

September 2022 • Vol 54 No 9

Peterhead and Ukraine



Six new Christians!

**Appeal and Update from the
Philippines**

A visit to Croatia

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Front cover and above: Peterhead congregation supporting Ukrainian refugees



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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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.

To receive *The Christian Worker Magazine* as a free pdf, send your e-address to jdgalloway@mac.com. Professionally printed copies are available at cost. Please contact Trevor for details – twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.



CONGRATULATIONS!



April Leggat with Ian Starrs

Good news from Livingston

April Leggat became a disciple of Christ on Tuesday, 26th July.

April has been surrounded by Christian influence throughout her life. She's had the example of her mum and dad, big brother, and her church family at Livingston. She has been quietly contemplating her standing before God for some time now and came to an understanding that Jesus is the only remedy. This led to her confessing Jesus as the Son of God followed by being united with her Saviour in baptism. Praise God!

April's confession and immersion took place at the Livingston meeting place and was witnessed by her parents (Paul and Julie), brother (Arron), and sisters (Ruth and Taome). Several from the Livingston congregation were also able to be there to witness this emotional and touching occasion.

God bless April for her decision and in her new life in Christ. To God be the glory!

Ian Starrs

Three become Christians in Shepshed

This week the congregation at Shepshed has celebrated three new souls being added to our family. We are so blessed to have **Vitalii** who joined us this week from Ukraine and was immersed on Sunday, 7th August. This was followed by **Hanna Bagdasarian** who became a Christian whilst on holiday on Saturday, 20th August. Then on Sunday, 21st August, **Lewis Garnett** decided to give his life to Christ – we all enjoyed an afternoon of celebration and fellowship together as we rejoiced with Lewis in his life-changing decision.

Please pray and give thanks to God for these three people as they embark on their life of following Jesus and pray for our congregation as we seek to nurture and love these precious new members of our family.



Carla-Marie Sutton

Congratulations!

Two become Christians at Ilkeston

During worship on Sunday, 28th August, **Tony**, aged twelve from the Sherwood congregation in Nottingham, was immersed at the Ilkeston chapel. His family are faithful Christians at Sherwood.

During the afternoon **Amelia Hyslop**, aged thirteen, was also immersed in the Ilkeston chapel. Amelia is the daughter of Susan Hyslop one of the faithful Christians in Ilkeston.

Trevor Williams

Tony with Trevor Williams



Susan with her daughter Amelia



Alan Brunton

My dad, Alan Brunton, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, 20th August. He was 84 years old and will be remembered by Christians in England and Scotland.

We don't have any detailed information on a venue or date of the funeral at this stage.

David Brunton

davidbrunton95@gmail.com

Christian Resources Exhibition

CWR (Christian Resource Exhibition) will be held at Sandown Park, Essex, Surry from 11th-13th October.

This is a good event to find all sorts of things to do help congregations, charities, offices, etc, as well as a million books. This is well worth a visit.

Trevor

Peterhead & Ukraine

Content:

A brief overview of how the church has been serving the needs of many displaced Ukrainian Families.

At the beginning...



This photo was taken early on in our efforts to provide a “Hub” where Ukrainian refugees could find access to essentials such as: clothes, personal hygiene products, and food. Our “Hub” also provides a safe space for care and community.

When we first heard about the devastating events befalling many of the Ukrainian people we, like many, wanted to respond to the need and in some way bring relief to those who were being displaced.

After some planning and much prayer we decided on a number of ways we would begin to focus our efforts on serving the people of Ukraine. Initially we had a special offering that went to Trevor Williams to help with his efforts. We committed to prayer every Wednesday evening. We also began to search for ways to be more involved here in Peterhead.



Amanda &
Fenella

The evidence of God’s hand is all over this! We attended a local meeting where anyone interested could come and see where there were possibilities to get actively involved. We had decided that our church building was a great resource and we would look at offering our support in some form. It wasn’t long before our paths crossed with Amanda, who had been busy setting up “Scotland Supporting Ukraine.” Since partnering with Amanda our efforts have grown from strength to strength. God has placed the right people at the right time!

We have now been learning and serving since April. There have been many friendships formed and the “Hub” has become an integral part of the Ukrainian community in Aberdeenshire. We have served a great many families going through the early stages of “survival” mode.

Over time the work of the church has enabled many to find a caring community that is eager to accept and to help. The local community have been amazing in generously supporting the Hub with items of clothing, toys and household things. The church has become a focal point for many services and charities seeking to partner in caring for our Ukrainian friends.

Over the past months we have witnessed the work of the Spirit uniting our church in purpose as well as connecting us with the local community of Peterhead. This has resulted in care and warmth being given to those finding themselves in a land not their own and relying completely on those receiving them for support and provision. The good news is that God’s people are equipped for such a time as this. All for His glory and to display His loving kindness.

Here is what our 'Hub' at the church building has to offer...



A picture is worth a thousand words...



The need is great! We are following the path clearly marked ahead of us. The Spirit is a reliable guide and our God is a faithful Father. Our petition is firstly for your prayers. Pray that our care and service to those in need might continue and that relief and healing are found amongst God's people. That our gracious Father May protect us from the evil one and bring this good work He has begun to its full potential.

The second part of our petition is for your help. If you can see the beauty and potential of this good work, please help us. As with many churches, our resource is finite. However, we know our Father is the author of all things and will provide.

If there is anything further you need to help with your decision to help please reach out and we can talk more freely person to person.

Contact: Billy & Fenella Strachan – Email: bfstrachan@aol.com Phone: 07734947217

This information update/appeal is made on behalf of the Church of Christ Peterhead.



BEFORE



AFTER

Report from Ukraine

The orphanages I used to work with are planning to start working in September. They are preparing to accept children whose parents have been killed in the war and there is no one to take care of them now.

The prerequisite for an orphanage to work is a bomb shelter. Our institutions have deep basements, but usually no one ever goes there and the place turns into a damp and terrible storeroom for unnecessary things. Of course, it's not possible to make major repairs in a short period of time in such a room... but it is possible to bring it to a better condition. During this month we have bought paint and painted the walls, bought and installed ventilation pipes, made an additional exit with stairs, bought a toilet bowl and a hand basin. Many improvements are still needed, such as a toilet room, but we are gradually helping the orphanage as much as we can.

The directors are also asking for prayers. Please pray for the children, the staff and for the orphans who are in need of a psychologist, because some of the children do not know that they have lost their parents. The staff of the orphanage does not know yet how these children will be accepted and how they will behave...but they ask us to pray for this situation.

Also, one orphanage 'Happy Home', where seven children with

disabilities live, started to prepare for the cold winter and were looking for finances to buy firewood to heat their rooms in the winter. As soon as we found out about their need we helped them with this.

In our country, people at home preserve fruits and vegetables for the winter. And those refugees with whom we have weekly Christian meetings have asked for help, to buy them sugar to make jam and compote (this is when you boil fruit or berries in sweet water). Now these people have sweet compote and jam for the winter. I hope to try this jam with them over a cup of tea in winter.

All these people have been helped thanks to your support and care. Each one of them has asked me to convey their gratitude to you. I also want to say thank you for supporting those in need. May God bless you abundantly! Amen!

Ivan Prokopchuk





BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

Croatian Family Camp

Although not actually a British Bible School event, both Mark Hill and I were recently involved in a Croatian Family Camp on an island in the Adriatic Sea, just off the coast of Croatia. For some it might well have been little more than a relaxing holiday, but despite the surroundings there was good teaching, most useful discussions and delightful company.

Most of the participants were from various parts of Croatia, and though some were there for the first time, many had been to the event for a number of years making it something of an annual reunion. Accommodation was fairly basic, but more than suitable for an event of this nature where pretty much everything took place outside.

The younger generations generally spoke good English, but my evening sessions needed to be interpreted, making them about twice as long as usual! We spoke about this world not being our home, and how that our identities transcend our human experiences.

Dalmatia

This part of Croatia is known as Dalmatia and also forms a part of the ancient Roman province of Illyricum. The whole area is, understandably, steeped in history, and plays a small, but not insignificant role in the biblical record.

Towards the end of Paul's second letter to Timothy, he writes of Titus having gone to Dalmatia. We have no idea what he was doing there. Was he revisiting places where communities of believers had already been established? Or was he reaching out to as of yet unreached places?

Nearing the end of his letter to the believers in Rome, as he gives a reason for writing to them, Paul writes of having fully presented the good news of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

From Jerusalem to Illyricum...this was the geographic extent of Paul's mission activity. And though we know nothing in particular of what he did in these parts, we know that Christ was working through him to bring salvation to those lost in this life.

Three new sisters-in-Christ at the Croatian Family Camp



May God bless you, and may we be found to be useful in his service so that Christ might continue to work through us to bring salvation to those lost in this life today.

Patrick Boyns



OUR SPIRITUAL HERITAGE

It is true to say that in the British Isles we have a great heritage that goes back thousands of years. Peoples such as the Celts, Romans, Vikings, Angles, Saxons and the Normans have made their mark. More recently people from the Commonwealth countries have moved here and enriched us as a nation.

So what about our spiritual heritage as churches of Christ in these islands? Recently I read the *Historical Survey of the churches of Christ in the British Isles* which was edited by our late, beloved brother Joe Nisbet. It made me appreciate the efforts made to restore faith and practice based purely on Biblical principles. One important aspect of their efforts was the publications they produced.

In the 19th century the “British Millennial Harbinger” was published by James Wallace from Nottingham. It was the counterpart of the “Millennial Harbinger” published by Alexander Campbell in the USA. James Wallace published articles written by Alexander Campbell and other brothers. There are copies of the “British Millennial Harbinger” in the British Bible School library (now housed in Northampton).

In the 20th century another publication came on the scene, the “Scripture Standard”. Walter Crosthwaite was its first editor and it began publication in 1935. The “Scripture Standard” was published as a response to the liberal, modernistic teaching from Overdale College, Birmingham. The “Scripture Standard” attempted to restore confidence in the Bible as the word of God and to place it at the heart of what is

believed and taught. Due to the nature of the publication, issues were debated in its pages. It also contains the names of congregations that sadly no longer exist. The publication has had several editors: Walter Crosthwaite, Carlton Melling, James R. Gardiner, Robert Marsden and Allan Ashurst. This year, in the March edition, it was announced that Allan Ashurst has stepped down from the editorship. You can have access to all the editions from its website, www.ScriptureStandard.eu.

Another publication of the 20th century was “Truth for Today”. It was published by Len Channing was also its first editor. I was introduced to it after I became a Christian in the 1970s. It contains articles covering many different subjects written by Albert Winstanley, Frank Worgan, Alf Marsden, H.B. Frank, Tony Coffey, John Griffiths, Philip Slate, Andrew Gardiner, Bob Eckman and many others. Len Channing edited it until his death in 1984 after which John Diggle Sr was appointed editor and he was in that role until his death. The final editor was our Ken Mullan. It ceased publication in the mid-1990s. However Graeme Morrison has a link to all of its editions on his website www.graemebibleresources.com.

Of course we must not forget the “Christian Worker” which was started by Albert Winstanley in 1969. I have always found it informative, not only because of the teaching in its pages but also because of the news from congregations in the British Isles and beyond. It makes a very important contribution to the church and long may it continue.

Stephen Woodcock





APPEALS

PHILIPPINES



Children heading for school

Besides being officially our rainy season, we have another typhoon that is to make landfall tomorrow. We've been having lots of rain since this weekend. Also, Taal Volcano is getting more active these recent days while Mayon Volcano (440 kms south of Cavite) is also steaming up.

Yesterday, Filipino pupils returned to face-to-face classes for the first time since the pandemic. Amidst all these price increases

(gasoline, electricity, food, etc), we have this added need for our youth and children as they return to school. For

\$15 per child, we can help them buy a school bag and some school supplies such as notebooks, paper, pens. Will you give?

Our weekly food pantry continues to bless families in this neighbourhood. For \$5 per family per week, we provide them 5 kgs of rice which is a Filipino daily must-have. We are thankful to have the food pantry serving everyone these past seventeen months.

Thank you for your many prayers for those of us who endure all sorts of disasters in this life.

Gigie Carranza



Volunteers delivering rice and milk

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



The Trinidad & Tobago School of Preaching and Teaching (TSOP) is seeking financial assistance to support the refurbishment of the TSOP dormitories that house full-time Bible students who come from all over the Caribbean, North & South America and Europe to attend a two-year full-time programme. TSOP are expanding their programmes to include the Mission School Extension and would like to purchase some new appliances to outfit the dorm so the students can study in an environment that is comfortable. Some of the items needed include: stoves, fridges, washing machines, dryers, microwaves, fans and mattresses.

The Trinidad School of Preaching (TSOP) is based on the island of Trinidad and Tobago and is overseen by the elders of the Panco Lane congregation in San Fernando, Trinidad. The TSOP's operations are managed by the School Committee, which is comprised of saints within Trinidad and Tobago. TSOP has produced countless preachers and teachers over the years including some who now live in the UK. For more information about TSOP please see the following link <https://www.tsop.me/>

If you would like to some more information, or would like to make a donation towards the purchasing of one or more items from the list, then please contact Charles Yankiah on 07891262910 or by email at cyanckiah@hotmail.com.

Charles Yankiah



THE MINISTRY OF SISTERS

Last month I wrote about ‘The husband of one wife’ when I tried to begin a dialogue about the ministry of sisters in our fellowship. I have had some interesting comments and concerns. One sister wrote and told me that she feels she has not been equipped fully to teach and reach out to people; she has even been verbally abused from women at the school gates because she takes her children to church services. Another woman feels that our fellowship is misogynistic. Others feel that they would like to include sisters more but are afraid of what other churches would say or do.

Have we taken the ‘silence’ of women to the extreme? The question has been asked if it is appropriate for sisters to prepare communion and take it to the table, pass it from one to another in the pew and clear away after the meeting, why can’t they serve directly from the table to the pew? A recently immersed boy can do this but an older sister cannot.

It is interesting to realise that not only men followed Jesus but also women, even though this was not the normal custom in Israel. We find in Luke 8:1-3 that they not only travelled with Jesus but supported him financially. These same women were the ones who went to the tomb and saw the resurrected Jesus and went with the message of the resurrection to the apostles. Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2) is known as a servant literally translated a deaconess.

In ‘Memoir of David King’ (page 287) suggestions are made that “deaconesses should be ordained wherever practicable”. If one of the great leaders of our churches in the United Kingdom in the 1800’s suggested such and many of our churches did appoint deaconesses should we consider doing the same today? Did he or we get it wrong?

If our sisters are to fulfil Acts 2:17-18, what shall we do about it? *In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all*

people. Your sons and daughters will prophecy, your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams, Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days and they will prophecy.

Trevor Williams



NOTICES



Let's Talk About Life!

The Aughton congregation in association with the British Bible School warmly invite you to attend our weekend of friendly discussions about 'LIFE'.

Saturday 3rd September 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday 4th September 10:00 am to 12:00

Address: Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 5DH

Contact: Tony 07473970143 / tonytyson66@yahoo.co.uk

Accommodation: If anyone would like to stay over on the Saturday night we have limited accommodation available. Please contact Tony for further details.

Available On Zoom: 844 4710 9568

50th Anniversary Day

Saturday, 1st October 2022

10.00 am-4.00 pm

"Looking Forward With God"

Lessons by Patrick Boyns, Mark Hill, John Mooney & Ian Starrs

Programmes by Solus / Lunch provided

You are invited to join us as we mark fifty years of the East Kilbride congregation.

Numbers attending would be appreciated — ek.klesia@icloud.com.

East Kilbride church of Christ, 1 Scholars Gate, East Kilbride G75 9JL



FULL-TIME EVANGELIST NEEDED

The congregation in Liverpool are currently in need of a full-time evangelist. We are a small, hospitable congregation who are known for our love and fellowship. Our congregation is one of the oldest in England and we currently have an attendance of 30-40 Christians including children.

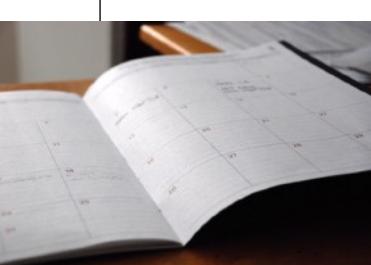
We own our own building in the Waterloo area of Liverpool. It is a busy, maritime town that is located on the edge of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool has a population of over 500,000 people and is best known for the Beatles, two Premier League Football Clubs and its rich Maritime Heritage.

We are seeking an evangelist who is committed to the Great Commission to work with our Elders to grow this congregation in favour with God. If you are interested and would like to empower the local people with the Good News, grow personally, lead others to Christ and integrate them into the life and ministry of the church, we would love hearing from you. What we're looking for is an evangelist whose primary responsibility will be evangelising, teaching and preaching.

We are asking the person to be able to source at least 50% of their support and the congregation will provide the other 50% as well as assist in other areas of support.

We are praying to the Lord to help us find a man of God who will come and work with us to achieve our goals and vision.

Please submit your resume and an audio of a recent sermon to us by email at cyanikiah@hotmail.com or if you would like to discuss this vacancy please ring Charles Yankiah on +44 07891262910.



DIARY

September

3rd-4th – Aughton: “Let’s Talk About Life!” with British Bible School. Saturday 10.00 am-4.00 pm; Sunday 10.00 am-12.00 pm. Venue: Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancashire L39 5DH. Contact: Tony Tyson (07473 970143 or tonytyson66@yahoo.co.uk).

5th-15th – Trip of a Lifetime to the Bible Lands of Israel & Jordan. Contact: Ian Starrs (jes22ian@msn.com).

10th – Great Barr (Birmingham): “Evening of Prayer and Praise” on Zoom, 7.00 pm. Zoom ID: 879 9050 1513; password: 484833. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com)

16th-18th – British Bible School: Weekend Family Retreat at Letton Hall – “Walking With Jesus...One Step at a Time”, Norfolk. For details and registration: [britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).

October

1st – East Kilbride: 50th Anniversary meeting: “Into the Future with God”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Guest speakers: Patrick Boyns, Mark Hill, John Mooney and Ian Starrs. Lunch is provided – please send numbers who plan to attend to help in our planning. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

4th-6th – European Vision Workshop in Rome. Theme: “Those who were scattered”. Registration will open soon at: <http://www.sibi.cc/evw>. For further information contact Douglas Reeves: dreeves@sibi.cc

29th-30th – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend: “Settlement of Canaan – a study of the books of Judges and Ruth”; teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Jack Paton. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

31st-4th November – British Bible School Autumn Study Week at Bassenfell Manor: “Gospel of John”. Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Steve Whitehead. Cost: £150 all inclusive. Further details and registration will be on our website soon, but make plans now.

November

25th-26th – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend: “Settlement of Canaan – a study of the books of Judges and Ruth”; teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Jack Paton. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

December

10th – Great Barr (Birmingham): “Evening of Prayer and Praise” on Zoom, 7.00 pm. Zoom ID: 879 9050 1513; password: 484833. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com)



THE FINAL WORD



**It shouldn't
happen to
a man like
me!**

I have wondered about including this article in the CW as it is personal; forgive me if you are not interested. Those who know me will understand that I am a man just past the first flush of youthfulness. Those who have known me for a long time may remember that I used to have black hair but this now has become white. I do not move as quickly as I was once able and to bend my knees is a gift no longer available. Such is life. I go from day to day thankful that so far I have woken up each morning.

On a recent visit to London we had every intention of visiting Kew Gardens but there were train and underground strikes, every bus was full and could only crawl along. After one and a half hours of getting only a short distance we neared Hyde Park and a café. I thought a cup of something nice would be pleasant.

I had a paper cup with hot chocolate in it when a group of the Royal Horse Artillery rode past in full regalia – I stood to see more and when I sat down

my hot chocolate flowed down my shirt and all down my light grey trousers. Perhaps if the drink had been a lighter colour it may not have been so very bad but when an old guy turn up with brown stains on his pants it is possible to think a number of things that are not very pleasant. We did our best to clean up but with little success. ‘What to do now?’ I thought.

Oxford St with M&S could help but it was nearly 30 minutes walk. Thinking that in London hardly anyone looks at anyone else we progressed and eventually new clothes were bought and put on. My embarrassed self could look the world in the face again.

During the dark hours of the night, my now calmer mind thought about Galatians 3:27 – ‘For all of you who have been baptised into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ’. A new and deeper understanding of the text started to develop. I had felt embarrassed, I did not want everyone to see what had happened. Then I realised that I had in fact spent all my life wanting to cover up the embarrassing me, my faults, my failures, my messy days, when all along Jesus had been covering me up and clothing me anew. There has always been a new garment for me to wear. The stains of living are taken away each and every day.

So let me conclude by thanking Jesus for his loving kindness and that it should happen even to a man like me.

Trevor

