

# CONFERENCE 2013

Friday afternoon - June 27<sup>th</sup>

The retiring President (Rev Ian Fall) welcomed everyone to Conference. He introduced an extended time of prayer by reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 2. This was closed as we prayed the Lord's Prayer, then following tea, business began.

1. Names of Representatives (taken as read)

The name of Jo Ball was added as a visitor.

Apologies for absence

Muriel Stonehewer, Geoffrey & Daphne Lee, Ishaku Bitrus, Sheridan Clifford.

Neil Bedford will not be attending Conference and his place as a Delegate from the Bradford Circuit has been taken by Margaret Dennison

Phillip Nuttall is here representing the LWPT and not simply as a visitor

Appointment of:

- Secretaries to Conference

Rev Colin Braithwaite & Mrs Lisa Taylor

- Recorders of Minutes

Thursday afternoon: Bernard Oldman & Phil Hearson

Friday morning: Daphne Hodkinson & Stephen Griffiths

Friday afternoon: Peter Norton & David Rooksby

Saturday morning: Paul Busby & Sam Downing

- Letter Writers

Jean Handley & Carol Nicholls

- Scrutineers

Meryl Griffiths, Pippa Wood, Phil Hartshorn & Roger King

Decide as to the admission of representatives of the Press and Visitors – this was agreed

2. Decide as to Standing Orders as follows:

Discussion only allowed on a motion duly moved and seconded.

No delegate to speak more than once on any subject, except the mover of the Resolution, who has the right to reply.

The mover of a Resolution must not exceed ten minutes, and the seconder five minutes.

Subsequent speakers and the reply of the mover, not to exceed five minutes.

All printed reports and statements to be taken as read.

Only Representatives have authority to vote. No others must accept or use voting privileges.

3. Obituary List

Once again we record our gratitude to Almighty God for those whom he has given to us in Christian service and whom he has now called Home to Himself

We cannot hope to recall the totality of service which they have rendered in our Churches, Circuits and the Union as a whole. We only know that our lives are the richer because of these dear servants of God

We particularly remember today the life and witness of Cecily Daniel, who twice served as WA President. We also remember Michael Mumford a member of our Jump Church, a former President of the Union, and, until last Conference, a member of General Committee.

To those dear ones who mourn at this time, we extend our deepest love and sympathy and assure them of our continued prayers

4. Read Correspondence for Conference

There was no correspondence for Conference

5. Election of President (Rev. Michael Alderson)

The nomination was moved by Rev. Peter Norton. This was warmly received by members of Conference. After this was seconded, Michael responded, asking for prayer for the year of office. Conference then voted unanimously in favour.

6. Election of President-Designate (Mr. George Phillips)

The nomination was moved by Rev Colin Braithwaite. This was seconded and then George responded, saying that it will be a privilege to serve. Conference again voted unanimously in favour.

7. Nominations for General Committee

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| ALDERMANS GREEN          | Rev P H Norton                                    |
| ARNOLD                   |   |
| ASHBY CIRCUIT            | Mr P Busby  |
| ASHINGTON                |   |
| ATTLEBOROUGH             |   |
| BAKEWELL CIRCUIT         | Mr S D Allen                                      |
| BARNSELY CIRCUIT         | Mrs M Mottershaw, Pastor A Rugeruzza              |
| BEDWORTH                 | Rev S Griffiths                                   |
| BIRDS EDGE               |   |
| BRADFORD CIRCUIT         |   |
| CAWSTON CIRCUIT          |   |
| CHOPPINGTON              |   |
| CHURCH ON THE ROCK       |   |
| CLYDEBANK                |   |
| DEDDINGTON               |   |
| DORRINGTON               |   |
| FRICTWELL                |   |
| GRIFFYDAM                | Mr C A Darby                                      |
| HAZLEMERE                |   |
| HEATH END                |   |
| HECKINGTON               |   |
| HIGH WYCOMBE CIRCUIT     |   |
| IVINGHOE                 | Pastor D Clifford                                 |
| LOWESTOFT                |   |
| NUNEATON                 | Mr S Downing                                      |
| OLDBURY                  | Pastor S Karma                                    |
| OLD HILL                 |   |
| ROTH, MEX & DONC CIRCUIT | Mr. B England, Mr. G Evans                        |
| SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT        | Mr. B Oldman, Mrs. M Stonehewer, Mrs. C Parkinson |
| SLEAFORD CIRCUIT         |   |
| SOULDERN                 |   |
| ST. JUST                 |   |
| SYRESHAM                 |   |
| WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT   | Rev P Hearson, Mr D Rooksby                       |

8. Half Yearly Meetings 2013 onwards
- |      |               |   |
|------|---------------|---|
| 2013 | 16th November | Bradford Circuit (Muff Field)             |
| 2014 | 15th November | Barnsley Circuit                          |
| 2015 | 21st November | Rotherham, Mexborough & Doncaster Circuit |
| 2016 | 19th November | Sleaford Circuit                          |
9. Conference 2014 onwards
- |      |  |                            |
|------|--|----------------------------|
| 2014 | Mon 16th June to Wed 18th June                         | Swanwick                   |
| 2015 | Mon 15th June to Wed 17th June                         | Swanwick                   |
| 2016 | Mon 13th June to Wed 15th June                         | Swanwick                   |
| 2017 | Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> June to Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> June | Swanwick (to be confirmed) |

10. CESA Report

Report by Mrs D. Hodkinson

We were saddened, but not surprised, to read the results of the latest UK census which show a steep decline in the number of professing Christians. Between the census in 2001 and the one in 2011 there were four million less people identifying themselves as "Christians". This is a cause of deep concern to evangelicals, but we do need to point out that there was no clear definition of the term "Christian". The question is how are we to stem the tide? How much we need to plead with God to show His grace and mercy on this unworthy nation.

The problem starts with something as seemingly insignificant as the promise made by Scouts and Guides. The Guides traditional promise was "To love God, serve other people and to keep the Girl Guide law", but now the powers that be want to remove any reference to God!

Then we have had the debate about same-sex marriage. Thank you to all those people who wrote letters or spoke to their MP. Sadly, the Prime Minister chose to ignore the voice of the people, or his own MPs, and forced through the legislation, but the fight is not over yet!

The first Sunday in February was "Values day" and our subject was "Lifting the Cloud of Disability". This is a subject which challenges our perception of disability in the Church. Thank you to the charity "Through the Roof" for their magazine.

Many committee members have written challenging articles for "Contact" and we are grateful for these.

Thanks also to all Churches who support us financially. A list of the recipients is included in the financial report.

The report was accepted by Conference.

Election of Officers: Secretary – Mrs. Daphne Hodkinson

Treasurer – Mrs Audrey Marshall

Chairman – Rev. Ian Fall

These names were accepted by Conference

Accounts by Mrs Audrey Marshall – presented by Mrs Daphne Hodkinson

| CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND SOCIAL ACTION | 2012/2013 | 2011/2012 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Income                             |           |           |
| Balance brought forward            | 1,229     | 1,430     |
| Donations                          | 2,032     | 1,939     |
| Conference Contribution            | 30        | 31        |
|                                    | <hr/>     | <hr/>     |
|                                    | 3,291     | 3,400     |
| Payments                           |           |           |

|                              |              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Fees                         | 230          | 141          |
| Hope UK                      | 350          | 400          |
| L.D.O.S.                     | 400          | 500          |
| Caring for Life              | 550          | 550          |
| Christian Institute          | 400          | 550          |
| Postage, Stationery, Copying | 54           | 30           |
| Balance (Nat West) C/F       | 1,307        | 1,229        |
|                              | <u>3,291</u> | <u>3,400</u> |

The Accounts were accepted by Conference

## 11. Statistics

As predicted last year, our numbers have decreased significantly from last year to this. Five of our churches (Cawston, Hucknall, Skelmanthorpe, Leasingham and Colby Long Road) have closed and The Pastures have left the Union. The current statistics give considerable cause for concern.

| Names of Churches       | Junior Members | Senior Members | Preachers - Full & Trial | Scholars | Teachers | Children: Primary School | Young People: Senior School | Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA) | WA Members | Average Attendance |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
|                         |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| ALDERMANS GREEN         | -              | 68             | 1                        | 30       | 7        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 60                 |
| ARNOLD                  | -              | 11             | -                        | 5        | 1        | 4                        | 3                           | 2                            | -          | 12                 |
| <i>ASHBY CIRCUIT</i>    |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| ELLISTOWN               | -              | 4              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 8                  |
| IBSTOCK                 | -              | 20             | -                        | -        | 3        | -                        | -                           | 4                            | 10         | 18                 |
| MOIRA                   | -              | 13             | 3                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 11         | 18                 |
| NEW SWANNINGTON         | -              | 15             | -                        | -        | 3        | 5                        | 6                           | 1                            | -          | 15                 |
|                         | -              | 52             | 3                        | -        | 6        | 5                        | 6                           | 9                            | 21         | 59                 |
| ASHINGTON               | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 3                  |
| ATTLEBOROUGH            | -              | 11             | -                        | 7        | 1        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | 10         | 16                 |
| <i>BAKEWELL CIRCUIT</i> |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| BONSALL                 | -              | 18             | 1                        | -        | -        | 8                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 24                 |
| CURBAR                  | -              | 12             | 4                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 12                 |
| FROGGATT                | -              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| OVER HADDON             | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| STONEDGE                | -              | 32             | 1                        | 4        | 2        | 1                        | 13                          | 4                            | -          | 30                 |
| STONEY MIDDLETON        | -              | 4              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 6                  |
| WINSTER                 | -              | 4              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 15                 |
| YOULGRAVE               | -              | 10             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 12                 |
|                         | -              | 83             | 7                        | 4        | 2        | 9                        | 13                          | 7                            | -          | 99                 |
| <i>BARNSLEY CIRCUIT</i> |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| BARNSLEY                | -              | 18             | 4                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 12                 |
| CLIFFE BRIDGE           | -              | 6              | 2                        | 4        | 3        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 18                 |
| CUDWORTH                | -              | 5              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 7                  |
| DODWORTH                | -              | 11             | 3                        | -        | -        | 20                       | 10                          | 1                            | 4          | 10                 |
| HOYLE MILL              | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 4                  |
| HUNNINGLEY              | -              | 11             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 13                 |
| SMITHIES                | -              | 9              | 1                        | 5        | 3        | 11                       | 6                           | 1                            | 6          | 12                 |
| STAINCROSS              | 4              | 12             | 5                        | 4        | 1        | 2                        | 2                           | 2                            | 8          | 14                 |
| WORSBROUGH              | 1              | 12             | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 3                            | 12         | 16                 |
|                         | 5              | 87             | 17                       | 13       | 7        | 33                       | 18                          | 9                            | 30         | 106                |

| Names of Churches                                  | Junior Members | Senior Members | Preachers - Full & Trial | Scholars | Teachers | Children: Primary School | Young People: Senior School | Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA) | WA Members | Average Attendance |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| BEDWORTH   | -              | 23             | 4                        | 4        | 2        | 3                        | 1                           | 2                            | -          | 20                 |
| BIRDS EDGE   | -              | 11             | 2                        | 5        | 2        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 20                 |
| <i>BRADFORD CIRCUIT</i>                            |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| ADDINGHAM  | -              | 31             | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 30                 |
| BEACON COMMUNITY                                   | -              | 33             | 3                        | 11       | 6        | -                        | 12                          | 4                            | 4          | 38                 |
| BETHEL COMMUNITY                                   | -              | 13             | 2                        | -        | -        | 12                       | -                           | 4                            | -          | 20                 |
| LOW MOOR   | -              | 15             | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 9          | 16                 |
| MUFF FIELD   | -              | 37             | 1                        | 5        | 7        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 20                 |
|  | -              | 129            | 8                        | 16       | 13       | 12                       | 12                          | 13                           | 13         | 124                |
| <i>CAWSTON CIRCUIT</i>                             |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| COLBY LONG ROAD                                    | -              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| SMALLBURGH   | -              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| SWANTON ABBOTT                                     | -              | 6              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 8                  |
|  | -              | 6              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 8                  |
| CHOPPINGTON  | -              | 7              | 2                        | -        | -        | -                        | 2                           | 1                            | -          | 13                 |
| CHURCH ON THE ROCK                                 | 2              | 12             | 3                        | 12       | 2        | 2                        | 14                          | 1                            | 17         | 30                 |
| CLYDEBANK  | -              | 26             | -                        | 8        | 3        | -                        | 5                           | 3                            | 14         | 55                 |
| DEDDINGTON   | -              | 8              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 14                 |
| DENBY DALE   | -              | 10             | -                        | 8        | 3        | 8                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 19                 |
| DORRINGTON   | -              | 6              | 1                        | 3        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 12                 |
| FRICTWELL  | -              | 10             | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 12                 |
| GRIFFYDAM  | -              | 14             | 7                        | 16       | 7        | 23                       | 7                           | 6                            | -          | 32                 |
| HAZLEMERE  | -              | 25             | -                        | 16       | 4        | 49                       | 11                          | 3                            | -          | 55                 |
| HEATH END  | -              | 24             | 4                        | 10       | 3        | 12                       | 34                          | 2                            | 11         | 34                 |
| HECKINGTON   | -              | 6              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 8                  |
| <i>HIGH WYCOMBE CIRCUIT</i>                        |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| BEACONSFIELD                                       | -              | 14             | -                        | 6        | 2        | 7                        | -                           | 3                            | 6          | 12                 |
| FARNHAM COMMON                                     | -              | 9              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 10                 |
| WYCOMBE MARSH                                      | -              | 7              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 8          | 25                 |
|  | -              | 30             | 2                        | 6        | 2        | 7                        | -                           | 7                            | 14         | 47                 |
| IVINGHOE   | -              | 10             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 14                 |
| LOWESTOFT  | -              | 2              | 2                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | 6          | 8                  |
| NUNEATON   | -              | 7              | -                        | 8        | 3        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 8          | 15                 |
| OLDBURY  | -              | 30             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 3                            | -          | 50                 |
| OLD HILL   | -              | 15             | -                        | 4        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 3                            | 15         | 30                 |
| <i>ROTHERHAM, MEXBOROUGH AND DONCASTER CIRCUIT</i> |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| BOWBROOM   | 6              | 20             | -                        | 10       | 2        | 10                       | 1                           | 1                            | -          | 15                 |
| CORNERSTONE  | -              | 15             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 9          | 12                 |
| ELSECAR  | -              | 10             | 2                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 14                 |
| HIGHTHORN  |                | 11             |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            | 20                 |
| HOUGH LANE   | 3              | 20             | 2                        | 9        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 30                 |
| JUMP   | -              | 25             | -                        | -        | -        | 50                       | 5                           | 3                            | 9          | 30                 |
| MEXBOROUGH   | 20             | 46             | -                        | 20       | 7        | -                        | 20                          | 4                            | -          | 93                 |

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|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| NEWHILL                       | -              | 10             | 2                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 10                 |
| ROTHERHAM                     | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | 9          | 3                  |
| WARMSWORTH                    | -              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| WATH                          | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | 10                       | -                           | -                            | -          | 3                  |
|                               | 29             | 163            | 6                        | 39       | 11       | 70                       | 26                          | 14                           | 27         | 230                |
| <i>SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT</i>      |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| COAL ASTON                    | -              | 9              | -                        | 3        | 6        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 14                 |
| GREENHEAD                     | -              | 8              | -                        | 2        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 7                  |
| GRIMESTHORPE                  | -              | 19             | 1                        | 3        | 2        | 3                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 18                 |
| HAMPDEN VIEW                  | -              | 6              | 1                        | 5        | 2        | 25                       | 5                           | 2                            | 15         | 26                 |
| MAYFIELD                      | -              | 18             | 4                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 15         | 15                 |
| OUGHTIBRIDGE                  | -              | 56             | -                        | 17       | 6        | -                        | -                           | 7                            | -          | 52                 |
| OWLERTON                      | -              | 9              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 4                            | 14         | 20                 |
| PHILADELPHIA                  | -              | 9              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 10                 |
| RICHMOND                      | -              | 35             | 4                        | 10       | 3        | 6                        | 10                          | 4                            | 10         | 55                 |
| SHARROW VALE                  | -              | 30             | 2                        | 40       | 12       | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 200                |
| ST. MARYS                     | -              | 8              | -                        | 8        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 15                 |
| WOODSEATS                     | -              | 7              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 3                            | -          | 20                 |
|                               | -              | 214            | 13                       | 88       | 35       | 34                       | 15                          | 26                           | 54         | 452                |
| <i>SLEAFORD CIRCUIT</i>       |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| BRANT BROUGHTON               | -              | 3              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 12                 |
| LEASINGHAM                    | -              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| RUSKINGTON                    | -              | 9              | 1                        | 1        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | 8          | 19                 |
| RUSKINGTON FEN                | -              | 8              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 15                 |
|                               | -              | 20             | 2                        | 1        | 2        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | 8          | 46                 |
| SOULDERN                      | -              | 7              | 2                        | 5        | 2        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 5                  |
| ST. JUST                      | 3              | 11             | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 20                 |
| SYRESHAM                      | 1              | 18             | 1                        | 6        | 2        | 10                       | 8                           | -                            | -          | 23                 |
| <i>WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT</i> |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| ALMA STREET                   | -              | 16             | 3                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | 14         | 24                 |
| BOZEAT                        | 10             | 18             | 1                        | -        | -        | 10                       | -                           | 1                            | -          | 15                 |
| DICKINS MEMORIAL              | -              | 7              | 1                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 8                  |
| ISHAM                         | -              | 7              | 1                        | 1        | 1        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | 15                 |
| RUSHDEN HIGH STREET           | -              | 48             | 1                        | 17       | 4        | 20                       | 23                          | 3                            | 18         | 48                 |
| RUSHDEN MISSION               | -              | 44             | 2                        | 20       | 4        | -                        | -                           | 2                            | -          | 85                 |
| WYMINGTON                     | -              | 11             | -                        | 4        | 4        | -                        | -                           | 1                            | -          | 16                 |
|                               | 10             | 151            | 9                        | 42       | 13       | 30                       | 23                          | 10                           | 32         | 211                |
| <i>SUMMARY OF STATISTICS</i>  |                |                |                          |          |          |                          |                             |                              |            |                    |
| TOTALS FOR 2012               | 47             | 1453           | 105                      | 402      | 159      | 509                      | 263                         | 166                          | 315        | 2084               |
| TOTALS FOR 2013               | 50             | 1310           | 97                       | 356      | 137      | 311                      | 198                         | 134                          | 280        | 1962               |
| INCREASE                      | 3              | -              | -                        | -        | -        | -                        | -                           | -                            | -          | -                  |
| DECREASE                      | -              | 143            | 8                        | 46       | 22       | 198                      | 65                          | 32                           | 35         | 122                |

The report was proposed, seconded and accepted.

12. Greetings from the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion

These were brought by Mr. Clive Dale. He also brought greetings from the Sierra Leone Mission as well as personal greetings from other members of the Connexion. He further reported that John & Dorothy Williams regularly visit their pastors. He shared from 1 Corinthians 12 v 24 – 27, focussing on verse 27.

13. Greetings from the independent Methodist Connexion

These were brought by Eric & Anita Southwick, the President & his wife. He began by graciously bringing an apology for any hurt that had possibly been caused when the talks between the Connexion, the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion and the Wesleyan Reform Union had come to an end some years previously. He then read from Joshua chapter 1 verses 1 – 9. The President led Conference in prayer.

The Association of Church Accountants & Treasurers.

Conference was addressed by Mr. Dan Russell. He read from Exodus, then spoke a little of the work of ACAT. He stressed the need for good financial systems within churches. ACAT is a membership organisation who can give advice and training to church treasurers.

14. Greetings from the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust

These were brought by Paul Busby. He introduced Mr. Wayne Grewcock who spoke about 'Twelve Baskets'. In particular he spoke about 'The Seed' – an online resource where various creative gifts can be shared. There are around 44,000 resources currently – which is constantly increasing.

This concluded business for the day.

# CONFERENCE 2013

Friday morning – June 28<sup>th</sup>

15. Resolution of Loyalty to be moved by The President, Rev Michael G Alderson

“May it please your Most Gracious Majesty, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, to accept the sincere and loyal greetings of the members of the 164th Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches, meeting at “The Hayes Conference Centre”, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

We give thanks to almighty God for your long and faithful reign over both our nation and the Commonwealth, so wonderfully exemplified across the world in the many Diamond Jubilee celebrations enjoyed during last year.

It is our fervent prayer that almighty God will continue to bless you, and your family, with grace, understanding and wisdom that, in the fullness of your duties you may know His clear and righteous guidance and enabling”.

16. Appointment of, and prayer for, General Committee

17. Local Preachers' Fellowship

Report by Carol Nicholls

In October 2012 our friend and much respected Christian, Michael Mumford, went to be with the Lord whom he loved and served so faithfully for most of his life. We thank God for all the memories we have of Michael's witness, wisdom and faithfulness. We continue to remember Joyce and the wider family in prayer.

Our Annual Retreat was held on October 20th at the Aldermans Green Church, when the speaker was Rev Geoff Thomas, who accepted an invitation to lead our sessions at very short notice due to the illness of Rev Bill Patterson. He took as his theme 'Mortification of Sin'. We were challenged and blessed as he led us through the sessions. We are grateful to God for his ministry. It was a joy to have 36 people attending - some of them for the first time.

Full manuscripts or CD's are available, via E-mail, at [carol@carolnicholls.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:carol@carolnicholls.wanadoo.co.uk).

Details of the Retreat to be held on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 are as follows:

Cost: £13 for the day

Venue: Jump Church in the Rotherham, Mexborough and Doncaster Circuit

Speaker: Rev D Cleave of Long Ashton

Time: 10.00am to meet for coffee with the sessions commencing at 10.30am through to 4.00pm after which the Annual Committee Meeting will be held.

In 2014 the Retreat will be on October 18<sup>th</sup> when the speaker will be Rev Bill Patterson of Hinckley. His subject will be 'In Christ Alone'. The venue will be the Ebenezer Church, Oldbury, West Midlands.

In 2015 the Retreat will be held on October 17th when the preacher will be Rev M Stringer of Wigston, Leicestershire.

We are grateful to all our local preachers who serve God so faithfully and we pray that their ministry will be blessed.

Chairman Mrs E Wilcock

Secretary Mrs C Nicholls

Treasurer Mrs E Wilcock

Committee Mr P Johnson, Mr R Evans, Mr R Marshall, Mrs A Marshall, Pastor S Karma, and Brian Hyde.

It was noted that In addition to the above, Robert Nuttall and Maurice Nicholls are also on the Committee

Accounts by Mrs E Wilcock

| LOCAL PREACHER'S FELLOWSHIP |                 | 2012/2013 | 2011/2012 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Income                      |                 |           |           |
| Retreat Fees                |                 | 491       | 741       |
| Donations                   |                 | -         | -         |
| Retreat Offering            |                 | 66        | -         |
| Interest                    |                 | 13        | 4         |
|                             |                 | <hr/>     | <hr/>     |
|                             |                 | 570       | 745       |
| Payments                    |                 |           |           |
| Retreat                     | Gift to Speaker | 300       | 170       |
|                             | Catering        | 100       | 378       |
|                             | Returned Fees   | -         | 65        |
| Printing, Postage, etc      |                 | 50        | 126       |
| Conference Expenses         |                 | 130       | 137       |
| Half Yearly Meetings        |                 | 10        | -         |
| Deficit                     |                 | 20        | 131       |
|                             |                 | <hr/>     | <hr/>     |
|                             |                 | 570       | 745       |
| Fund Balances               |                 |           |           |
| Current Account             |                 | 187       | 220       |
| Reserve Account             |                 | 1,600     | 1,397     |
| Trust Fund                  |                 | 1,398     | 1,592     |
|                             |                 | <hr/>     | <hr/>     |
|                             |                 | £3,185    | £3,209    |

## 18. Young People's Department

Report by Mr S Blyth

The YPD Committee has had a rather quiet year. Having completed the Safeguarding Document, meetings revolved around hearing what was happening in the Union and praying for the activities. This included many events organized and run by Martin Ludbrook who has certainly not had a quiet year. He is doing some splendid work up and down the country.

Martin has organized and run Holiday clubs at various churches including Griffydam, Syresham, Jump and Ellistown. He has supported other churches and groups in planning similar events, meeting with youth leaders, Sunday school teachers and church leaders to support their work and lead holiday club training sessions. All this was done while still completing 3 days teaching per week and undertaking a course of Bible training.

The prayers of the Committee over the year are being answered and plans for the future of youth work in the Union are exciting, we should look forward to the new developments which are in the pipeline.

Please pray for the future of the church and the work being done with young people and young families.

Election of officers: Secretary, Treasurer, Committee, Representative to General Committee

Chairman: Beth Ely

Administrator: Cliff Darby

General Committee representatives: Cliff Darby, Peter Norton & Ady Rugeruzza (TBC)

Committee: Steve Blyth, Martin Ludbrook, Marjorie Nicholls, Andy Wilcock

Representative to General Committee: Steve Blyth

## Home Missions Department Report

### Report by Mr P Busby

Never before in the life of our denomination has there been such a need for mission within our churches. A challenge set recently by Steve Karma in Committee and at the Half Yearly Meetings is that we have reached a point where, if what we do in our day-to-day church life cannot be described as 'missional' then we ought to consider whether it should have any place within our church programme. The same could be said about our circuit and Union activities, including Conference.

In the last 18 months, members of the Home Missions Committee, supported by others throughout the denomination, have sought to sit alongside churches, where invited, to support, encourage and pray. This has been especially evident where a church has lost a minister or leader of many years and has been seeking God's direction for its future. Other churches have called upon our help because they have been struggling in some way, or have simply welcomed another 'point of view' as they seek God's plan for their future.

I have been so pleased at the response of many of our church members to God's call upon their lives as we have sat alongside them. However, they often need our continued support, encouragement and prayers. Subsequently, the work of the DOC (Andy Wilcock), Youth Worker (Martin Ludbrook), Tutors (Ady Rugeruza and Geoffrey Lee) and the Home Missions Committee members continues to grow because of our people following God's calling on their lives and the need for continued support and training. This excites us and is necessary if we are to stem the decline of our denomination.

Changing direction, listening to God's calling and stepping out in mission can be challenging and not a little frightening. The Home Missions Committee is proposing to develop a template that can guide and support our churches in what it means to be 'missional' in all we do in our church and denominational life.

So here we are to help. We are here to pray and work with you. Please let us know how we can help you.

By the way, we would welcome your encouragement, prayers and any financial gifts to fund the ever-increasing workload of the Home Missions Department.

### Report by the Development & Outreach Consultant

I count it a wonderful privilege to be involved with so many churches, meeting people and hearing how God is working in their churches. The Excited about Mission prayer letter is reaching at least 280 people and that's before they pass it on to their friends. These stories are a source of great encouragement, as we hear of non-Christians getting the opportunity to hear the gospel message and of how they are responding to its call. We need to remember that for evangelism to be affective; non-Christians must hear the gospel message and see the gospel at work in our lives. Our prayer needs to be that the Holy Spirit will do a work in the lives of these people, revealing Jesus to them, through the words they hear and the things they see in our lives.

Earlier in the year I attended a 24 hour conference, organized by the Rural Evangelism Network. The theme was 'How do we bring the challenge of the gospel into our everyday activities?' I would love to hear and chat about the challenges you are experiencing in communicating the gospel to your local community. Please do get in touch.

Next year is "Hope 2014". Their website ([www.hopetogether.org.uk](http://www.hopetogether.org.uk)) is full of resources and ideas. Hope 2014 will provide opportunities to bless our communities and be part of a national movement. I would encourage you to join up with churches in your area and get involved, so that a positive profile of Christian Faith in Action may be seen in our communities and lead to people being more open to hearing the message of the gospel.

## 19. Treasurer's Report by Mr G Phillips

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2013

2012/2013

2011/2012

## Employment of Funds

|                                       |        |           |         |           |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| LAND AND BUILDINGS                    |        | 485,000   |         | 485,000   |
| FURNITURE AND FITTINGS COST           | 27,332 |           | 27,332  |           |
| Less: Depreciation to date            | 25,920 | 1,412     | 23,892  | 3,440     |
| INVESTMENTS                           |        | 1,013,846 |         | 1,019,116 |
| LOANS TO CHURCHES                     |        |           |         |           |
| Chapel Loan Fund                      | 16,300 |           | 18,100  |           |
| Extension Fund                        | 71,000 | 87,300    | 88,750  | 106,850   |
| CURRENT ASSETS                        |        |           |         |           |
| Debtors:                              |        |           |         |           |
| Resource Centre                       | 191    |           | 118     |           |
| Magazine                              | 369    |           | 405     |           |
| Sundries                              | 459    |           |         |           |
| National Westminster Bank plc         |        |           |         |           |
| Deposit Account                       | 88,011 |           | 176,941 |           |
| Current Account                       | 5,625  |           | 1,869   |           |
| Cash in Hand                          | 121    | 94,776    | 418     | 179,751   |
|                                       |        | 1,682,334 |         | 1,794,157 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES                   |        |           |         |           |
| Creditors:                            |        |           |         |           |
| Church House Expenses                 |        |           | 150     |           |
| Union Expenses, etc.                  | 3,319  |           | 2,955   |           |
| Actuarial Fees                        | 1,725  |           | 1,900   |           |
| Magazine                              | 697    |           | 697     |           |
| New Connexions                        | 305    | 6,046     | 305     | 6,007     |
|                                       |        | 1,676,288 |         | 1,788,150 |
| REPRESENTED BY:                       |        |           |         |           |
| Property Fund                         |        | 485,000   |         | 485,000   |
| Loan Fund                             |        | 137,935   |         | 137,935   |
| Extension Fund                        |        | 682,297   |         | 731,533   |
| Ellis Crossley CE Fund                |        | 4,832     |         | 9,310     |
| Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust |        | 1,822     |         | 1,781     |
| Leasehold Redemption Fund             |        | -         |         | 1,000     |
| Home Missions Account                 |        | 1,489     |         | 1,566     |
| Young People's Department Account     |        | 3,273     |         | 3,832     |
| General Reserve                       |        | 53,131    |         | 83,868    |
| Holdback Policy Capital Account       |        | 306,509   |         | 332,325   |
|                                       |        | 1,676,288 |         | 1,788,150 |

| UNION EXPENSES ACCOUNT          |  | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Income                          |  |               |               |
| Assessment                      |  | 43,231        | 44,731        |
| Interest                        |  | 22,687        | 21,138        |
| Insurance Commissions           |  | 2,712         | 1,128         |
| Profit from Resource Centre     |  | 409           | 561           |
| Connexional Plan                |  | 1,881         | 1,740         |
| Year Books                      |  | 611           | 554           |
| Child Protection Fees           |  | 516           | 500           |
| Sundries                        |  | 224           | 654           |
| From General Reserve            |  | <u>16,913</u> | <u>16,343</u> |
|                                 |  | <u>89,184</u> | <u>87,349</u> |
| Expenditure                     |  |               |               |
| Salaries etc                    |  | 40,937        | 39,317        |
| Gen Sec's House, Car, Telephone |  | <u>7,747</u>  | <u>6,555</u>  |
| Pension Fund                    |  | 13,854        | 12,597        |
| Church House Expenses           |  | 4,602         | 4,847         |
| Training Department             |  | -             | 2,536         |
| Year Books                      |  | 468           | 482           |
| Magazine                        |  | 1,774         | 1,562         |
| Conference                      |  | 1,562         | 598           |
| Administration:                 |  |               |               |
| Telephone                       |  | 1,488         | 1,385         |
| Postage                         |  | 1,355         | 1,225         |
| Stationery                      |  | 2,233         | 2,260         |
| Insurance                       |  | <u>1,290</u>  | <u>1,544</u>  |
|                                 |  | 6,366         | 6,414         |
| Travelling:                     |  |               |               |
| Conference                      |  | 295           | 475           |
| Half Yearly                     |  | 426           | 284           |
| General Committee               |  | <u>2,747</u>  | <u>4,324</u>  |
|                                 |  | 3,468         | 5,083         |
| Sundry Expenses:                |  |               |               |
| Subscriptions                   |  | 110           | 215           |
| CAS                             |  | 468           | 560           |
| Sundries                        |  | 212           | 220           |
| Legal Costs                     |  | 1,713         | 470           |
| Bank Charges                    |  | <u>815</u>    | <u>810</u>    |
|                                 |  | 3,318         | 2,275         |
| Depreciation                    |  | 2,028         | 2,028         |
| Accountants                     |  | 1,128         | 1,098         |
| Actuaries                       |  | <u>1,932</u>  | <u>1,957</u>  |
|                                 |  | <u>89,184</u> | <u>87,349</u> |

| RESOURCES CENTRE ACCOUNT                          | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Sales</u>                                      | 3,365         | 4,832         |
| Purchases   | 2,809         | 4,084         |
| Postages  | 147           | 187           |
| Profit/Loss transferred to Union Expenses Account | <u>409</u>    | <u>561</u>    |
|   | <u>3,365</u>  | <u>4,832</u>  |
| <br>CONNEXIONAL PLAN                              | <br>2012/2013 | <br>2011/2012 |
| Income from Churches                              | 2,068         | 1,857         |
| Less Postage and Travel                           | 187           | 117           |
| Transferred to Union Expenses Account             | <u>1,881</u>  | <u>1,740</u>  |
| <br>MAGAZINE ACCOUNT                              | <br>2012/2013 | <br>2011/2012 |
| Sales   | 3,080         | 3,226         |
| Printing  | 4,185         | 4,135         |
| Postage   | 669           | 653           |
| Net Cost transferred to Union Expenses Account    | <u>-1,774</u> | <u>-1,562</u> |
|   | <u>3,080</u>  | <u>3,226</u>  |
| <br>HOME MISSIONS ACCOUNT                         | <br>2012/2013 | <br>2011/2012 |
| Balance 1st April 2012                            | 1,566         | 1,464         |
| Donations   | 5,369         | 6,403         |
| Interest  | 36            | 37            |
| Transfer from Extension Fund                      | <u>29,000</u> | <u>18,500</u> |
|   | <u>35,971</u> | <u>26,404</u> |
| Cost of Development and Outreach Consultant       | 12,958        | 12,388        |
| Travel  | 1,899         | 1,550         |
| Grants  | 19,625        | 10,900        |
| Balance 31st March 2013                           | <u>1,489</u>  | <u>1,566</u>  |
|   | <u>35,971</u> | <u>26,404</u> |

YOUNG PEOPLES DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT

|                         | 2012/2013    | 2011/2012    |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Balance 1st April 2012  | 3,832        | 6,090        |
| Donations               | 2,495        | 2,715        |
| Interest                | 88           | 152          |
| Events                  | -            | -            |
|                         | <u>6,415</u> | <u>8,957</u> |
| Salary, etc.            | 2,675        | 3,902        |
| Travel                  | 439          | 1,223        |
| Events                  | -            | -            |
| Sundries                | 28           | -            |
| Balance 31st March 2013 | <u>3,273</u> | <u>3,832</u> |
|                         | <u>6,415</u> | <u>8,957</u> |

ELLIS CROSSLEY & PASTORAL AID FUND

|                              | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Balance 1st April 2012       | 5,467         | 4,620         |
| Pastoral Aid                 | 3,843         | 4,569         |
| Ellis Crossley               |               |               |
| Donations                    | 1,466         | 1,131         |
| Fees                         | 50            | -             |
| Interest                     | 214           | 230           |
| Transfer from Extension Fund | 4,000         | -             |
|                              | <u>15,040</u> | <u>10,550</u> |
| Salary etc.                  | 2,644         | -             |
| Service Increments           | 400           | 400           |
| Training                     | 4,645         | 840           |
| Travelling Expenses          | 1,579         | -             |
| Removal Expenses             | 910           | -             |
| Costs                        | 30            | -             |
| Balance 31st March 2013      | <u>4,832</u>  | <u>9,310</u>  |
|                              | <u>15,040</u> | <u>10,550</u> |

| EXTENSION FUND                      |                         | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Balance 1st April 2012              |                         | 731,533        | 666,759        |
| Sales of Churches                   | Foolow                  | -              | 93,986         |
| Leasehold Redemption                |                         | 1,000          | -              |
| Sundries                            |                         | -              | -              |
|                                     |                         | <u>732,533</u> | <u>760,745</u> |
| Transfer to Home Missions           |                         | 29,000         | 18,500         |
| Transfer to Training & Pastoral Aid |                         | 4,000          | -              |
| Grants                              | Salem                   | 10,000         | 10,000         |
|                                     | Mexborough              | 3,672          | -              |
|                                     | Cudworth                | 602            | -              |
| Sundries                            |                         | 2,962          | 712            |
| Balance 31st March 2013             | Investments             | 611,297        | 642,783        |
|                                     | Loans                   | 71,000         | 88,750         |
|                                     |                         | <u>682,297</u> | <u>731,533</u> |
|                                     |                         | <u>732,533</u> | <u>760,745</u> |
| HOLDBACK POLICY CAPITAL ACCOUNT     |                         | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
| Balance 1st April 2012              |                         | 332,325        | 339,993        |
| Sales of Churches                   | Foolow                  | -              | 69,838         |
|                                     |                         | <u>332,325</u> | <u>409,831</u> |
| Grants                              |                         |                |                |
|                                     | Stoney Middleton        | 14,202         |                |
|                                     | Isham                   | 2,500          |                |
|                                     | Rushden Mission         | 7,114          |                |
|                                     | Addingham               | 2,000          |                |
|                                     |                         | 25,816         | 77,506         |
| Balances 31st March 2013            |                         |                |                |
|                                     | Barnsley Circuit        | 1,716          | 1,716          |
|                                     | Bakewell Circuit        | 185,516        | 199,718        |
|                                     | R,M & D Circuit         | 1,110          | 1,110          |
|                                     | Cawston Circuit         | 14,497         | 14,497         |
|                                     | Wellingborough Circuit  | 7,690          | 17,303         |
|                                     | Bradford Circuit        | 69,231         | 71,231         |
|                                     | Nottinghamshire Circuit | 24,331         | 24,331         |
|                                     | Birmingham              | 2,418          | 2,419          |
|                                     |                         | <u>306,509</u> | <u>332,325</u> |
|                                     |                         | <u>332,325</u> | <u>409,831</u> |

| LOAN FUND                             |             | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Balance 1st April 2012                | Chapel Loan | 115,534        | 112,716        |
|                                       | Manse Loan  | 22,401         | 21,855         |
| Interest                              |             | -              | 3,364          |
| Collections                           |             | -              | -              |
| Balance 31st March 2013               |             | <u>137,935</u> | <u>137,935</u> |
| <br>                                  |             |                |                |
| PERCY AND RUTH JOHNSON MEMORIAL TRUST |             | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
| Balance 1st April 2012                |             | 1,781          | 1,738          |
| Interest                              |             | 41             | 43             |
|                                       |             | <u>1,822</u>   | <u>1,781</u>   |
| Balance 31st March 2013               |             | <u>1,822</u>   | <u>1,781</u>   |
| <br>                                  |             |                |                |
| NEW CONNEXIONS ACCOUNT                |             | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
| Balance 1st April 2012                |             | 305            | 345            |
| Sundries                              |             | -              | -              |
|                                       |             | <u>305</u>     | <u>345</u>     |
| Church Hire                           |             | -              | 40             |
| Balance 31st March 2013               |             | <u>305</u>     | <u>305</u>     |
|                                       |             | <u>305</u>     | <u>345</u>     |
| <br>                                  |             |                |                |
| GENERAL RESERVE                       |             | 2012/2013      | 2011/2013      |
| Balance 1st April 2012                |             | 83,868         | 114,970        |
| Collections                           |             | 100            | -              |
| Sale of Eyam cottage                  |             | -              | -              |
| Rent from Thornbrook Close            | 3,480       |                | 3,480          |
| Less costs                            | 6,154       | -2,674         | 241            |
|                                       |             | <u>81,294</u>  | <u>115,211</u> |
| <br>                                  |             |                |                |
| Additional Pension Scheme Costs       |             | 11,250         | 15,000         |
| Union Expenses                        |             | 16,913         | 16,343         |
| Balance 31st March 2013               |             | <u>53,131</u>  | <u>83,868</u>  |
|                                       |             | <u>81,294</u>  | <u>115,211</u> |

| INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTION                 | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Interest from Investments               | 23,066        | 24,916        |
| Less Retained by Union Expenses Account | <u>22,687</u> | <u>21,090</u> |
|   | <u>379</u>    | <u>3,826</u>  |

Distribution:

|                                       |            |              |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Home Missions                         | 36         | 37           |
| Young People's Department             | 88         | 152          |
| Ellis Crossley & Pastoral Aid Fund    | 214        | 230          |
| Loan Fund                             | -          | 3,364        |
| Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust | <u>41</u>  | <u>43</u>    |
|                                       | <u>379</u> | <u>3,826</u> |

| INVESTMENTS                                 | Invested at<br>31/03/2012 | Invested<br>2012/2013 | Repaid<br>2012/2013 | Invested at<br>31/03/2013 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| National Savings Bank<br>Investment Account | 38,216                    | 276                   | 38,492              | -                         |
| Income Bonds                                | 250,000                   | -                     | -                   | 250,000                   |
| Nat West Bond 12150509                      | 315,400                   | -                     | 315,400             | -                         |
| Nat West Bond 13516973                      | 415,500                   | -                     | 415,500             | -                         |
| Nat West Bond 21106606                      |                           | 763,846               | -                   | 763,846                   |
|   | 1,059,116                 | 764,122               | 769,392             | 1,013,846                 |

CHAPEL LOAN FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

| Description    | Original<br>Loan | New Loans<br>Year to<br>31/03/13 | Balance<br>31/03/12 | Repaid<br>Year to<br>31/03/13 | Balance<br>31/03/13 | Collection<br>Received<br>31/03/13 |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2002 Ellistown | 3,000            | -                                | 100                 | -                             | 100                 | -                                  |
| 2011 Mayfield  | 18,000           | -                                | 18,000              | 1,800                         | 16,200              | 100                                |
|                | 21,000           | -                                | 18,100              | 1,800                         | 16,300              | 100                                |

EXTENSION FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

| Description          | Original<br>Loan | New Loans<br>Year to<br>31/03/13 | Balance<br>31/03/12 | Repaid<br>Year to<br>31/03/13 | Balance<br>31/03/13 | Collection<br>Received<br>31/03/13 |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2007 Farnham Common  | 15,000           | -                                | 8,750               | 750                           | 8,000               | -                                  |
| 2008 Salem, Barnsley | 10,000           | -                                | 10,000              | 10,000                        | -                   | -                                  |
| 2008 Attleborough    | 25,000           | -                                | 20,000              | 7,000                         | 13,000              | -                                  |
| 2009 Clydebank       | 60,000           | -                                | 50,000              | -                             | 50,000              | -                                  |
|                      |                  | -                                | 88,750              | 17,750                        | 71,000              | -                                  |

The Treasurer made 4 proposals as follows

#### Proposal 1

When a Church subject to Wesleyan Reform Union Reference Deed, has to be presented for sale due to redundancy and unsustainability the Wesleyan Reform Union will now assess each building and come to a view as to whether a planning application for a change of use for a "socially acceptable" purpose should be submitted in advance of the formal disposal processes demanded by the Charities Act 2011 and the relevant church deed.

#### Proposal 2

The surplus of holdback money from the sale of Skelmanthorpe and Colby Long Road Churches resulting from the "cap" in the Grants & Loans Policy should be applied to the General Reserve Fund.

#### Proposal 3

Assessment to be raised by £1 to £33 per member, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

#### Proposal 4

The word "charge" in clause 3 of the last paragraph of the Grants and Loans Policy agreed at Conference 2011 be replaced by the words "legal agreement".

All proposals were accepted.

#### 20. Ministerial Committee Report

Report by Rev C Braithwaite

It is a tremendous joy to be able to begin this report by informing you that three of our ministers (Steve Blyth, Steve Karma and Ady Rugeruzza) will be Ordained at Conference. These three men have all completed their dissertation on the WRU Confession of Faith and met to discuss it with the Ministerial Committee. It was a privilege to share fellowship with them at their interviews.

There have been a number of new appointments during the year as well as some already established personnel moving to other areas of service:

- Colin Bolton is now settled at St James Old Hill
- Chris Barnes has been inducted as Minister at Bethel Community Church
- Sian Edwards has settled in well at the Ashington Church. She is also helping at Choppington
- Ady Rugeruzza is now ministering at the Jump and Staincross Churches
- Jackie Clarke has been inducted to be Pastor of Church on the Rock
- Peter Mitchell has been inducted at Swanton Abbott
- Dave Clifford has applied for Ordination

There are no churches currently seeking ministry and we regret that the Low Moor and the Colby Long Road Churches have taken the decision to close. The Leasingham Church is also in the process of considering possible closure.

The role of Union Tutor is currently being shared between Geoffrey Lee (who continues to be responsible for biblical studies) and Ady Rugeruzza who is responsible for the theological studies and has been updating the study material as well as ways in which the courses are presented. It is good to have a number of his students with us at Conference.

We are grateful to all our ministers and leaders for their willingness to serve the Lord and His people in this way and would ask that you continue to remember all of them in prayer.

Election of Committee (This will be presented, and approved, on Saturday morning)

List of Ministers

The names of Steve Blyth, Steve Karma and Ady Rugeruza will be moved to the Full list of Ministers for the Year Book. In addition, Ady Rugeruza's address should read "4 Wentworth MEWS" with the post code S74 OHZ".

(Figures in brackets denote years in Present Charge)

#### Year Ordained

- 1956 Geoffrey D Lee BD ALBC  
"Rosebank", 1 Abbey Road, Simpson, Milton Keynes. MK6 3AE  
Tel: 01908 395246 E-mail: [geoffdlee@talktalk.net](mailto:geoffdlee@talktalk.net)  
BOZEAT CHURCH (14)
- 1960 Reginald Taylor (retired)  
3 Ladyslaude Court, Bramley Way, Bedford. MK41 7FX  
Tel: 01234 266544
- 1960 John W Goulder ThM (retired)  
35 Dumas-Cul-de-Sac, Brackley, Northants. NN13 6LL  
Tel: 01280 841469 E-mail: [jwg35d@gmail.com](mailto:jwg35d@gmail.com)
- 1969 David Allcock (retired)  
23 Darrell Place, Norwich, Norfolk, NR5 8QW  
Tel: 01603 501040 E-mail: [allcock603@btinternet.com](mailto:allcock603@btinternet.com)
- 1970 A John Williams (retired)  
2 Bunyan Road, Bicester, OX26 2YB  
Tel: 01869 388707 E-mail: [austin.williams@talktalk.net](mailto:austin.williams@talktalk.net)
- 1971 Anthony E Hodgkinson (retired)  
30 Beaumont Avenue, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicester. LE65 2NF  
Tel: 01530 416521 E-mail: [daphton@sky.com](mailto:daphton@sky.com)
- 1974 Ralph S Thompson (retired)  
Bethesda, 51 Queens Road, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA6 6EQ  
Tel: 01278 425746 E-mail: [hazelvt@talkalk.net](mailto:hazelvt@talkalk.net)
- 1974 Maurice Nicholls JP (retired)  
29 Willow Court, Uplands Drive, Markfield, Leicester, LE67 9WF  
Tel: 01530 242422 E-mail: [carol@carolnicholls.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:carol@carolnicholls.wanadoo.co.uk)
- 1976 Frank Robinson (retired)  
5 Emery Close, Sheringham, Norfolk. NR26 8YB  
Tel: 01263 822335
- 1988 Peter H Norton  
56 Silverdale Close, Coventry CV2 1PX  
Tel: 024 7668 5230 E-mail: [revsnorton@btinternet.com](mailto:revsnorton@btinternet.com)  
ALDERMANS GREEN (7)
- 1989 Gordon C Gordon MA (retired)  
3 Lightlands Terrace, Wigtown, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire. DG8 9DY
- 1997 John M Leslie (retired)  
14 East Avenue, Bedworth, Warwickshire. CV12 9EH  
Tel: 024 7631 6167
- 1998 Phillip J Hearson  
11 South Park, Rushden, Northants. NN10 9LY

Tel: 01933 312392 E-mail: [p-j.hearson@sky.com](mailto:p-j.hearson@sky.com)  
RUSHDEN HIGH STREET (7)

1998 Michael G Alderson  
6 Vine Close, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP15 7UT  
Tel: 01494 814530 E-mail: [Malderson@btinternet.com](mailto:Malderson@btinternet.com)  
HAZLEMERE CHURCH (10)

1980 Colin Braithwaite  
Church House, 123 Queen Street, Sheffield S1 2DU  
Tel: 0114 272 1938 E-mail: [gen.sec@thewru.co.uk](mailto:gen.sec@thewru.co.uk)  
GENERAL SECRETARY (7)

2004 Ian Fall  
161 Wellingborough Road, Rushden, Northants. NN10 9TA  
Tel: 01933 312919 E-mail: [ian.fall@virgin.net](mailto:ian.fall@virgin.net)  
RUSHDEN MISSION (7)

1985 Stephen Griffiths  
4 Glenwood Gardens, Bedworth, Warwickshire, CV12 8BD  
Tel: 024 7649 1624 E-mail: [stephengriffiths@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:stephengriffiths@mypostoffice.co.uk)  
BEDWORTH CHURCH (1)

#### ***MINISTERS AWAITING ORDINATION***

Stephen Karma  
63 Prince's Road, Tividale, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 2LS  
Tel: 0121 552 9416 E-mail: [ebenezerchurch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ebenezerchurch@hotmail.co.uk)  
OLDBURY CHURCH

Adalbert Rugeruzza  
4 Wentworth Views, Church Street, Jump, Barnsley, S74  
Tel: 07974 531258 E-mail: [adyrugeruzza@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adyrugeruzza@hotmail.co.uk)  
Jump and Staincross Churches

Stephen Blyth  
6a The Green, Attleborough, NUNEATON, Warwickshire, CV11 4FJ  
Tel: 024 7637 3180 E-mail: [Blyth.sa@gmail.com](mailto:Blyth.sa@gmail.com)

#### ***MINISTERS ACCEPTED BY THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE***

William Hartwell (retired)  
"Cranford", 175 Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. GL35 7DW  
Tel: 01242 520723

#### ***MINISTERS INDEPENDENTLY APPOINTED BY CHURCHES (in alphabetical order)***

CHRISTOPHER BARNES BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH  
257 Bowling Hall Road, Bradford, BD4 7JT  
Tel: 01274 306230 E-mail: [chrisbarnes257@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chrisbarnes257@hotmail.co.uk)

NEIL BEDFORD ADDINGHAM CHURCH  
7 St Helena's Park, Otley Old Road, Horsforth, West Yorkshire LS18 5HZ  
Tel: 0113 203 7230 E-mail: [neil.bedford@btinternet.com](mailto:neil.bedford@btinternet.com)

ISHAKU BITRUS CLYDEBANK CHURCH  
76 Barns Street, Whitecrook, Clydebank, West Dumbartonshire G81 1QY  
Tel: 0141 952 2293 E-mail: [ajibauka@gmail.com](mailto:ajibauka@gmail.com)

JACKIE CLARKE  
24 Century Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 4AS  
Tel: 0121 552 7153 E-mail: [dibleyj@btopenworld.com](mailto:dibleyj@btopenworld.com)

COLIN BOLTON  
31 Bagley Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY9 7AU  
Tel: 01384 346378 E-mail: [colinbolton30@gmail.com](mailto:colinbolton30@gmail.com)

JAMES BRADDOCK  
26 Cardwell Drive, Sheffield. S13 7XD  
Tel: 0114 293 9677 E-mail: [jim.braddock@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.braddock@btinternet.com)

Paul Busby  
12 St Margarets, Lower Outwoods, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 0QH  
Tel: 01283 548800 E-mail: [ppaulbusby@aol.com](mailto:ppaulbusby@aol.com)

David Clifford  
12 Windsor Road, Pitstone, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. LU7 9GD  
Tel: 01296 668906 E-mail: [davidclifford954@sky.com](mailto:davidclifford954@sky.com)

Sian Edwards  
18 Parkside Court, Ashington, Northumberland. NE63 9WE  
Tel: 01670 812533 E-mail: [sianedwards283@btinternet.com](mailto:sianedwards283@btinternet.com)

Stanley Liffen  
138 Raglan Street, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 2JT  
Tel: 01502 517395

Nick Lugg  
28 West View Road, Mexborough, South Yorkshire S64 9BE  
Tel: 01709 584425 E-mail: [nick\\_lugg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nick_lugg@yahoo.co.uk)

Peter Mitchell  
10 Park Avenue, Scottow, Norfolk. NR10 5BY  
Tel: 01692 538657 E-mail: [beryl.mitchell@talktalk.net](mailto:beryl.mitchell@talktalk.net)

Robert Nuttall  
1 Sunnybank Court, Denby Dale, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. HD8 8TJ  
Tel: 01484 863406 E-mail: [nuttall@nuttallrobert866.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:nuttall@nuttallrobert866.orangehome.co.uk)

Brian Pratt  
90 Pytchley Road, Kettering, Northants. NN15 6JA  
Tel: 01536 520844

Ian Relf  
25 Cumbrian Way, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 9BP  
Tel: 01509 829166 E-mail: [Barbara.relf1@ntlworld.com](mailto:Barbara.relf1@ntlworld.com)



# CONFERENCE 2013

Friday afternoon – June 28<sup>th</sup>

Percy Johnson now in Cirencester sent best wishes to Conference via Daphne and Tony Hodkinson and a letter has been sent to him to express our love and prayers were offered for him.

The debate on the Ordination of Women within the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches was concluded with thanks from the Rev Peter Norton for the way in which the conversation was held. Prayers were offered that God would continue to reveal His way and His wisdom on this matter to us.

22. Overseas Missions Department  
Report by Mrs J Shepherd

## **Overseas Mission**

### **Global Vision, Local Insight, Personal Touch**

As I write this report, the final plans are all in place for the Away Day, but as it hasn't happened yet, a full report will be given at Conference.

It is encouraging that we are privileged to present a new name to be added to our List of Mission Personnel. To those of you who were at Conference at High Leigh in 2010, Sarah Armitage will not be an unfamiliar name. She joined us at that Conference and gave us a wonderful presentation on the situation in Burma and the work which she was involved with as part of Partners Relief and Development. She is now working as UK Director for this organisation, is a member of our Mexborough Church and is travelling around the country bringing the plight of the children to the forefront of attention in both church and government situations. We are pleased to add her name to our list. Sadly, that is not the only change, because of the fact that Helen Grimshaw has returned home from Latvia due to some health problems which made the climate in Latvia very difficult for her. Please pray that God will reveal His will for her back in England.

It is also really good to see that some of the projects that we have been involved with over the years are coming to fruition.

- The Shalom Birthing Clinic in Manila was dedicated to the work of the Lord in November 2012 and will be used as a state of the art Birthing Home and teaching centre for midwives, by the time you read this report. When I last spoke to Mavis Orton, the money to complete the work had been given and the finishing touches were being put on the building.
- Last week, I received a letter from Wycliffe to say that the Warji gospel of Luke had just come off the press; it has been recorded in audio and is being produced on CD and solar powered MegaVoice players (similar to Proclaimers). The JESUS film has been produced and "reading and writing books" in the language are almost ready.

How good it is for us to have been involved with two such special projects and to know that both of them will have benefits way into the future that we will never be able to measure.

This year we have also launched our OM Newsletter which is being sent out to all of our churches. We try to time them so that they can be sent in the mailings from Church House. We would love to hear your comments about this and your ideas. If there is anything in particular you would like to see in it, please come and visit us at the OM stand.

Our project this year is on a new continent – South America, Bolivia, to be precise and we will be partnering with Latin Link. An amazing and informative display is on the OM stand – please do come and see.

Please keep praying for our Personnel – it is a tough world out there and particularly where some of them are working. They need our prayers. Please let us know if you would like to receive prayer letters as we receive them (to do that, you need to have an email address). Thank you for your continued support for this work – we will announce the results of the Proclaimer project during Conference.

- Away Day has now taken place and was a wonderful day, impressed by the dedication of those working for the three organisations. MAF, AWM and Wycliffe Bible Translators. Learnt about use of mobile phones, Skype and Facebook to bring people together. A gift of £230 was given to each of the organisations from funds raised on the day in addition to the £500 previously agreed.
- Jan demonstrated a “Proclaimer” to us and told us that £5,324.90 has so far been raised and the funds will purchase machines for use in Ethiopia.
- Apolo Project is in Bolivia. Bolivia is four times the size of UK with one sixth of the population 67% under 30 with large families. Full details of the project will be supplied to Churches very soon.

Accounts by Mr G Evans

OVERSEAS MISSION

| General Fund                      | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income                            |               |               |
| Balance 1st April                 | 8,412         | 9,391         |
| Donations                         |               |               |
| General Fund                      | 6,668         | 3,848         |
| Enterprise Project 10/11          | -             | 1,696         |
| Burundi Toilets                   | 2,824         | 4,356         |
| Proclaimers Project 12/13         | 2,508         | -             |
| Interest from Reserve Account     | 1             | 2             |
| Interest from Investment Accounts | 10            | 6             |
| Gift Aid Tax Return               | 615           | 262           |
|                                   | <u>21,038</u> | <u>19,561</u> |

|                                  |                |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Expenditure                      |                |                |
| Conference Fees                  | 105            | 106            |
| Secretary's Honorarium/Expenses  | 25             | 50             |
| Half Yearly Expenses             | 10             | 10             |
| Interest to Training & Fairhurst | 3              | 2              |
| Annual Gifts                     |                |                |
| WEC                              | 1,000          | 2,300          |
| Wycliffe Bible Translators       | 250            | 1,100          |
| Radstock Ministries              | -              | 1,300          |
| J Taylor                         | 550            | 1,300          |
| R Moorin                         | 550            | 1,300          |
| Arab World Ministries            | 550            | 1,300          |
| H Grimshaw                       | 550            | -              |
| OMF International                | -              | 200            |
| J & A McClean/UFM                | 550            | 1,300          |
| J & A McClean Special            | 2,619          |                |
| Projects                         |                |                |
| Enterprise Project 10/11         | -              | 4,125          |
| Burundi Toilets 11/12            | 7,180          | -              |
| Balance 31st March               | <u>7,096</u>   | <u>5,168</u>   |
|                                  | <u>£21,038</u> | <u>£19,561</u> |

Note: Because of the change of schedule of Union Meetings the annual gifts for year end 2011 and 2012 were both included in last year's figures. J & A McClean special funds to cover emergency air fares, with £2,330 in donations (included in General Fund) and £288.75 in gift aid.

|  |              |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Irving & Edith Fairhurst Memorial Fund | 2012/2013    | 2011/2012    |
| Balance 1st April                      | 1,130        | 1,129        |
| Interest                               | <u>1</u>     | <u>1</u>     |
| Balance 31st March                     | <u>1,131</u> | <u>1,130</u> |

|                    |              |              |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Training Fund      | 2012/2013    | 2011/2012    |
| Balance 1st April  | 2,114        | 2,190        |
| S Youdan           | -            | -77          |
| Interest           | <u>2</u>     | <u>1</u>     |
| Balance 31st March | <u>2,116</u> | <u>2,114</u> |

|                         |               |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Summary                 | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
| General Fund            | 1,341         | 811           |
| Project Fund            | 2,508         | 4,356         |
| Fairhurst Memorial Fund | 2,116         | 1,130         |
| Training Fund           | <u>1,131</u>  | <u>2,114</u>  |
| Total                   | <u>£7,096</u> | <u>£8,411</u> |

|                                      |               |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Balances                             | 2012/2013     | 2011/2012     |
| Current Accounts NatWest             | 2,394         | 2,021         |
| Reserve Account NatWest              | 1,581         | 3,280         |
| National Savings Investment Accounts | <u>3,121</u>  | <u>3,110</u>  |
| Total                                | <u>£7,096</u> | <u>£8,411</u> |

Present List of Missionaries, by Mrs J Shepherd

***List of Overseas Mission Personnel 2013 – 2014***

|      |                              |   |
|------|------------------------------|---|
| 1986 | Margaret                     | c/o Wesleyan Reform Union<br>Church House,<br>123 Queen Street,<br>Sheffield, S1 2DU.   |
| 1995 | Mark & Angie Barnes          | via Mr G Evans<br>10 Carr Road,<br>Wath upon Dearne,<br>Rotherham, S63 7AA.   |
| 2002 | Jackie Taylor                | c/o Mrs A Chattaway<br>82 Wren Road,<br>Sidcup,<br>Kent, DA14 4NF<br><a href="mailto:jacky2010@mailforpeople.com">jacky2010@mailforpeople.com</a> |
| 2003 | Rob & Grace Moorin           | c/o Mr & Mrs R L Moorin<br>Coates Lane,<br>High Wycombe, HP13 5EY.<br><a href="mailto:rmoorin@yahoo.com">rmoorin@yahoo.com</a>                    |
| 2003 | Helen, Arab World Ministries | c/o Wesleyan Reform Union<br>Church House,<br>123 Queen Street,<br>Sheffield, S1 2DU  |
| 2013 | Sarah Armitage               | Partners Relief and Development UK<br>PO Box 557<br>Mexborough<br>South Yorkshire, S63 3EN  |

***List of Associated Overseas Mission Personnel 2013 – 2014***

|      |                            |   |
|------|----------------------------|---|
| 1990 | Stephen & Gillian Bryant   | 67 Budbury Tynning,<br>Bradford on Avon, BA15 1QE.                                    |
| 1995 | Philip & Diane Benstead    | c/o Wesleyan Reform Union<br>Church House,<br>123 Queen Street,<br>Sheffield, S1 2DU. |
| 1995 | Stephen & Nessie Levinsohn | 60 Falcon Avenue,<br>Brickhill,<br>Bedford, MK41 7DX.                                 |
| 1996 | Graham & Jean Womersley    | Sunnymeads,<br>Ashlett Road,<br>Fawley,<br>Southampton, SO45 1DS                      |

1998 Jonathan & Ann McClean

c/o 145 Farrington Road,  
Swindon,  
Wiltshire, SN1 5DL.  
[mccleansinthailand@gmail.com](mailto:mccleansinthailand@gmail.com)

|                       |           |                   |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Election of officers: | Chairman  | Muriel Stonehewer |
|                       | Secretary | Jan Shepherd      |
|                       | Treasurer | Graham Evans      |

Jan then led Conference in prayer for our overseas workers

### 23. Women of Action Report

Report by Mrs S Fall

Being the Secretary of the Women of Action is a real privilege and delight. As we have gone through the year meeting at different events, I marvel at the number of women that I have been able to chat with and hear what God is doing either in their lives, or in their churches. It is so good to know that we are part of a wider circle that encompasses ladies from all over the country.

We would like to thank Miss Judy Land, our past President for representing the Women of Action as she has served God faithfully throughout her year of office. Judy was able to visit many churches and groups throughout the Union and would like to thank everyone for their prayers, love and support during her year. We pray that God will continue to bless her and use her in all that she seeks to do for Him.

You will now be aware that in January the President Elect informed us that she was unable to fulfil this role which left the Committee desperately seeking God for the way forward. We even questioned whether we should have a President or whether this role needed to change. However, having sought God, He spoke very clearly and by Conference I will have been inducted as the President of the Women of Action. Being President is not a role that I would have chosen, I feel very inadequate, but I know that God is real, that He has called me and that He can be trusted to fulfil His plan. I ask for your prayers as I seek to do God's will and bring His message to the churches and groups that invite me.

Each year we hold two events, the Quiet Day in Autumn, which is very reflective, and a Spring Event which takes the format of a workshop with activities, all based on a set theme. It was decided that we would plan these events each year so that one would be in the south and one in the north so as to encourage ladies from the local areas to come along. Last year's Quiet day was led by Sue Over at Oldbury and it was great to see many new ladies who we had never met before. The theme was 'This is Your Life' and as we sat and dwelt on the readings, God touched hearts and lives in a very real and meaningful way..

Unfortunately the Spring Event in March had to be cancelled because of the snow. We were very sorry and sad. At the time of writing we are still yet to have the AGM, when we will prayerfully consider future events so further details will follow.

The Women of Action have been able to give a grant to the Fife Street Church to cover the cost of new Christian books for the playgroup that meets there. If any other church would like to apply for a grant please ask for an application form.

As we look towards another year, we would ask for your prayers and support as we seek God for the way forward - that we would be attentive to His voice and obedient to whatever He calls the Women of Action to do.

Officers for the year are:

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| President                            | Sandra Fall               |
| President Elect                      | Meryl Griffiths           |
| Secretary                            | Sandra Fall               |
| Treasurer                            | Daphne Hodkinson          |
| Contact Secretary                    | Cynthia Bryant            |
| Rep to Women's World Day of Prayer   | Muriel Stonehewer         |
| Representatives to General Committee | Sandra Fall and Judy Land |

- Autumn Reflection to incorporate some of plans for Royal Celebration but reflective time too, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013 Worsborough Dale Community Church, Barnsley.
- Day of Teaching by Jan Finch who has connections with Bedworth Church Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Aldermans Green Church.
- AGM Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at Cole Aston Church Morning prayer and afternoon AGM.

Accounts by Mrs D Hodkinson

| WOMEN OF ACTION            | 2012/2013    | 2011/2012    |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income                     |              |              |
| Balance brought forward    | 1,126        | 1,095        |
| Spring Event Donations     | -            | 150          |
| Offerings                  | 161          | 128          |
| Donations                  | 360          | 414          |
| Conference repayments      | 151          | -            |
|                            | <u>1,798</u> | <u>1,787</u> |
| Expenditure                |              |              |
| President's Gift/Insurance | 50           | 110          |
| President's Expenses       | -            | -            |
| Conference Fees            | 391          | 336          |
| Half Yearly Fees           | 20           | 20           |
| Secretary's Expenses       | -            | 70           |
| Quiet Day Expenses         | -            | -            |
| Spring Event Expenses      | -            | 125          |
| Balance carried forward    | 1,337        | 1,126        |
|                            | £1,798       | £1,787       |
| Outreach Account           |              |              |
| Income                     |              |              |
| Balance brought forward    | 630          | 630          |
| Gifts                      | -            | -            |
|                            | 630          | 630          |
| Expenditure                |              |              |
| Busy Bees, Fife Street     | 39           | -            |
| Balance carried forward    | 591          | 630          |

|                             |        |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
|                             | 630    | 630    |
| Summary                     |        |        |
| General Current Account     | 1,337  | 1,126  |
| Outreach Account            | 591    | 630    |
| All held in Lloyds TSB Bank | £1,928 | £1,756 |

# CONFERENCE 2013

Saturday morning – June 29<sup>th</sup>

24. Approval of Union Committees for 2013-2014

Accepted as agreed by General Committee

25. Report of the Wesleyan Reform Union Housing for Retired Ministers Fund

a. Report by Rev C Braithwaite

It is some years now since the Housing Trust was set up in our Union in an effort to assist our ordained Ministers financially, particularly at the time of their retirement when sometimes they have problems with housing and other needs. In addition, it has been a joy to be able to help several of the Ministers over the years in different ways.

The Trustees of the Scheme (Brian Kay, Paul Busby, Brian Pratt and Neil Sowerby) are always ready to discuss problems with our retiring or retired Ministers and to help where they can. In the first instance they would encourage any of our retired Ministers to contact the General Secretary to request an application form. Any requests will receive a sympathetic ear.

Since last Conference the Trustees have received donations from several of our Churches and this has been very encouraging. Thank you to every Church who has helped in this way, it is much appreciated and we look forward to new and continued support. If any Church feels able to support the work, even in these uncertain days of economic crisis, kindly send donations to Church House.

Accepted as read

b. Accounts by Rev C Braithwaite

| HOUSING FOR RETIRED MINISTERS                        | 2012/2013        | 2011/2012        |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Income   |                  |                  |
| Interest - Northern Rock Building Society            | 869.29           | 154.67           |
| Donations  | 1,415.00         | 1,588.00         |
|  | <u>2,284.29</u>  | <u>1,742.67</u>  |
| Expenditure  |                  |                  |
| Grant towards rent                                   | 1,200.00         | 1200.00          |
| Grant towards repairs                                | -                | -                |
| Net Incoming resources                               | <u>1,084.29</u>  | <u>542.67</u>    |
|  |                  |                  |
| Building Society Balance 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2012 | <u>62,514.72</u> | <u>61,972.05</u> |
| Loan Repayment                                       | <u>10,000</u>    |                  |
| Building Society Balance 31st March 2013             | <u>73,599.01</u> | <u>62,514.72</u> |
|  |                  |                  |
| Summary  |                  |                  |
| Building Society Account (Northern Rock)             | 73,599.01        | 62,514.72        |
| Secured Loans  | 7,000.00         | 17,000.00        |

Accounts accepted as presented

26. Ministers' Provident Society

a. Report by Rev P Hearson

We want to say thank you to all those who have supported the Society over the past year. This may have been financially or prayerfully or perhaps by encouraging the Officers and Board Members.

During the year we have supported nine ministers and two widows. Annuities were paid at the same rate as the previous year. Those who receive our support are very grateful for the gifts, letters of encouragement and your prayers. Each quarter we receive many phone calls, emails or cards expressing thanks.

Over the last year we were saddened by the passing of Michael Mumford, but are certain that he is now receiving his reward for a life of service for the Lord; he was a great blessing to the Wesleyan Reform Union. He had served as a Board Member of the Society for many years for which we are grateful. Our prayers continue for his family.

You will note from our financial report that the balance of funds has reduced by around £7,000 over the year. Interest received is still significantly lower than several years ago due to the general prevailing interest rates. We are committed to continuing to support our annuitants but we do need your continued support, either as churches or individuals. We are, of course, very aware of the many calls upon your giving but would ask that you look upon the Society favourably.

Thank you once again.

Rev. Ian Fall – Chairman

Mr. David Rooksby – Treasurer

Rev. Phillip Hearson – Secretary

Accepted as presented

b. Accounts by Mr D Rooksby

| MINISTERS PROVIDENT SOCIETY          |                           | 2012/2013      | 2011/2012      |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                        |                           |                |                |
| Balance Brought Forward              |                           | 87,446         | 95,625         |
| Donations                            |                           | 1,840          | 1,844          |
| Subscriptions                        |                           | 36             | 84             |
| Legacy from the late Mrs Jean Barton |                           | 500            |                |
| Interest                             | National Savings*         | -              | 5              |
|                                      | HSBC Money Manager        | -              | 4              |
|                                      | CAF Birmingham Midshares* | -              | 144            |
|                                      | CAF Scottish Widows       | 1,386          | 1,059          |
|                                      | Anglo Irish*              | -              | 705            |
| (* indicates account now closed)     |                           | <u>91,208</u>  | <u>99,470</u>  |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                   |                           |                |                |
| Annuitants                           |                           | 11,000         | 11,500         |
| Sundries                             |                           | -              | 24             |
| Funeral Gift                         |                           | -              | 500            |
| Balance Carried Forward              |                           | <u>80,208</u>  | <u>87,446</u>  |
|                                      |                           | <u>91,208</u>  | <u>99,470</u>  |
| <b>Balances</b>                      |                           |                |                |
| HSBC Money Manager                   |                           | -              | 239            |
| HSBC Community account               |                           | 2,108          | 1,148          |
| CAF Scottish Widows                  |                           | -              | 86,059         |
| Virgin Money                         |                           | 78,100         | -              |
|                                      |                           | <u>£80,208</u> | <u>£87,446</u> |

c. Election of Officers: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer  
I. Fall (Chairman) P. Hearson (Secretary) D. Rooksby (Treasurer)

27. Safeguarding Issues

There is a new form now available on line as well as manually  
The form needs to be carefully completed (ie so that clearance covers the maximum scope)  
The safeguarding policy needs to be kept up to date and people made aware of them.  
Information will be put on WRU Web Site regarding safeguarding training.  
Report accepted

28. Any Other Business

Home Missions weekend event "Worship and Praise Workshop" at Moira - June 28<sup>th</sup>. & 29<sup>th</sup> 2014  
Accommodation available

29. Vote of Thanks