

September 2019 • Vol 51 No 9

Summer Camps



**UK Christian leaders
from the past**

Three new Christians!

**Delighting in God's
Word**

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ON THE COVER:
Campers at Camp Heatherbell enjoying outdoor games.



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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION

The Christian Worker Magazine is published monthly as a news magazine for Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom. The first issue was published in January 1969.

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Graham A. Fisher (1987-2014)

All articles and news items should be sent to **Trevor Williams** by the 21st of each month. Late items may be accepted until the 25th. Publication is the first day of each month.



MY PERSPECTIVE



A new look and an old photograph

This edition of *The Christian Worker Magazine* marks five years that Trevor and I have been working together in this endeavour. It has been a very successful partnership as Trevor handles the articles and news items that are sent in and I try to present them in a way that is appealing – and we both encourage Christians and congregations to send in news and information.

With this edition we also unveil a new look for the magazine. With it being made available as a printed magazine, we felt that an overhaul could be useful to improve the overall look.

You will notice several changes. We have a new masthead, designed by Kevin Nicolson from the Mandeville Road congregation in Aylesbury. We are very thankful for his efforts and also suppling it in several colours so it can be used on varying backgrounds.

The congregation advertisements will be used throughout the magazine rather than all being at the back (although in this issue they all ended up in the back). This should make for a better use of space and layout. Please send any adverts in a ‘portrait’ rather than a ‘landscape’ format (otherwise we may need to truncate it). We sometimes receive adverts for local events (gospel meetings) – if there is space we can include these but priority goes to those of a more national interest.

This month’s “From the Archives” article is about a photograph that I found looking through bound copies of *The Bible Advocate*. It was my pleasure this past year to acquire part of Andrew

Gardiner’s library, and in particular his collection of bound volumes of magazines published in the UK in the 1800s. I have enjoyed skimming through them as I shelved them – and that is how I happened across this photograph, published in the first issue of *The Bible Advocate* of 1907 (at that time it was a weekly publication).

I have reproduced the photograph and part of the article that accompanied it. The article gives a brief summary of these ten men who we would regard as leaders from the congregations in the United Kingdom in the late 1850s.

The Bible Advocate did not publish the name of the editor. As you can discover by reading the article, the original editor was David King. From the best I can tell, when he died in 1894 the next editor was Lancelot Oliver.

It is my hope over the next few years to be able to read through many of these magazines and develop a series of lessons on the history of the British congregations, particularly in 1800s and into the middle of the 1900s.

Many mistakenly assume that the British congregations were begun by Americans from what many call “the Stone-Campbell Movement”. A careful study shows that the congregations in the United Kingdom resulted from a different background and had a different beginning – and even predates Stone and Campbell! The history of the Lord’s people in this country is worth exploring.

Jon

Summer Camps



Camp Heatherbell

Camp Heatherbell 2019 got off to a great start in its 52nd year. There were children from Cumbernauld, Perth, Falkirk, Dennyloanhead, Castlemilk, and Nashville, Tennessee. Using the Brexit story as a backdrop, our theme for classes was He-Brexit with lessons on the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. The Bible Bowl was based on questions from Paul's missionary journeys.

The teachers did a splendid job working with our biggest camp yet since we moved back to Auchengillan and the continuing growth is encouraging for us. Scott Tominey from Perth brought 9 children from the youth group there. There is a good work in Perth and Scott has worked hard to build a large youth group. The children from across the country got on well together and made lots of new friends that we believe will be part of their lives for a long time.

As usual, children were assigned to house teams for the activities throughout the week with the Directors' Cup and Parrish/Steele Bible Bowl Trophy the prizes at the end of the week. Hughes House finally won their first Director's Cup beating off reigning champions, Strachan, by only 6 points. Leah Manson was delighted to lift the trophy as captain of Hughes after a long wait and several near misses. Strachan stormed to the

Bible Bowl with an impressive performance. Young Reece McCloskey (he has just started P6) showed off impressive memory skills to steer Strachan to victory.

All the kids had a wonderful time. The weather was excellent (always a bonus in Scotland!) and the day trip to Largs was a great day out. Our kitchen staff did an outstanding job keeping us filled to the gunnels. The last night saw the traditional talent show to finish off the week.

Camp Heatherbell 2020 is already booked. Want to join us? We'll be at Auchengillan Outdoor Centre 3rd-10th July 2020. See you there!

Graham McDonald





Camp Charnwood

This year was the first year of Camp Charnwood. As some of you may be aware, we lost the use of the Maplewell site and a dedicated team of searchers scoured the land to find a new site. We ended up finding one just down the road, a lovely woodland Scout site with multiple buildings. Its different, its exciting and it worked well to provide us with a venue to work towards what have always been the two aims of camp: 1. Glorify God. 2. Make sure the children have fun. Thanks go to Jason and Debbie Hill for their work in securing the site, and their governance of the administration that comes with running a camp. Thanks also need to go to Simon Hardy, for his multiple roles in the running of camp, ranging from being the initial driving impetus to get the camp running again after its interregnum, encouraging so many campers to come along, serving as our resident peeling machine, dishwasher and even on one occasion as our ambulance.

The theme for this year was, 'Problem? Solved'. We took the 48 campers through a history of the Old Testament, looking at some of the problems people encountered, and how through faith and reliance on God they overcame them. On Monday we looked at Abraham and Joseph, and the importance of faith. Tuesday was Deborah and Barak and Gideon, and the importance of putting faith and trust into action. Wednesday was Hezekiah and Josiah, and we looked at the importance of following what God commands, not just what we want. Thursday was Micah and selected Psalms, looking at how half-hearted faith expressed for the sake of others is

meaningless, and that heartfelt, earnest service is what is required of us, as in Micah 6:8. Thanks must go to the teachers and their assistants for making the lessons such a success.

We enjoyed a full suite of activities in our woodland realm. Some energetic old favourites, like a particularly intense game of Ultimate Frisbee, to the more intellectual pursuit that was our rendition of live action Cluedo. Fun was had by all and numerous

friendship were made and renewed amongst the youth present. This year all the staff had multiple roles, but their enthusiasm to put the campers first never lagged, and they all joined with enthusiastic abandon to ensure that everything ran smoothly. That they'd given up their time to serve was and is a credit to them, and we thank them for it: Bethany, Declan, George, Kimberly, Matthew, Nadia, Oliver, Rachael and Victoria.

I cannot end this report without praising our chefs, Mandy, Petra and Tania. They selflessly worked under some trying conditions, including the kitchen area being split into two quite separate blocks, and even then with not quite as much space or equipment as they were accustomed to. But the food they managed to turn out from quite humble conditions was sumptuous and delicious, a testament to both their skill and dedication. We even got into the real campfire spirit, exploring new experiences by cooking outside with wood-fired grills for some of our lunches (with Declan as our Barbecue chief). Camp would not have been a success without them, and I am truly grateful for their endeavours.

Thanks go out to those of you who entrusted your children into our care for the week. We pray they are rested and looking forward to coming back next year, hopefully joined by some others who are now reading this. We look forward to seeing you next year at Camp Charnwood 2020.

Guy Sandison



CONGRATULATIONS!



Wedding Bells

We were unable to publish this photo of Moses and Heather last month, so we are including it this month.

Congratulations to **Moses Masih** from the Bristol congregation and **Heather Winstanley** from the Newport congregation, who were married in South Wales on 20th July.

Trevor Williams

Baptism in Newport

Willy Martinez was immersed into Jesus on Sunday, 25th August. Please pray for him as he begins his new life as a Christian.

Trevor Williams



David Winstanley with Willy Martinez



New Christians in Edmonton

Greetings to you from Edmonton, London. Brethren, share the joy with us as **Martin Agyei Akomeah** was baptised after our worship service recently.

Another soul was added to the Lord this past Sunday, 25th August (name not included—ED).

Ofori Dwumah

More Wedding Bells

Julian and Irina Hunt were married in the Bedminster chapel on 9th August. Congratulations to them both.

Trevor Williams





BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

Delighting in God's Word

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

There is something particularly resolute about these opening words to the book of Psalms. Faced with a choice: the way of the wicked, or the way of the righteous – we have chosen the way of the righteous. And this is the way we must pursue.

Like many who might read this, I have come to find in the Psalms a place of solace, opportunities for reflection, and close encounters with our eternal Father. I am learning that walking with him is often perilous, never dull, but always secure in the knowledge of his steadfast love.

Many years ago I came to know something of the blessedness of delighting in his word, and of meditating on it day and night. From early days as a follower of Jesus I immersed myself in the study of the Scriptures – knowing far less now than I thought I once knew, of course – but I came to understand something of the truth of not living by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

I suppose this is why we do what we do. With a genuine desire to share the word of God, promote a healthy understanding of the Scriptures and help equip fellow followers in the Way, we



Mark Hill and Patrick Boyns with two BBS graduates, Joel Madiki and Vijay Madiki, at the European Christian Workshop.

have continued to shape the work of the British Bible School to be a useful resource for congregations and believers in the UK.

Recently we collaborated with the European Christian Workshop in Lancaster by offering a part of one of our Modules on their programme. It was a splendid opportunity not only to teach the word but also to publicise our work and the resources we offer.

Later this year we will be conducting six Study Weekends in three locations around the country. We will be returning to Wembley in North London with our Module on Paul's letter to the Galatians. We will be taking the prophet Ezekiel to East Kilbride in Scotland. And then we will be conducting our first classes in Morley, near Leeds, on Paul's letter to the believers in Ephesus. You will find dates elsewhere, and details on our website.

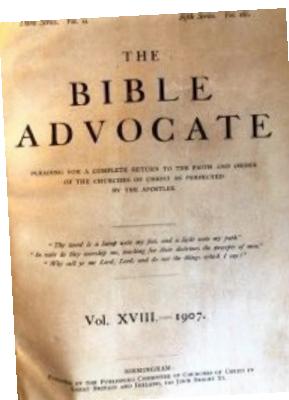
We are again rather excited about our Autumn Study Week which is to be held at Bassenfell Manor, in the Lake District, where this year we shall be presenting our module on: The Deliverance of Israel in which we will be studying the books of Judges and Ruth. This is an excellent opportunity to study one of our Old Testament modules forming part of our Applied Biblical Studies course. You can find full details on our website, along with a syllabus you can download.

Let me urge you to take seriously the reading and study of God's word. May he renew within each of us a growing delight in the Scriptures. And let us make good use of every opportunity we have to grow in his grace and in his knowledge.

Patrick Boyns
britishbibleschool.com



FROM THE ARCHIVES



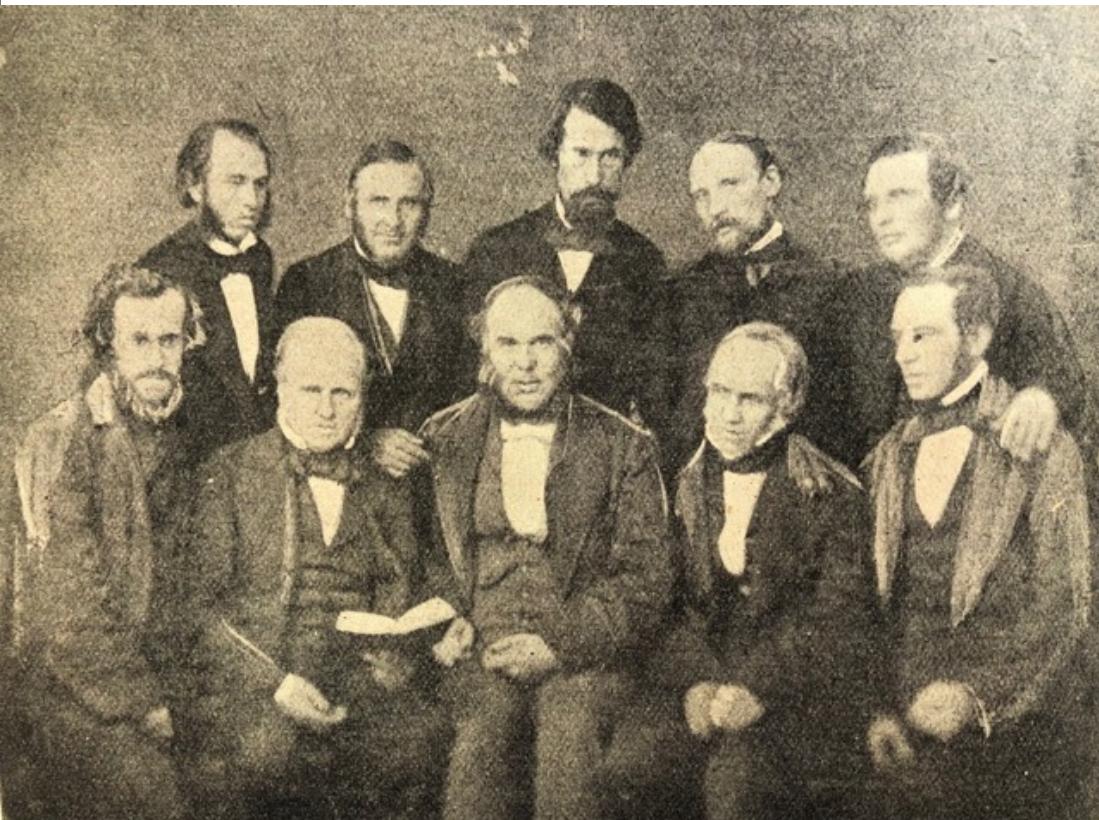
Christian
leaders from
UK
congregations
in the 1850s

Behold this Photograph!

If the purpose in reproducing this photograph is to please the eye, clearly we could easily have done better. The photograph is an old one, taken, perhaps, as far back as the year 1858; and the art of photography has improved since that date... Yet, if our readers, the young especially, to some of whom, perhaps, every face in the group is unknown, will permit us to place them at the right point of view, and to give such explanation as is possible to us, we doubt not the picture will be prized by those in this country and behind the seas who are carrying on to-day the same work for God and His truth in which these ten men, each in his own manner, were engaged at the period when this picture was taken, and some of them many years before.

Let it be said we are indebted for this old photograph to our beloved sister, the widow of one of those in the group, Sister Tickle, the esteemed editress of our children's Magazine, *The Sunbeam*. Perhaps, too, if our sister indicated the proper point of view when she sent it here for reproduction in our Magazine. She evidently regarded it as the property of the brotherhood – an heirloom...

Space does not permit us to enter on any notice of the life and work for the Lord of these pioneers of our movement. We have (shall we say?) "interviewed" our Sister King to prevent our falling into egregious error in naming them. This venerable sister, now approaching the eighty-ninth birthday, would be good for a full and accurate account, but we must be content to little more than name



FROM THE ARCHIVES

them. Numbering from left to right and taking those standing first, we have:-

1. THOMAS HUGHES MILNER, of Edinburgh.

We take down and read the title page of the small, neat, first volume of *The Christian Advocate*, and find it dated 1857, and edited by Thomas Hughes Milner, author of "The Gospel Guide," etc., Edinburgh. Many of us have heard of his strenuous and valuable labour, and thousands more know him by his tracts, many of which are still in use.

2. GODFREY KEMP, of London,

not a public man, but well beloved for his genial personality. Relatives of his are esteemed members of the churches in Australia.

3. GILBERT YOUNG TICKLE, of Liverpool.

It is difficult for some of us who knew this devoted brother only in the later years of his life to recognise this figure as our "Bro. Tickle." His name is still remembered widely and beloved. As an elder of the Church in Thirlmere Road, a member of the General Evangelist Committee, and editor of *The Christian Advocate*, he "laboured much in the Lord."

4. WILLIAM McDougall,

an evangelist, best known in Wigan and the Furness district; a keen student of the Word, and an effective proclaimers of the Gospel.

5. TIMOTHY COOP, of Wigan,

To whom we understand the words of Paul would apply, "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." Later, his energies and financial resources were thrown into a movement apart from the co-operating churches.

Coming now to those seated, we have

6. DAVID KING, of Birmingham,

Whose labours only closed in 1894. Like Paul, he was "set for the defence of the Gospel," and through his public opposition to error, especially through his debate with Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, he

was perhaps more widely known than any of our public men. His influence was augmented by his writings and his long service in editing a Magazine representative of the churches, named successively, *The Millenial Harbinger*, *The British Harbinger*, *The Ecclesiastical Observer*, and *The Bible Advocate*.

7. JAMES WALLIS, of Nottingham.

This esteemed name carries us right back to the beginnings. He it was who in 1837 took up the work of publishing the writings of Alexander Campbell, begun by "Mr. W. Jones, of London." He was the leading spirit in the work of organising the churches for the support of evangelists. He conducted first *The Christian Messenger*, and then *The Millenial Harbinger* for many years, until the latter passed into the charge of Bro. King.

8. JABEZ INWARDS,

a brother noted for his eloquence in preaching; and for his labours as a temperance advocate.

9. W.D. HARRIS,

who planted a church in his house, in Buckingham, in which town we note the Annual Meeting of the Co-operating Churches was held in 1852. Subsequently, he removed to London, and was an elder of the church in Camden Town.

10. WILLIAM PERKINS, of Manchester,

of whom we have heard as one of the best of teachers. Elderly brethren still sound his praises.

From our own knowledge of some of these beloved brethren, and what we have heard of the others, we should say that in many respects their personalities differed very greatly. They were bound together by their acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord, and their common conviction that believers should hold and practise what is seen to have been taught by Christ and His Apostles, as revealed in the New Testament, and should refuse to practise what is of merely human origin... —ED.

Lancelot Oliver
The Bible Advocate, January 4, 1907
Vol. XVIII, Number 1, pages 1-3

DEREK DANIELL (Tunbridge Wells)

1934-2019

Derek Daniell passed to his rest on Sunday, 11th August, aged 85 years – seventy of those spent in the service of Jesus our Lord.

Born in Bristol, Derek moved to Tunbridge Wells in 1957 to work with Albert Winstanley. The following year, he met Margaret Scott of Kentish Town at the Paddock Wood Bible Camp. They married and settled in Tunbridge Wells where they raised their family and he remained the mainstay of that congregation all of his life.

In his youth, he and his cousin John preached in the open air in Bristol and spent holidays together cycling around the country. When he objected to being conscripted into the army (he believed strongly that Christians should not learn to kill), he was ordered to remain in

plumbing for two years in place of National Service.

During the time in Tunbridge Wells he also supported Brighton and Kentish Town congregations after brother Scott passed away. In addition he attended gospel and outreach meetings in other parts of the country including Holiday Bible Schools in Loughborough and Bristol. He also attended Kelston, Goblin Coombe and Carroty Wood holidays, the latter which he organised.

Derek enthusiastically contributed to the *Favourite Hymns of the Church* book and was involved in writing the history of the churches in the South East with Joe Nisbet. During his time in Tunbridge Wells he led Bible studies with individuals, small groups in homes, telephone Bible messages, correspondence courses, and travelled all around the area.

In the last few years of his life Derek was battling with his health including Dementia. However he had not missed a worship service until the last few weeks when he was in hospital, or housebound.

He is especially missed by his wife, Margaret, with whom he celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary in May. He is greatly missed by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and wider family and many others whose lives he touched by his kindness.

Derek's funeral was held on Friday, 23rd August, with a memorial at the Tunbridge Wells church building.

Stephen Daniell





FAMILY NEWS

KIRKCALDY

“Café Inc across the kingdom” was an initiative run by Fife Council during the summer break. Having supplied more than 7,000 meals during the Easter holidays, the scheme provided a free lunch for children and young people, parents and families as part of its aim to reduce poverty. More than 9,000/day free school meals are provided across Fife, but the local authority knew there was often pressure on families during the holidays.

At Hayfield community centre, where Kirkcaldy church meets, the Council provided food in hot boxes and also a member of their catering staff to serve the food. This was every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Lunches were served from 11.45 am to 1.00 pm. People could also collect a cold packed lunch and take it away with them or, if they preferred, could eat in the community garden. The numbers attending during the seven weeks averaged 63 each day, with a high of 90 on a really busy Friday.

The church, along with committee members, helped by volunteering to set up tables and chairs, wash dishes, serve drinks (water, juice, teas, coffees). Also to tidy hall and clean tables at the end.

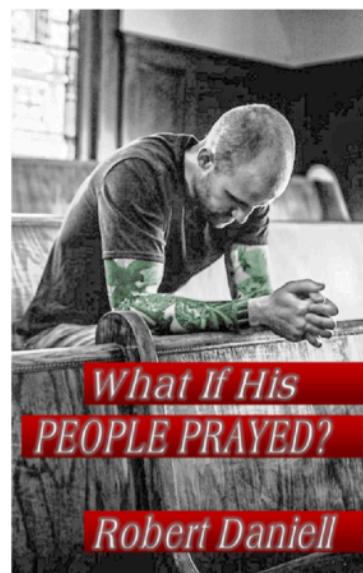
However, the most encouraging point to take from the whole event was the opportunity to welcome folks as they came in to the community centre, and then

being able to chat with them during the lunch time. This was an excellent way to get to know people and to speak about the church and Jesus in this informal setting. We have been able to make contact with a number of new Mums, Dads, Grannies and young people and pray that this will result in more young people attending the youth class, and adults at our worship and study classes. During the 7 week break the church held a special Sunday family day and there were 15 visitors on that occasion.

Alan Moyes

BRISTOL

Robert Daniell's new book is available. (Robert is part of the Bedminster congregation in Bristol.)



How should we pray? When should we pray? For what should we pray? What should we include in our prayers? We all desire to have a better prayer life because we all desire to be closer to God, but how do we do this effectively?

This book will examine a few of the aspects of prayer, to help lead a more prayer filled life, and in doing so, to have a closer relationship to our heavenly Father. Prayer should not be difficult, as it is a conversation with our loving Father, who simply wants to hear the joys and struggles of His children.

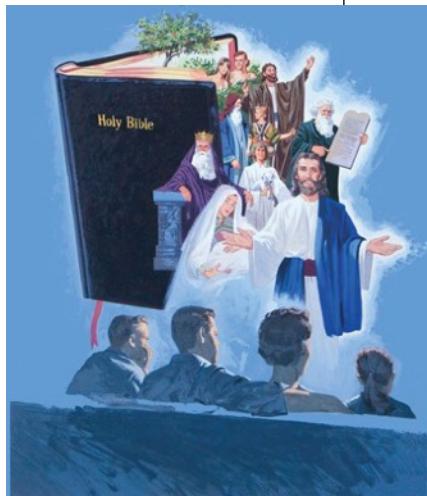
This book can be bought from Waterstones and Amazon in paperback, and also in Kindle.



APPEALS

JULE MILLER FILMSTRIPS UK

I have been searching for some time for the British version of the Jule Miller Filmstrip slides. I have the audio of Frank Worgan narrating but do not have a copy of the slides. Possibly a brother named Tom D'Spain(?) had the originals. I wanted to get them for an archive so that they are not lost forever and also to possibly give them a new lease of life. I have been unable to find anyone who still has a copy.



HELP! If you have a copy that you would be willing for me to have, I am willing to pay for any postage costs or if they are anywhere near I will come and pick them up.

Graeme Morrison
graemorr@hotmail.co.uk



Autumn Family Weekend Retreat

Friday, 13th to Sunday, 15th September 2019
 at Letton Hall in Norfolk

Stories of JESUS

... listening to the master storyteller



www.britishbibleschool.com

Ezekiel

East Kilbride

Scholar's Gate
 G75 9JL

Saturday, 26th October 9.00am to 5.30pm
 Sunday, 27th October 11.00am to 1.15pm

Saturday, 16th November 9.00am to 5.30pm
 Sunday, 17th November 11.00am to 1.15pm

Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway
www.britishbibleschool.com

Thought by some to be a difficult book, this module shows the writings of Ezekiel to be both clear and full of excitement, as well as very relevant to the work of mission today.



All are welcome to either or both weekends!

For more information please visit our website or look for us on Facebook.

THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL (THE BOOKS OF JUDGES & RUTH)

British Bible School
 Autumn Study Week

Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District

Monday, 4th to Friday, 8th November 2019

- Three full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life
- Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company
- All inclusive cost: £150 per student



For full details visit our website:
britishbibleschool.com

Continuing one of the most exciting episodes of Israel's history, from the time of Joshua to that of Samuel. This module examines the books of Judges and Ruth 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.

NOTICES

Special
Meeting

**JESUS said,
“I am the way,
the truth, and
the life”**
John 14:6

church of Christ
Who are we? We are simply Christians

**Saturday
21st September
@1pm**

The Green Hut
538 Kings Road, Stretford,
M32 8JT

www.stretfordcoc.org

Field of Refuge

Selah
Be still and know that I am God
Psalm 46:10

Women's Renewal Weekend 2019

11th to 13th October

Tulliallan Castle
Kincardine
FK10 4BE

Contact fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com for more information

**IS GOD
RELEVANT?**



**SPEAKER: JON GALLOWAY
(EAST KILBRIDE)**

**FAITH MISSION,
GILMERTON ROAD, EDINBURGH**

**18TH & 19TH OCTOBER
7.30PM**



DIARY

September

7th – Bristol: A Cappella Jam – Blessed Harmony (Singing Day), 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Join us for a day of singing, scripture readings from 1 Peter and fellowship. Please let us know if you have any food allergies for catering purposes. Contact: Craig & Crystal Holder: (07949) 399828 or obi_belt@yahoo.co.uk.

7th-8th September – East Kilbride: Outreach meetings with Mike Heinemeier; Saturday: 6.00 – Light refreshments and 7.00 – lesson; Sunday at worship & Bible study times. Contact: Jon Galloway (07906 060618 or jdgalloway@mac.com).

13th-15th – BBS Family Retreat: “Stories of Jesus”; venue: Letton Hall, Norfolk. Contact: <http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/upcoming-events/letton-hall-family-retreat-2019>

21st – Stretford (Manchester): Special meeting – “Why Jesus is the Way” & “Why Jesus is the Life”; speakers: James Lim and Glenn Warner. Lunch at 1.00 pm and lessons at 2.00 pm. Contact: Pilomon Raja (dr_mprraja@yahoo.co.uk or 07963 876942).

28th – Peterhead: Annual Social Day, 1.00 pm. Speakers: Ian Davidson and Mark Hill. It would be appreciated if an indication of numbers coming two weeks in advance, to help with catering. Contact: William Strachan wstrachan007@gmail.com.

28th-29th – Brighton: Gospel meeting – “What Does It Mean To Be A Christian?”, speaker: Ron Halbrook. Venue: 11 Oxford Street, Brighton BN1 4LA. Contact: Constant Coulibaly (constantcoulibaly@hotmail.com or 07984 589904).

October

4th-6th – Glasgow area: Joint gospel meetings between **East Kilbride** and **Clarkston**, speaker: Bob Eckman; Friday & Saturday, 7.30 pm; Sunday at East Kilbride – class: 10.00 am and worship: 11.00. Contact: Jon Galloway (07906 060618 or jdgalloway@mac.com).

11th – Field of Refuge: Women’s renewal – “Selah”. Venue: Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine FK10 4BE. Cost: Shared Room £120 (£112 if booking confirmed before 1st June), Single Occupancy £145; £35 non-refundable deposit required to confirm booking (remaining balance due by 1st October). Contact: fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com.

18th-19th – Hyvots Bank, Edinburgh: Outreach meetings at Faith Mission, Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh, 7.30 pm – “Is God Relevant?”, speaker: Jon Galloway. Contact: Nick Wilson (hnwilson@blueyonder.co.uk or 01506 493290).

25th-27th – Livingston: Youth Weekend. Contact: Wendy Montgomery wendymontgomery76@gmail.com

26th-27th – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Ezekiel” (part 1). Friday – 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway.
www.britishbibleschool.com

November

1st-2nd – Wembley (London): British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Galatians” (part 1). Friday – 7.15-9.30 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.15 pm. Teachers: Jack Paton and John Griffiths.
www.britishbibleschool.com

4th-8th – British Bible School: Residential Study Week at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Teachers: Patrick Boyns, John Griffiths, Jack Paton and Steve Whitehead. Contact: study@britishbibleschool.com.

8th-9th – Morley: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “A Letter to Ephesus” (part 1). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Mark Hill. www.britishbibleschool.com

DIARY

9th – Eastwood (Nottinghamshire): Quarterly Outreach meeting – “Jesus – and His Return”. Light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm. Contact: Adrian Limb (cofceastwood@aol.com).

16th-17th – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Ezekiel” (part 2). Friday – 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway.
www.britishbibleschool.com

29th-30th – Wembley (London): British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Galatians” (part 2). Friday – 7.15-9.30 pm; Saturday – 9.00 am to 5.15 pm. Teachers: Jack Paton and Bob Eckman.
www.britishbibleschool.com

December

6th-7th – Morley: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “A Letter to Ephesus” (part 2). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Mark Hill. www.britishbibleschool.com

13th-15th – Dundee: Young Adults Weekend. Venue: Windmill Christian Centre, Arbroath, DD11 1QG. Cost: £40 per person. Speaker: Patrick Boyns. For any bookings please contact Dan Jones: jonesdp1116@gmail.com.

January 2020

17th-19th – BBS Family Retreat: “In the Steps of the Master”; venue: Bassenfell Manor Christian Retreat Centre near Keswick. Contact: britishbibleschool.com

March

14th – Great Barr: Bible Seminar. Venue: Main hall, Collingwood Community Centre, Collingwood Drive, Birmingham. B43 7NF. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

April

11th – Kirkcaldy: Annual Social Day, 1.30 pm. Speaker: Adam Barr. Contact: Alan Moyes (alan.J.Moyes@gmail.com).

September

5th – Great Barr: Fellowship Day. Venue: Main Hall, Collingwood Community Centre, Collingwood Drive, Birmingham. B43 7NF. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

European Events Calendar

September

20th-22nd – Gemünden, Germany: European Singles’ Retreat. This is a Christian weekend retreat held twice a year, in April and September, at Gemünden, Germany. This event is for EVERYONE who is 18 or older, and not married, who wants to be spiritually encouraged / have fun in a Christian environment. Cost: €65 (€10 reduction if pay before deadline). For more information: <https://www.singlesretreat.net/about.html>.

28th – Gemünden, Germany: 50th Anniversary of Gemünden Bible Camp.

29th-4th October – Gemünden, Germany: Work week for Gemünden Camp site.

30th September-3rd October – European Vision Workshop: A time for meeting Christians from congregations all over Europe, hearing about the blessings and problems of their work for Christ. This past year 140 gathered to celebrate, encourage, learn and share. Contact Trevor for more information (twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk).

February 2020

17th-23rd – Gemünden, Germany: Advanced Bible Study Series. Arrive Monday evening for ABSS I, which begins on Tuesday morning. ABSS I – Tuesday-Friday; ABSS II – Friday-Sunday. Contact: Paul Brazle (brazle.paul@gmail.com).

27th-1st March – European Ladies’ Retreat in Burg Lichtenberg, Thallichtenberg, Germany. Theme: “A Royal Priesthood” (1 Peter 2:9). Organised by Christian women in the UK. Contact: elrorganizers@gmail.com. Website: <http://elr.yolasite.com>.



Long Term Families

Last month I wrote about long term marriages. This past week I have been thinking about long term families. We live in an age of broken marriages and relationships. I well remember as a young man the horror in the church over someone being divorced. Time has moved on and society has certainly changed its thinking.

It was generally expected that when a child had grown and left home that they would not return again but many now have their grown up children back in the fold after they had left. The reasons are numerous: lack of finances, difficulty with work placement, broken marriages, ill health and the list goes on. This is often a tough time for everyone but love conquers and everyone tries to get on together – after all we are either parents or grown-up children.

In fact no matter how old children are, where they live or what they do, our children are still our children, even when they may have children or even grandchildren themselves. Parents worry about their children – it is hard not to – they are ours and we want the

best for them. When they worry, we worry; when they hurt, we hurt.

Family structures are different in our present age with many children not leaving full-time education until their mid-twenties. The parents hope by then that their off-spring's potential will be realised and good job prospects will be offered. Sometimes because of physical or mental problems it will be impossible for children to leave home at all and hopes may have been dashed. Life has to go on. Love continues.

The great family of the church should always be supportive. No person is perfect and if we should even dare to look down on someone going through difficulties we would do well to look at our own life.

We have a Heavenly Father who knows of our heartaches and problems. Our Father reaches out and shares the Holy Spirit with us. The reason – because ‘we do not know what we ought to pray for but the spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express’ (Romans 8:26). It is important that the church becomes a family and remains a family.

Lord Jesus, you understand the life of a family because you came to Earth as a child.

Please bless our families as we go through the good times and the bad.

Grant us strength to encourage, wisdom in time of difficulties and love that never ends.

Thank you for touching our hearts and reaffirming your love for every one of us, no matter what. Amen.

Trevor

