there three letters? Who were they written to? What did they mean to those who received them? How does it all apply to us? Time does not permit an answer those questions here but if the opportunity arises for you to attend a Study Weekend dealing with these things you will not be disappointed.

Attendance was very good, the food supplied was appreciated and our understanding of the scriptures has been helped greatly. We look forward to more.

Aberdeen Study Weekends – The Study Weekends in Aberdeen this year faced many delays and set-backs. With Mitch Vick having a stroke his teaching needed to be covered; Jon Galloway stepped in to cover this. The harsh winter delayed the start, and then Bill Pirie’s funeral meant another delay. The week we began teaching saw Jack Paton come down with an illness!

Despite the set-backs and delays, we were able to hold the first study weekend on 25th-26th May with Jon teaching “Galatians” in place of both Mitch and Jack. The second weekend is due to be held 29th-30th June

with Jack joining Jon in the teaching.

For the first weekend, the attendance was very good.

Galatians emphasises our freedom in Jesus the Messiah. This brought many good discussions as we

examined the freedom we have as well as the emphasis on the law being taken away.

Looking ahead towards the end of the year we have more Study Weekends coming up in East Kilbride and Wembley. Do look out for details of these on our website.

We also have an excellent opportunity for some serious Bible study on our Residential Study Week in November. This week of classroom-based study is open to all, and would be particularly useful to those already teaching within their local assemblies. The cost is only £150 all inclusive, but maybe congregations might

consider sending one of their teachers and covering their costs – it would be an excellent encouragement and investment.

The module being taught is: “The Conquest and Settlement of Canaan” and covers one of the most exciting episodes of Israel’s history, from the time of Moses to that of Samuel. This module examines the Book of Joshua in the contexts of the history of Israel and of God’s purpose for the whole of mankind, considering also the relevance

of its message in light of contemporary events and culture.

You can count on quality teaching, excellent company, delicious food and beautiful surroundings. For more details or to book your place, please visit our website: <http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/upcoming-events/autumn-study-week-2018>.

Mark Hill, Jon Galloway and Patrick Boyns

Family News

Ilkeston: We have been trying to reach out in a variety of ways to become better known in the community and have been involved in a number of events.

Each Thursday evening from 5th April-17th May we held a special series of Bible studies called “From Passover to Pentecost.” Local Christians and local churches in Ilkeston were invited to a 6.00 meal each evening before the studies. We were encouraged to see visitors from a number of places of worship.

19th May, the day of the Royal Wedding, we joined with Erewash Museum for a fun-filled afternoon which involved a variety of games and gave us the chance to offer Biblical literature.

9th June we had a stall at the Ilkeston Carnival, again offering games, Christian

literature and a chance to speak to people about Jesus.

16th June was our Ladies’ Day and the chapel was filled with good fellowship, sweet singing and good lessons.



24th June we held a BBQ and Ice Cream Social after our morning worship. This was another effort to reach out and we had some visitors and friends from the area attend.

We are doing our best to try to reach out and although we are only small group meeting together we are gathering boldness to proclaim the love of Jesus.

Trevor Williams

Kirkcaldy: We moved into our building on Hayfield Road for our first worship service on Sunday, 7th January 1968. Our final worship in that building was on

Sunday, 24th June. There were mixed emotions for some!

From Sunday, 1st July we will be meeting in the Hayfield Community Centre – just next to our former building. Our meeting time on Sunday will be from 11.00 am until 1.30 pm. We will finalise the other meeting times for Ladies' class, Bible Study class and Youth class – probably after the school holidays.

Alan Moyes

Northampton: The end of May saw many young people from England and Scotland meet in Northampton for a Youth Weekend. We are thankful to those who were willing to drive long distances from as far north as Perth and as far south as Bristol.

On Friday, as people arrived at various times, all were able to catch up on each other's news over games of table tennis, pool, etc. The evening was rounded off with singing and praying together.

On Saturday morning, rather than having speakers give lessons, we had discussion groups. Our theme was 'Prayer' and the first two sessions shared ideas from scripture concerning how to talk to someone you cannot see, how to pray, what should be included in prayer and much more. The third session we put what we discussed into practice by using passages in Ephesians to pray for ourselves and then others.

A prayer tree was in the hall which many took the opportunity to write prayer

requests on. As others looked over the requests they would pray throughout the day. We also had a 'War Room', which was a big green container in the car park. It had a wall of cardboard available for anyone to write prayers on.

"Raiders For Christ," a group of nine young adults from Nashville, Tennessee, were with us as part of their campaign work. Along with leading discussion groups they also planned games and activities for the afternoon. This then led to watching a film called "The War Room" about an older lady who spent her time in a small room in her house praying, her 'war room'. Rather than me tell you about it here, why not watch it?



After a splendid barbecue outside in the sunshine it was time for a concert by a group called "Best Friends" on the last night of their UK tour. You can see songs from their concert by going to our

website www.northamptoncoc.net and clicking the link at the top of the first page for our YouTube channel.

On Sunday morning every seat in our church building was filled and still three or four people had to stand. It was wonderful to hear so many voices joining in song to the Lord. We are grateful to Patrick Boyns, Principal of the British Bible School, for presenting a good lesson to conclude the weekend.

May the prayers that began that weekend never cease so that God will continue to be glorified and his kingdom on earth strengthened.

Mark Hill

Clarkston: On Monday, 18th June, we organised a Christian Leadership Seminar. The Seminar was well-attended with 23 participants from various congregations throughout Scotland.

Patrick Boyns delivered an excellent lecture on the subject of leadership. According to the comments received, everyone was encouraged to consider leadership in their local congregations in light of the biblical insights presented by Patrick.



European Vision Workshop: We have launched our webpage and registration is now open for the Workshop. The Link is: <http://www.sibi.cc/evw>. Here people can

find our current information and register for the event.

The deadline for registration is 15th August. The sponsors will provide lodging and meals for two representatives from any European congregation (the recipients must be willing to share a double room).

We must thank the Christians at Cumbernauld for hosting the Seminar. They not only made us welcome but also provided snacks and lunch.

We look forward to our next Christian Leadership Seminar.

The list of speakers continues to evolve so I will have more information as it develops. There will be ample room for displays if your congregation or organisation would like to share with those attending. Hope to see you in Bratislava!

Jack Paton

Douglas Reeves

Called home

Billy Smyth, Belfast

Billy Smyth, an elder at the Westway congregation in Belfast, passed away in May.

Billy was active at the congregation for many years, helping with the preaching and teaching. He developed strong friendships and was a support and encouragement to many.



holiday camp and they were married in 1960. During the next ten years three children were born: June, Jacqueline and Paul. As his children married he became the grandfather to five grandchildren: Shanae, Aubrey, Rachelle, Dean and Victoria.

He will be missed by those who knew him.

Billy was a husband, father, grandfather and friend. He met his wife Betty in 1959 at a

Jack Shanks

'Best Friends' UK Tour 2018

On 7th May a group of fourteen arrived at Edinburgh Airport, which included nine singers from Lubbock Christian University known as 'Best Friends', their director Gary Moyers, and a few others.

The first stop was to the fishing port of Peterhead, where we received a warm welcome. The Best Friends UK Tour 2018 began with a good group attending their first concert.



The next stop was Livingston. Friday evening, 11th May, saw their building filled and the reception was fantastic. Onwards to Glenrothes for a Saturday evening concert on 12th May – a smaller group attended but the words of the songs were no less welcomed by those who heard them. The Sunday morning worship in Glenrothes was something to be heard! The worship was followed by a time of congregational singing led by Gary.

Monday was a rest day...so we drove to Glencoe. With sights like we saw in Scotland, who can say there is no God or it happened with a Big Bang?



Tuesday saw 'Best Friends' in Cumbernauld where they had a Radio Interview at Revival FM. On Wednesday, 16th May, the group sang at the church building in Cumbernauld.

Thursday they moved on to Falkirk, the former home of one of the singers, Lacy

Chappell. The congregation in Falkirk was in for a treat, and so was the town of Falkirk, as they group sang in the street and then the following evening in the Community Hall.

Saturday saw the group move south into England. They met the Beatles (well, statues of them at least) as the congregation in Liverpool hosted 'Best Friends', with a Gospel meeting on Saturday and worship

together on Sunday morning, They then presented a concert on Sunday evening. They sounded so good in their building!

On Monday, 21st May, they left Liverpool after a City Tour, seeing the sights that Liverpool has to offer. They then arrived in Loughborough, where a good crowd was

present on Wednesday evening to hear their a cappella sound and encouraging words.

Thursday they arrived at their final stop of the tour in Northampton. After sight-seeing in London on Friday, they sang on

Saturday evening at Northampton's youth weekend to a full house.

It was an amazing tour with a group who were so willing to serve. If you didn't get to hear them, you missed a real treat!

Richard Sharpe

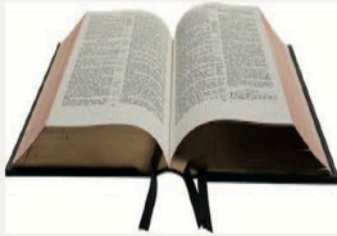
My Role as a Christian Woman

Saturday, 28th July
10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Speakers: Flora Gyebi, Shirley Bannon & Juliana Owusu

Ladies Day

MITCHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST
SOUTH MITCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
COBHAM COURT HASLEMERE AVENUE
LONDON
CR4 3PR



VISITING SPEAKERS

PETE HODGE - UK

DON UNDERWOOD - U.S.A.

WHAT is the CHURCH of CHRIST?



JULY 14th 2018 at 1pm

STANGROUND COMMUNITY CENTRE
WHITTLESEY ROAD
STANGROUND
PETERBOROUGH
PE2 8QS

peterboroughchurchofchrist.org

PosterMyWall.com

Summer Lane, Birmingham

Saturday 4th AUGUST

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 10.00 - 10.30 am | Tea / Coffee. |
| 10:30 - 10.45 am | Hymns |
| 10.45 - 11.30 am | “Faith is the Victory”
(Paul Hill) |
| 11.30 - 11.45 am | Hymns |
| 11.45 - 12.30 pm | “Victory in Jesus”
(Mike Glover) |
| 12.30 - 1.30 pm | Lunch |
| 1.30 - 1.45 pm | Hymns |
| 1.45 - 2.30 pm | “When we all get to heaven
What a great day of
rejoicing that will be”
(Graeme Morrison) |
| 2.30 pm | Tea / Coffee. |

Have a safe journey home. God Bless.

EUROPEANCHRISTIANWORKSHOP.COM

DIGGING DEEPER



16TH - 18TH
AUGUST 2018

**For More Information
Contact us at**

**Registration@EuropeanChristianWorkshop.com
or on 01509 768789**

Payment Plan Available to Help Spread the Cost

**Aberdeen
Youth
Weekend
2018**

**24th-
26th
August**



ANCHORED

Speakers

Nick Wilson
Iain Cameron

Ages 12 and up

To book your place, or for more information contact:
jessica04f@gmail.com

Find us at:
393 George Street, AB25 1EQ

**Great Barr Family
Fellowship Day**

**Saturday, 8th September
Registration: 10.00 am**

**“Bearing One Another’s
Burdens” (Galatians 6:1-10)**

“Fulfilling the law of Christ”
(Gal 6:1-2) – Jon Galloway

“Taking personal responsibility”
(Gal 6:3-5) – Patrick Boyns

**Venue: Collingwood Community Centre,
Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF**

Contact: Sola (sola.adeosun@gmail.com)

**Thamesmead Ladies bring back to you
“An Afternoon of Songs”**



**Please join us as we speak to one another
with Psalms, hymns & songs from the
Spirit, making music from our hearts to
the Lord (Ephesians 5:19)**

DATE: 15th September 2018

TIME: 11.30 am - 4.00 pm

**VENUE: Slade Community Hall, Plumstead,
Erindale Road, London SE18 2PJ**

**RSVP: Esther - 07799 535 557; Ama -
07956 509 540; Tina - 07773 786 411**



**Autumn Family
Weekend Retreat**

**Friday, 14th to Sunday, 16th
September 2018**

at Letton Hall in Norfolk

**I want
to know
JESUS**

... learning to know Jesus, not just about him



www.britishbibleschool.com

July

2nd-5th – Perth: Gospel Meetings and Holiday Bible Club; venue for both: North Inch Community Campus, Gowans Terrace, Perth PH1 5BF; Holiday Bible Club – 2.00-4.00 pm, Gospel Meetings 7.00 pm, speaker: Jeremy Tate. Contact: Scott Tominey (tomiyemi@hotmail.co.uk).

14th – Edmonton (London): Men's workshop – Visionary Leadership, speaker: Gary Smith, 9.00 am-4.30 pm at 1 Foxglove, Edmonton, London, N9 8LW. Contact: Charles Banin (07506 6893960, Frank Okyre (07852 956602), Charles Ofosu (07448 368755), or Paul Nyarko (7572 998555).

14th – Peterborough: Gospel Meeting – “What is the church of Christ?”, 1.00 pm at Stanground Community Centre, Peterborough PE2 8QS. Speakers: Pete Hodge and Don Underwood. Contact: Mac Erysthee (merysthee1@aol.com).

20th-27th – Camp Heatherbell: Auchengillan Outdoor Centre (Allander Chalet); theme: “5G”; Contact: Adam Barr ((07889 631218), Graham McDonald (07748 787744) or email 5G@campheatherbell.org.uk for more details and camp forms.

21st-25th – Commonwealth of Dominica: 8th International Women's Lectureship – “Wise Woman, Hold On, the Best is Yet to Come.” Contact: eighthiwl2018@gmail.com.

28th – Mitcham (London): Ladies' Day – “My Role as a Christian Woman”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm; speakers: Flora Gyebe, Shirley Bannin, and Juliana Owusu. Contact: mitchamcoc@yahoo.com.

29th-3rd August – Camp Tayside: Douglaswood Scout Camp, Dundee. Contact: Contact Aubrey Boyns (07502 220902) or camptayside@gmail.com

August

4th – Summer Lane (Birmingham): Fellowship Day, 10.00 am-3.00 pm; speakers: Paul Hill, Mike Glover and Graeme Morrison. Contact: Trevor Ralph (trevor.ralph@sky.com).

11th – Eastwood (Nottinghamshire): Quarterly Outreach meeting – “Jesus – the Way”; light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm; speaker: Jon Galloway. Contact: Adrian Limb (cofceastwood@aol.com).

16th-18th – Lancaster: European Christian Workshop – “Digging Deeper”. Contact: Stephen Woodcock (registration@EuropeanChristianWorkshop.com or 01509 768789).

24th-26th – Aberdeen: Youth Weekend – “Anchored”, speakers: Nick Wilson and Iain Cameron. Contact: jessica04f@gmail.com.

September

1st-2nd – East Kilbride: Outreach meetings with Niall Scobbie. Saturday: refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm; Sunday: 10.00 and 11.00 am. Contact: Jon Galloway (ek.klesia@icloud.com).

8th – Great Barr: Fellowship Day – “Bearing One Another's Burdens”, speakers: Jon Galloway and Patrick Boyns; registration from 10.00 am at Collingwood Community Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF. Contact: Sola (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

14th-16th – Letton Hall Family Retreat in Norfolk (IP25 7SA). Theme: “I Want to Know Jesus.” Cost: £70 per person (children ages 4-12 are half price). Organised by the British Bible School. To book, visit the BBS website: <http://britishbibleschool.com/upcoming-events/letton-hall-family-retreat-2018>

15th – Thamesmead (London): Ladies' event – “An Afternoon of Songs,” 11.30 am-4.00 pm at Slade Community Hall, Plumstead, Erindale Road, London SE18 2PJ. Contact: Esther (07799 535557), Ama (07956 509540), or Tina (07773 786411).

21st-22nd – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Hebrews” (part 1), teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Jack Paton. Friday: 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday: 9.30 am-5.00 pm.

22nd – Loughborough: Anniversary meeting, speaker: Mark Hill; refreshments: 6.00 pm, lesson 7.00 pm. Contact: Jason Hill (j.hill147@hotmail.co.uk).

29th – Peterhead: Social Day.

29th-30th – Sheffield: Lectureship, speaker: Trevor Williams; Saturday – 11.00 am-4.00 pm, Sunday – 10.30 am-3.00 pm. Contact: 07508033534, 07809 719855 or 07577 938049.

29th-30th – Tottenham, London: Annual Bible Lectureship – “Growing a Healthy and Strong Church”; Saturday – 10.00 am-4.00 pm, Sunday – 12.00-5.00 pm, venue: Duke's Aldridge Academy, Tottenham, London N17 OPG (behind Tottenham Hotspurs Stadium). Contact: Nyarko (07932 979748), Isaac (07525 777146), Ben (07424 075300), Osei (07535 035357) or tottenhamchurchofchrist@yahoo.co.uk.

October

3rd-5th – Bratislava, Slovakia: European Vision Workshop; venue: The Park Inn Danube. Contact: Doug Reeves (dreeves@sibi.cc).

6th – Newtongrange: Annual Social Day, 1.00 pm.

12th-14th – Kincardine: Field of Refuge Women's Renewal: “For Such a Time as This” at Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine FK10 4BE. Cost: £120. Contact: fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com.

13th-14th – Stapleford: Weekend meetings with Ken Mullan. Saturday: 7.00 pm; Sunday: 11.00 am and 6.00 pm. Contact: Bob Eckman (bbbeckman@aol.com or 07714 207279).

21st-22nd – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Hebrews” (part 2), teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Jack Paton. Friday: 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday: 9.30 am-5.00 pm.

26th-28th – Peterborough: Women's retreat – “What is your worth?” at Holiday Inn West Peterborough. Cost (for twin room): £140.00. Contact: Marsha Erysthee (01733 351192 or 07541 333908 or merysthee1@aol.com).

November

5th-9th – British Bible School: Residential Study Week at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Module: “The Conquest and Settlement of Canaan – a study of the book of Joshua”. Contact: study@britishbibleschool.com or visit: <http://britishbibleschool.com/upcoming-events/autumn-study-week-2018-the-conquest-and-settlement-of-canaan-joshua>

10th – Eastwood (Nottinghamshire): Quarterly Outreach meeting: “Jesus – the New Beginning”; light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm. Contact: Adrian Limb (cofceastwood@aol.com).

17th – East Kilbride: An afternoon of praise, 1.00-4.30 pm (doors open at 12.30 pm).

17th – Northampton: Ladies' Day.

January 2019

18th-20th – Bassenthwaite Family Retreat at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Theme: “Good News is Jesus...” Cost: £60 per person (children ages 5-16 sharing a room with parents are half price, 0-4 are free). Organised by the British Bible School.

February

18th-24th – Gemünden, Germany: Advanced Bible Study Series. ABSS I Monday-Friday, ABSS II Friday-Sunday. For further information or to book your place, contact: Paul Brazle (brazle.paul@gmail.com or +32 488 481 082). (Follow group on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/697781630273815/>)

The Final Word: "Windrush 70"



There has been much in the news of people travelling to Britain from the Caribbean, mainly Jamaica, seventy years ago. There has also been many from India, Pakistan and various African countries who have travelled to this green and pleasant land. Some of our congregations are almost totally made up of people who were not born in this country but have made their home and workplace here.

There are undoubted blessings which come from such associations, not only spiritually but culturally, especially at such times as fellowship meals when the tables are laid with foods and styles of cooking from across the world. Britain has always been a multicultural society being on the edge of Europe; people from many places and settled here since we were a physical part of Europe. Since Roman times the Scandinavians and French came one way or another. Indeed it is suggested that the Phoenicians were trading for Cornish tin during the days of Jonah. This nation has always traded with others and many more would have liked to invade and take over the country.

Peoples from many countries have become British but what we need now is for people to become Christians. It seems that Christianity was here before the end of the first century and was certainly established by the end of the second. The early Celtic church even sent representatives to the Council of Arles in 314.

What is important for those settling in Britain is for them to make Britain their home. Longing to go back to another country, notably the place of birth, can easily stunt development of life in a new country. It may be hard to give up on some things but if we are going to be happy we all have to get on with changes in life. Even the early church had to adapt to include the Gentiles with non-Hebrew backgrounds who would have dressed differently, eaten differently and were socially and culturally different. It is not good for churches to try to establish themselves in a language or national group. In fact it destroys the whole purpose of the church reaching out to the community.

Whatever our background or experience is we must remember that as Christians we are not British or Caribbean or African or any other place. We are citizens of Heaven, born again for the purpose of proclaiming Jesus. Where we were physically born or where we die is not important. Jesus is preparing a place in Heaven and that is the country of our inheritance.

Trevor

*Let your peoples be one, O God,
Gathered from every nation on earth
To become one for the sake of Heaven.
We praise you for your grace which calls to all peoples
That every nation and language, culture and background
May enter into the blessings of your home.*