



BRITISH ISLES

SUMMER 2014

No. 20



A GLOBAL MISSION

"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS" - these words, taken from the Old Testament book of Esther, introduced the report of the Board of General Superintendents, given earlier this year (23rd February 2014), by Dr David A. Busic (General Superintendent) to the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene. The Church of the Nazarene has a GLOBAL MISSION – **"To Make Christlike Disciples in the Nations"** and all around the world Christ is building his church and the church is growing. Dr Busic reported (2013 statistics) over 2.2 million members, over 29,000 churches, over 27,000 ministers, missionaries and chaplains, and the church is working in 159 world areas which are organised into 6 regional areas. **"To God be the Glory..."**

At a Glance

Africa Region
7 Fields/Zones
137 Districts
600,285 members

Asia-Pacific Region
8 Fields/Zones
48 Districts
115,181 members

Eurasia Region
8 Fields/Zones
62 Districts
273,736 members

Mesoamerica Region
6 Fields/Zones
76 Districts
356,766 members

South America Region
8 Fields/Zones
79 Districts
264,526 members

USA/Canada Region
79 Districts
652,755 members

ORDINATIONS 2014



Rev John Yaxley is pictured with his wife Elizabeth

At the South District Assembly, held Saturday 15th March, in Dewsbury Minster, Rev John Yaxley was ordained. John is the pastor of the Keighley Church of the Nazarene and also serves as a Healthcare Chaplain.



and is being congratulated by General Superintendent, Dr J K Warrick.

There were three ordinations at the North District Assembly, held Monday 17th March, in the Paisley St Matthew's Church. Rev Alan Baird is Youth/Associate Pastor of the Erskine Church, Rev Cath Thompson is pastor of the Hartlepool Church, Rev Sarah Voigt (whose ordination was authorised by her home district in the USA) is a member of the Wicklow, Ireland, ministry team.



North District Ordination group, seated (l.to r): Rev Rosemary Davidson (District Secretary), Dr J. K. Warrick (General Superintendent), Rev Philip McAlister (District Superintendent), back row (l.to r): Rev Sarah & Ted Voigt Rev Alan & Alison Baird, Rev Cath & Dave Thompson.

INDUCTIONS

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Pastor Kat Wood was inducted as associate pastor of the Ashton church on Saturday, 10th May. The church was packed for the occasion (over 150 with some standing). The service was led by senior pastor, Rev Carl McCann and the District Superintendent, Rev David Montgomery, brought the message. Kat is the daughter of Rev Tracey and David Day, and is married to Dr Joseph Wood (Lecturer and Registrar of Nazarene Theological College, Manchester).



A full church



*(l.to r) Pastor Kat Wood and Evelyn,
Rev David Montgomery, Dr Joseph Wood*

WATFORD BALMORAL ROAD – on Saturday, 17th May, Rev Mike & Rev Sarah Lowenberg, who are both ordained ministers in the Church of the Nazarene, were inducted as the new co-pastors of the Watford, Balmoral Road, church. Originally from Kansas City, USA, the Lowenbergs have a daughter, Melissa Joy. The service



*Rev Mark & Rev Sarah Lowenberg
and Rev David Montgomery*

was led by Rev David Montgomery (DS) and Rev Trevor Hutton (Manchester) preached the sermon. The church was well filled for the occasion, and the service included heart-warming greetings from family and friends in the US and, after the induction, there was a foot washing ceremony, when Mike and Sarah washed the feet of the members of the Church Board.

EDINBURGH CLERMISTON – Rev Rosemary Davidson was inducted to the Edinburgh Clermiston church on Saturday, 24th May. Rosemary has been giving interim oversight to this work in Edinburgh for the past few months; Rosemary also serves as District Secretary of the North District. The service, in a full church, was led by Margaret Penman (Church Secretary) and Rev Philip McAlister (District Superintendent) preached and conducted the induction. A high-point in the service was a duet by two boys, Hunter Flynn and Jason Howie, who sang The Stand, which was a real blessing to all. Rev Margaret G. Vosper, the previous pastor, brought the closing prayer.



*(l.to r) Margaret Penman (Church Secretary),
Rev Rosemary Davidson and Rev Philip McAlister*

COMMUNITY PRAYER GARDEN

TAUNTON – Rev Grace Applebee reports: “It has taken exactly four years to build, and on Saturday, 5th April, the Taunton, Bathpool Chapel Church of the Nazarene officially opened their long-awaited Community Prayer Garden. The large plot of ground located between the Manse and the Church has become a quiet haven of peace – you can hear the music of wind chimes, the rush of a mini-waterfall, sit and meditate on Scripture verses which are engraved onto wooden plaques, and enjoy the year-round flowering plants and shrubs.



Community Garden Opening Day

“Much of the material used is recycled stone and wood. Over the four years of the garden’s construction broken walls have become paths, tree stumps have become seating, rejected fence posts have become a beautiful pergola, and ideas have developed into works of art fashioned by Clive Hooper and friends along with the help of some from other local churches. What began as a dream has become a reality and it is our prayer that those who would not come into a church building will come into the Prayer Garden and find the presence of God, read His Word, and encounter the peace that only Jesus can give.”



*A view of the Garden with
Bathpool Chapel on the right*

SPORTS DAY

On a glorious Summer's day over 250 of all ages gathered on Saturday, 31st May, at the Ayrshire Athletics Arena, Kilmarnock, for the North District Sunday School Sports. Thanks to all who supported and participated in this event, and special thanks to Jordan Dickson (Sports Director) and his team, and Rally Speaker Pastor Chris Franklin, for a wonderful and blessed day. Winning Team – Perth; 2nd Place – Irvine; 3rd Place – Parkhead.



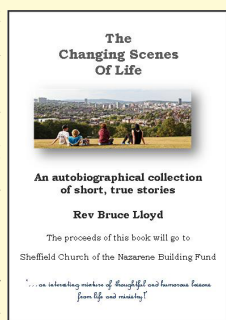
Running the Race



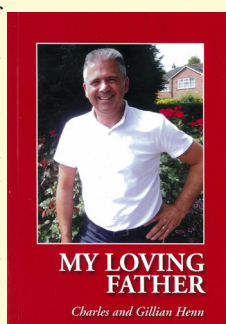
...in the Sports Hall for the medal giving ceremony and worship time

New Books

“The Changing Scenes of Life” by Rev Bruce Lloyd is a 100-page A4 autobiographical collection of true short stories and in two main sections, ‘The Formative Years’ and ‘The Ministry Years’. It is a most interesting mixture of thoughtful and humorous lessons from life and ministry. Copies can be obtained from the author, or from the Sheffield Heeley church, at £8.00 (+ £1.50 p&p) or £5.00 for PDF file - cheques payable to “Rev Bruce Lloyd (Expenses)” – internet banking details are available. Proceeds from the sale of this book will go to the Sheffield Church of the Nazarene Refurbishment/Building Fund.



“My Loving Father” is published by Angelis Publications (2013), and written by Charles & Gillian Henn. This 148-page paper back recounts the moving life-story of Nazarene minister and chaplain, Rev Peter O’Brien. From a difficult upbringing and without knowing a human father, Pete’s journey has brought him to the place where he found Christ and came to know a loving Heavenly Father. Now married to Sue with two adult sons, Pete is chaplain at St Ann’s Hospice, which covers three sites in the Greater Manchester area...and part of the proceeds from the sale of this book will go to the work of the Hospice. (Copies available from Rev Pete O’Brien at £6.00 per copy).



EASTER CODE

The BROOMHILL Community Church of the Nazarene, Glasgow, was one of a number of churches in the Partick area partnering with Scripture Union in the Spring to run “The Easter Code” programme. Over 100 P7 pupils from the local area were able to walk through and encounter the Easter story in the participating churches, which included participating in a traditional Passover meal and sharing in a foot washing ceremony.

On Thursday March 27th twenty P7 pupils from Thornwood Primary School, where Broomhill associate pastor, Rev Nathan Payne is chaplain, attended the Easter event in the Broomhill church. Nathan says that, “...our presence and influence in these local schools has increased and God has been providing new opportunities for service and outreach even in recent months.”



Children learning about the Easter Story

HOME PRAYER MEETING

A picture of Rev Andrew & Elma Young appeared in the recent SCOTNEWS magazine (WEC Scotland). Appreciation was expressed in the magazine for the fact that for the past 18 years or so the Youngs have been holding a WEC (Worldwide Evangelisation for Christ) Prayer Group in their home in Clydebank. The Youngs are in the process of moving to Kilmarnock so this prayer group will not be continuing.



Rev Andrew & Elma Young

RETIRALS

Rev Tony Tamburello has retired as from August 2013. Following a career as a qualified electrician (skills that he has put to good use across the years for the Church and College) Tony has served as pastor in Portsmouth, Salford, Colne and Cardiff over a 24-year period.



Rev Tony & Mary Tamburello

Rev Robert Barker concluded his ministry at the Thetford Church of the Nazarene in August 2013 due to poor health. Originally from West Yorkshire, Robert was a computer programmer for 22 years before becoming assistant pastor in the Dewsbury Church of the Nazarene, and Robert & Ruth then shared in ministry assignments at Oldham and Thetford over a 26-year period.



Rev Robert Barker

Rev Irene E. Wallace retired in March after over 30 years in various assignments which have included, missionary service in Papua New Guinea, pastoral assignments in Perth, Ayr, Carrickfergus, Desertmartin, and for the past 19 years giving pastoral leadership to the Bethany Lisburn Church in N. Ireland.



Rev Irene Wallace (centre) and (l.to r) Rev Philip McAlister; Dr Jonathan & Elizabeth Coulter; Paul Wallace, and Stephen Wallace

Rev David E. Perry retired from the Watford Balmoral Road Church in March. Following a career in the police and preparation for ministry, David pastored the Sheffield Victoria Street Church of the Nazarene for 7 years and the Watford Balmoral Road Church for 23 years.



Rev David & Pam Perry

Rev Ivan A. Miles began his ministry as a Salvation Army officer with assignments in London, and in Scotland (Burnbank and Prestonpans). Following a 15-year ministry in the Belfast First Church of the Nazarene, Ivan has been senior pastor of the Megain Memorial Church Belfast for the past 13 years, and retired at the beginning of May.



Rev Ivan & Isobell Miles with DS, Rev Philip McAlister (r.)

CHILDREN'S QUIZZING

Five teams participated in this year's North District quiz competition held on the 9th May in Dromore N. Ireland, and in Perth Scotland. Four teams were entered in Perth but the winning team was from Northern Ireland which was made up of 3 children from Dromore and one from Greenisland. "Well done!" to everyone who took part and thanks to Peter McCleary (Quiz Director) and Ivan Crowe (N. I. Quiz Co-ordinator) for their leadership.



Quiz Winners! Front row (l.to r) Alex Potts, Alana Gracey, Ben Gracey (Dromore) and Amy Swarbrick (Greenisland). Back row (l.to r) Ruth Wethers (Dromore), Ivan Crowe, Muriel Gilliland (Greenisland)

MORE THAN GOLD

As the Commonwealth Games – to be held in Glasgow, 23rd July-3rd August – draws near, please pray that all churches in the greater-Glasgow area particularly, but also in Scotland as a whole, will use this opportunity to reach out to their local communities. Many plans have been made and activities organised; pray that God's blessing will be upon all that is to take place and that Christ would be honoured in all things.



For further information check the website:
www.morethangold2014.org.uk

PENTECOST BLESSINGS

Two United Pentecost Celebrations were held on the North District on Sunday Evening, 8th June, in Bangor, N. Ireland and at Perth Trinity Church, Scotland, with many churches represented and with up to 400 attending both venues.

In BANGOR a video greeting from General Superintendent, Dr J.K.Warrick, was shown and worship was led by the Millbrook Worship Group. In an interview-testimony, Ruth McFall (a Christian Social Worker) spoke movingly about her faith in God and how it had brought her through some major family tragedies – a marriage break-up, and a daughter killed in a car accident when returning to university (4 young people were travelling in the car and two suffered brain-damage as a result of the accident). Ruth's younger daughter, Leah McFall, was runner-up in "The Voice" television show in 2013 and is a highly sought after singer. The theme of Ruth's testimony was Psalm 30:5, "...weeping may endure for a night but joy comes in the morning." A Pentecost Message from Acts 1:8, entitled, "The Journey of a Lifetime" was brought by Rev Philip McAlister (District Superintendent).

In ASHTON UNDER LYNE on the South District approximately 150 met together with some from the Oldham and Brooklands (Manchester) churches joining with the Ashton congregation. The contemporary and creative service included multi-media presentations, song, drama and worship. A video clip, entitled "Sasha's Dream", which featured Rose Dawson, was based on the "Christmas Carol" story and Sasha's dream reflected her failure to witness to her friends and contacts. Songs were presented by the Ashton Worship group and following communion, the congregation sang "Send the Fire!" The purpose of the evening was to demonstrate our need of the Holy Spirit and how the Spirit empowers and enables us to witness publicly to our friends and community. Following the service one lady commented, "Before this evening I had always been frightened of the work of the Holy Spirit but following tonight I have a new understanding and appreciation of the Holy Spirit!" And one pastor described the evening as a "...superb and blessed Pentecost Service."

In PERTH the local Perth Worship Group led the Praise and a number of pastors took part sharing blessings and answers to prayer. The main speaker, who was welcomed and introduced by Sir Brian Souter, was astronaut Colonel James Dutton of the NASA Space programme, who spoke of his experience on the Space Station, and about his Christian Faith. And, with a picture from space on the screen showing millions of stars, he challenged everyone to "...shine like stars...and hold out the word of life." (Phil. 2:15-16). (Colonel Dutton had spoken at a special afternoon meeting for young people prior to the evening service). The Perth service concluded with an epilogue on the subject of "Transformation" brought by Pastor Ben Goodwin (Associate/Youth pastor, Bangor, N.I.).



Pastor Ben Goodwin bringing the Epilogue



Colonel James Dutton NASA at Perth

CAP IN OLDHAM

A number of our churches have become interested in the work of CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY. Founded in 1996 by John Kirkby – who gave up a successful career in consumer finance to help people with debt problems – CAP is "...passionate about lifting people out of debt and poverty" and the work has grown to over 260 debt centres in the UK, and with work in Canada, Australia & New Zealand.

The Oldham Church of the Nazarene is one of more than 80 churches, of different traditions across the UK, who are running CAP JOB CLUBS and since November 2013 three courses have been run at the church (each course is conducted over 8 weekly sessions), and a further 3 courses are planned for the coming months.

Local pastor, Pastor Andrew Robinson, says the work of the CAP Job Club is an amazing and anointed work and since the launching of the first job club, there have been those who have come to faith in Christ, and who have become regular in attendance at the church. Pastor Robinson reports, "Since November 2013 we have had 19 adults come to Christian Faith... [and]...we have witnessed our evening attendance rise to an average of 31." Michelle Delaney – CAP job club manager (who has an office base at the church) - says, "...with more people facing long-term unemployment, we hope to help people

gain the confidence and skills they need to get back into work again."

From within the Job Club the Oldham church in partnership with the local Methodist Circuit has launched the Cornerstone "Work & Witness" team under the management of Darren Delaney. The team carries out painting/decorating and gardening projects, and provides and delivers furniture to those in need.



*Job Club Cornerstone
"Work & Witness" Team*

*Graduates who completed the 2nd Job Club
held at the Oldham church
(February-March) with their certificates,
along with job club manager,
Michelle Delaney (far left)*



NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



GLOBAL THEOLOGY CONFERENCE – approximately 300 theologians, lecturers, observers and church leaders from 58 countries, representing seven Nazarene Higher Educational Institutions, participated in the third Global Theology Conference, held 20th-28th March in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference theme was “Critical Issues in Ecclesiology” and members of NTC faculty played leading roles in the programme. A picture was taken of everyone with NTC connections who were at the conference (faculty members, lecturers, former students, PhD graduates, current post-graduate students, etc)...the international group numbered 41.



*“NTC Family Group” at the Global Theology Conference
(NTC Principal, Dr Deirdre Brower Latz,
is seated 3rd from the left)*

PASTORS’ SUMMER SCHOOL – over 30 attended the Summer School held 19th-22nd May with the theme “Rooted”. Morning devotions were brought by Dr Gordon T. Smith (President of Ambrose University, Canada), the Sydney Martin Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr Nigel Wright (former Principal of Spurgeon’s College, London), and Nazarene Chaplains (Rev Joy Osborne – Prison; Rev Pete O’Brien – Hospice; Rev Steve Birkinshaw – School) participated in the programme.



Some of the Summer School participants

CENTRE INAUGURATION – The Manchester Centre for the Study of Christianity & Islam was inaugurated on Monday 3rd March when Dr Philip Lewis (University of Bradford (Peace Studies) and Principal of Bradford Churches for Dialogue and Diversity) delivered the Drysdale Lecture on the topic “A Road Less Travelled.” A Saturday Study Course, “Encountering the World of Islam”, has been launched at the College.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS – special events are being planned for the weekend 13th-14th September to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the College and the centenary of the building of the White House. There will be guided tours, cream-teas and refreshments, plus an evening fund raising dinner. For former students in Scotland a “Scottish Alumni Afternoon Tea” will be held 5th July in Troon.

COURSE DEVELOPMENTS – courses available at NTC continue to expand. In addition to the “Christianity & Islam” course a new course in “Compassionate Ministry & Humanitarian/Development Practices” is being offered. Both courses have been validated by The University of Manchester and are available at Master’s and Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate levels. In addition the College is offering access to events, lectures and resources, on-line.

MAF – BIG PICTURE

MAF (MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP) held an “Open Day” on Saturday, 7th June, at Hamilton Christian College in Scotland. A number from the Parkhead and Houston Nazarene churches were among the approx 5,000 that attended during the course of the day. At the centre of the event was the sponsored “Zip-Wire” project...the goal was to break a world record and have 1000 people travel the zip-wire. The goal was met – and surpassed – and an estimated total of £35,000 is expected to be raised for the work of MAF. The motto of MAF is “Flying for Life” and Nazarene missionaries in some of the remote parts of the world regularly rely on the facilities of MAF for travel and transport.



*Getting “hatted
and harnessed”-
3 of the 40-strong
Parkhead zip-slide
participants –
(l.to r) Chris Ross,
Craig Smith &
Rev Colin H. Wood*



*Dr Ian G. Wills
(Parkhead
senior pastor)
‘en route’*

50th GOLDEN JUBILEE - BROOKLANDS



It was as a result of the vision of two ladies, Miss Collitt and Miss Appleton, in the early 1950s that the work on the Brooklands estate in Manchester began. The fascinating account of those early beginnings (children's meetings, Summer Campaigns, a prefabricated building) and the subsequent history of the church over the past 50 years, is contained in the specially published and illustrated "anniversary booklet". (Copies can be obtained from the Brooklands church).

In 1964, when Rev J. B. MacLagan was the District Superintendent, the work, began by the two ladies, was organised as a Nazarene church and Rev Gordon Brayshaw was appointed as the first pastor. The original building was extended and improved in 1981 when a new brick sanctuary was built; this took place when Rev Michael Tewkesbury was pastor, and then another refurbishment and improvement project took place in 2009.

Over 180 attended the service of celebration and thanksgiving held on Sunday, 11th May, and former pastor, Rev Harry Stevenson, was the guest speaker (Harry & Grace Stevenson served in Brooklands 1968-70 prior to going overseas as Nazarene missionaries). The current pastor, Rev Karl Stanfield, is now in his 25th year at Brooklands and God has been blessing the work – last year 23 new members were added to the fellowship (see TOGETHER No 17)...and the end is not yet, Praise the Lord!



The original prefabricated building



Guest speaker – Rev Harry Stevenson



Anniversary Sunday crowd outside the church



A packed church on Anniversary Sunday

COMMUNITY CARE

The BARNSELY Church of the Nazarene continues an effective ministry of outreach and care in the community. This has included in recent weeks a 'litter pick' with children and families from the church taking part along with some from the Latvian group that worships at the church. The church also takes monthly services in three care homes.

On Wednesday, 21st May, "An Afternoon of Reminiscing" was held at the church. One of several activities held during Dementia Awareness Week and led by Barnsley Alzheimer's Society, the theme was "School Days" and children from Doncaster Road Primary School came and shared in the afternoon programme. And more events are planned.



'Litter Pick' (Barnsley Pastor, Rev Ian Newton, is standing 4th from the left)



Care Home Service



"School Days" programme held in the church

IMPORTANT DATES 2014

SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMP (NORTH)
5th-11th July - Auchengillan

NORTHBREAK (NORTH)
2nd-8th August - Lancaster

BREAKTHRU (SOUTH)
9th-16th August - Lancaster

YOUTH HOLIDAY (SOUTH)
24th-29th August - Staffordshire

NTC 70th CELEBRATIONS
13th-14th September

DISTRICT MINISTRIES DAY (NORTH)
20th September

COLLEGE GRADUATION
18th October - Dr Dan Copp

DIDSBURY LECTURES (NTC)
27th-30th October - Professor Frances M. Young

TENT MISSION

The DROMORE (N. Ireland) Church of the Nazarene sponsored a 2-week Tent Mission, 18th May-1st June. The 100-seat tent was erected on land on the Quillyburn Industrial Estate on the Banbridge Road, Dromore, with meetings being held each week-day evening, and with a Sunday night after-church rally. The evangelist was Rev William Park, and the meetings included either testimonies or special singers.

Dromore pastor, Rev Noel Somerville, says, "...it was good to have had the mission and a good number of unsaved were present." Although numbers averaged between 30-40, there were approximately 90 present at the closing meeting, and many found spiritual help during the course of the mission.



The 'Tent of Meeting'

*Congregation with
Rev Noel Somerville leading*



GOVAN CONNECTIONS

Close to the River Clyde, in Glasgow's Govan district, and near to what were some of the greatest ship-building yards in the world, is a special parcel of land – it could be called "Holy Ground". For on this site in Aboukir Street, the Good News of the Gospel has been proclaimed over the years and the Name of Jesus lifted up.

First the Govan Church of the Nazarene found a home there 1951-1971 – one of 4 locations the church has had over the years - and then in 2002 the building, that had been erected on the site, was taken over by The Preshal Trust. "Preshal" which is Gaelic for 'precious' (recognising that everyone is precious in the sight of God) was founded as a result of the vision and burden of May Nicholson, who went from being a 'drunken no-hoper' to establishing Preshal. The Trust's motto is "Caring for Families" and "... seeks to tackle problems such as poverty, drug and alcohol addiction, low literacy and numeracy skills, depression and low self-esteem in Govan...[and] as a Christian rooted organisation."

The link between the Aboukir Street site and the Church of the Nazarene has always remained significant, and these connections have been strengthened in recent months. Not only has The Preshal Trust opened (in November 2013) a new, purpose-built, facility on the same site, but a new co-operation in ministry has been established between the work of the Trust and the ministry of the Govan Church of the Nazarene.

The "Signpost" initiative was established in 2013 when Pastor Ronnie McCullough was the Govan pastor and now Nazarene pastors, Rob & Bev Fitzjohn, (who were inducted to the Govan church at the beginning of the year) have taken up the reins. Pastor Rob reports, "...through 'Signpost' (which is a ministry partnership with Govan Nazarene, the local Church of Scotland, and The Preshal Trust) it has been wonderful to get to know the folk and build relationships with those at Preshal. We have been in talks with May Nicholson looking at how we can partner together to minister to the local Govan community. It is wonderful to be able to connect with the Trust knowing they are actively participating in being Jesus' hands and feet."



*The old Aboukir Street
building which had
been used by Preshal*

*The new Preshal Building
with
(l.to r) May Nicholson,
Pastors Rob & Bev Fitzjohn,
Rev Colin H. Wood
(former District
Superintendent)*



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