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Angola Jamaica Bangladesh Nepal Brazil Sri Lanka El Salvador Thailand France Trinidad India Zaire	

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Herald

EDITORIAL COMMENT

I shall never be the same again.' I thought I knew all about BMS work — until I took my sabbatical overseas.' It opened my eyes.' I now have a deeper understanding of the needs in Africa.' I knew they did a good job but now I have a greater respect for our missionaries.' It shattered all my preconceptions.'

A few of the comments made by those who have been able to visit BMS partner churches. There is no substitute for first-hand experience. Ministers, encouraged and helped by the BMS, who take their sabbatical overseas; and young people, who go on a summer working holiday, claim to be changed into enthusiasts for world mission by their encounter with Christians who work, worship and witness in a different culture.

Unfortunately, most of us have to rely on the written word or catch the 'enthusiasm' of others. It says a great deal about their communicating abilities that the BMS continues to receive widespread support for its work from the Baptist constituency in Great Britain. However, Christians from overseas now regularly visit Britain. What do they make of us? How enthusiastically do they return home? Are they encouraged or disheartened by what they see or learn?

Much will depend on our attitudes. We have become so used to being those who send, who give, who go that we find it difficult to receive. We, who expect churches in Africa, Asia and Latin America to accept our missionary pastors, hold back if it means allowing an African pastor to minister to us.

The new and exciting ways in which the world church is discovering God at work; in which the gospel is transforming lives in the Two-Thirds world should shatter our traditional image of world mission. Let's not be left behind.



DON'T MISS OUT!

More and more there is a multidirectional movement in mission and, it seems, young people are in the forefront. Parties of young people from this country visited some of our BMS partner countries last year, and more visits are planned for 1990.

HESE VISITS are more than mere holidays, and more than opportunities to have a good time. They are points of meeting, of learning and of growth. There is no substitute for sharing the life of Christians overseas, for being with them as they worship and witness in their different but very real circumstances.

It is a very salutary experience also to discover that others can pray differently, sing different songs, worship in an unusual way, approach mission from another direction and yet be as Christian (and Baptist!) as we are, if not more so.

It is a shock too, sometimes, to realise that we have no monopoly on the faith and that we haven't all the answers — not even most of them.

So visits overseas are learning experiences as we shall see from some of the articles which follow. But such

experiences are not restricted to the few who are able to take part in the overseas experience opportunities provided by the BMS. Christians from our partner churches come to Britain to study in our colleges and to make fellowship visits to British churches. How do we greet them? How do we welcome them? Are we taking advantage of their presence with us to learn?

In April and May we shall be playing host to two groups of young people — one from India and the other from Brazil. They will be travelling throughout Britain, singing their songs 'in a strange land'. However, their message will not be strange, it will be about the faith we have been sharing with them for many years. But that message will come across with a freshness and a new vitality as they give their testimony in music and word. Don't miss out on what could be a point a Christian growth for us all. □

A double bill

The story of what God has done in less than 100 years in Mizoram, formerly the Lushai Hills, can only be described as a miracle.

ISSION HAS TWO important aspects — giving and receiving: sending men and women from this country to share as partners with the overseas churches with which we co-operate and receiving help and encouragement from those churches for our work in this country. During April and May we shall be receiving visits from two musical groups which illustrate this double sided nature of mission.

From 1 April to 21 May, we shall be welcoming a party of 21 men and women from the Mizoram Baptist Choir.

The story of what God has done in less than 100 years in Mizoram, formerly the Lushai Hills, can only be described as a miracle. When the first missionaries, **Lorrain and Savidge**, ventured into that part of North East India, they went into the midst of a group of warring, head-hunting aboriginal tribes. Yet within a very short time, through the efforts of BMS personnel in the south and Welsh Presbyterians in the north, virtually the whole of the population of the region was won for Christ.

Today, over 90 per cent of the State of Mizoram is, nominally at least, Christian and the church there sees itself as a light to its own nation of India and further afield into the rest of Asia.

The visit of the choir to Britain is their way of thanking us for taking the gospel to them, and of maintaining the links between the Church of Mizoram and ourselves.

The party will total 21, including 16 singers, two conductors and three leaders/speakers. Their programme will consist of popular hymns and choruses in Mizo, Hindi and English; cultural dances, dramas and mimes; costume parade and personal testimony.



MIZORAM CONCERT

APRIL

- 20 Leave Dhaka
- 21 Arrive London Heathrow. To Worthing for acclimatisation etc. Hospitality to be at Broadwater Baptist Church

Sun

- 22 Launch tour -Worthing am Christ Church
 - pm West Worthing
- 23 Godalming Baptist Church
- 24 Southampton Eastleigh Baptist Church
- 25 Torquay Upton Vale Baptist Church
- 26 Plymouth Catherine Street Baptist Church
- 27 Bristol Horfield Baptist Church
- 28 Cardiff Tredegarville Baptist Church



- 29 Newport Duckpool Road Baptist Church 7.45 pm District Rally
- 30 Reading Wycliffe Baptist Church

MAY

- 1 Assembly London
- 2 Assembly London
- 3 High Wycombe Union Baptist Church
- 4 Norwich Dereham Road Baptist
- 5 Peterborough, Park Road Baptist Church

Sun

- 6 am Peterborough
- 6 8 pm Nottingham West Bridgford District Rally

Bank H

- 7 Central Area Rally, Northampton King's Park
- 8 Rhyl Sussex Street
- 9 Day Off
- 10 Bala Rally
- 11 Poynton Baptist Church, Cheshire
- 12 Bradford, Westgate Baptist Church

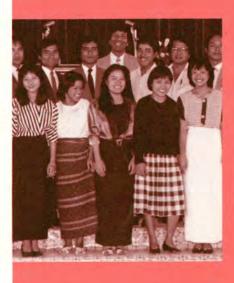
Sun

- 13 pm Newcastle, Westgate Road Baptist Church
- 14 Dunfermline Baptist Church
- 15 Ayr Baptist Church
- 16 Travel to Birmingham
- 17 Birmingham, Cannon Street Baptist Church
- 18 London, Ramsden Road. Balham
- 19 London, Harrow College Road

Sun

- 20 Essex am Chelmsford Victoria Road South pm Romford Main Road
- 21 To Heathrow for return flight

Contact your area representative for times of Concerts.





Then on 27 April, we expect to welcome a musical group Selah from Mato Grosso, in Brazil. They will also be staying in Britain until 21 May and will be visiting centres throughout the country.

They too, indirectly at least, are the fruits of missionary work in Brazil, but their purpose in coming to Britain is rather different. They are coming to help us in the evangelisation of our land for Christ.

Selah is based in Campo Grande, the capital of Mato Grosso do Sul. They devote their musical gifts to the presentation of the challenge of the gospel to Jesus in an idiom with which the young people of whatever nation will readily identify and yet which leaves no doubts about the claim of Jesus on their lives, as their only Saviour and Lord. As one of their songs says:

There are many ways by which you may walk;

There are many stairs which you can climb on your knees:

but I am not following you for I prefer to follow Jesus:

For without even seeing him faith leads me to him:

There are many images at which you may look:

There are many statues with which you may plead:

But I guarantee that they are not going to hear you:

The only person who knows everything is the one and only God:

Who is Lord of all, the only person who is

He is over everyone and everything: He is the only one who is going to hear your

rayer:

going to hear you;

Our destinies are not going to be the same: If you don't seek Jesus now:

The door is open, but is going to close:

You don't need to be frightened, you simply have to trust:

For even without seeking him, faith leads you to him:

Images don't save; promises don't save; The one who saves is Jesus the Lord: The one who saves is Jesus the Lord.

BRAZIL CONCERT TOUR

APRIL

- 27 ? Arrive go to Histon Cambs
- 28 Cambridge Histon Baptist Church Sun
 - 29 am St Andrews Street, Cambridge
- 29 pm Rushden, Northants, Highfield Baptist Church
- 30 Luton 8 pm Central Baptist Church

MAY

- 1 Assembly London
- 2 Assembly London
- 3 Hill Park Baptist Church, Haverfordwest
- 4 Swansea Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
- 5 Gloucester Venue to be arranged

Sun

- 6 am Birmingham
- 6 pm Stafford Rising Brook Baptist Church

Bank H

- 7 Lymm, Cheshire
- 8 Ilkley Baptist Church
- 9 Scotland Stirling Baptist Church
- 10 Scotland Morningside Baptist Church, Edinburgh
- 11 7.30 pm Leicester Central Baptist Church
- 12 London Trinity Baptist Church, Bexleyheath

Sun

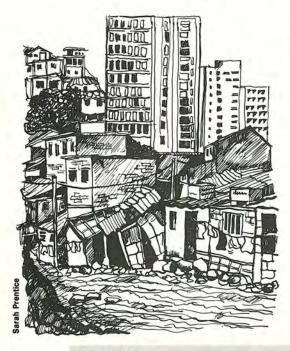
- 13 London am
 - 6.30 pm Southall Baptist Church and 8.00 pm District Rally
- 14 Free or Watford
- 15 Canterbury St George's Place Baptist Church
- 16 Crofton, Orpington
- 17 Bournemouth District New Milton
- 18 Bath Manvers Street Baptist Church
- 19 Weston-super-Mare Milton Baptist Church

Sun

- 20 Swindon Upper Stratton Baptist Church pm and District Rally
- 21 ?Return to Brazil or on 22nd

Contact your area representative for times of Concerts.

Disheartening, Depressing but a Privilege



During the summer of 1989 **Karen Mckee** went on a BMS holiday with a group of young Baptists from Britain.

of our time in the huge, polluted, industrial city of Sao Paulo; a place where there is a wide difference in the standard of living between the rich and the poor. While we were there, we helped with the services at Ferreira Baptist Church, with their church

Dearest John

We have been in Brazil for three weeks now. We're having a fantastic time. All the Brazilians have been so kind and friendly to us, especially Elaine. The families we're living with have been really good to us.

Amongst the many things we've done, we've been to the cinema, went to a charrusco (barbecue) with the young people from the church.

We've also helped with the

construction work at the church. The food has been very tasty. We love the variety of fresh fruit juices. It was very cold when we arrived, but it has warmed up over the last few days. We're leaving Sao Paulo 23rd, fly to Iguaçu, then on to Rio for our last few days.

Love,

Denise, Ann, Rosalind, Karen, Anne, Mark, Ruth



building programme and in their holiday Bible school — an annual event for the children of the church.

Being a teacher I was particularly interested to see how some of the Brazilian children were educated. From what I could gather it appears that the education system for deprived children is terrible. In Brazil a good education is something that has to be paid for.

While we were in Sao Paulo we visited a state run rehabilitation centre for 1,500 young juveniles. It was a disheartening experience to see children in such a depressing situation especially when the only religious instruction they received was from a group of volunteers who came to the centre at weekends.

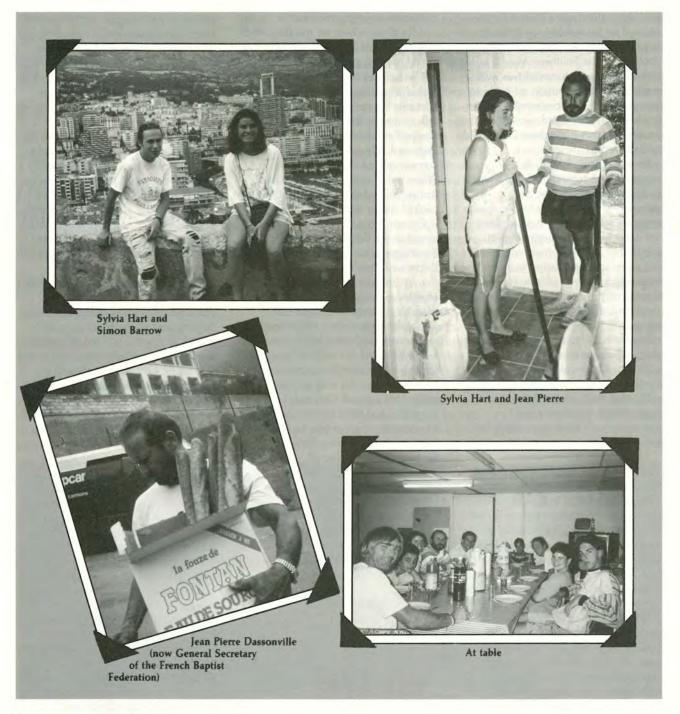
It was therefore an encouraging contrast to look round a Baptist school/ orphanage. Here children from the ages of three and a half to 15 were catered for. Each child was given a Bible when they arrived and the Baptist college of Sao Paulo sent a supply of books to the rooms, prep rooms, tidy dormitories!, a main hall, a medical room, a dining room, a lounge with TV and a playground.

Although some things could have been improved with greater financial support there was a basic family atmosphere and warmth in the home which was reflected in the children's attitude to each other and the staff.

We also visited a nearby **favela** (shanty town) where a missionary family from the church takes a Sunday school class each week. There were more than 4,000 people in that *favela* alone and Ferreira was the only church working with some of the children in it.

While I was watching this Sunday school group of 20 children, learning from the Bible, surrounded by a community of very poor people including some drunkards, murderers, prostitutes and drug pushers I realised how privileged children in this country are and, more importantly, how vital missionary work is in poverty stricken areas of the world.

May God bless and give strength to all those who are working to help such unfortunate people.



Nice 1989

A FORTNIGHT in the south of France' they promised me.
'Only a matter of weeks after your final university exams,' they urged

'Think of the sun, the sea, the mountains' they said; 'the swimming, snorkelling, and walking; the French cuisine, croissant and coffee, paté and cheese, steak and chips; the marvellous opportunities to make new friends, British and French; and of course an occasion to be involved in God's work

in others' lives and another land.' How could I refuse?

This was my fourth summer school. I had previously helped in the running of Penzance 86 and 87 and the Narrowboats holiday in 89. The Penzance holidays had gathered together a large number of people from many parts of the country and several from the continent for two weeks of noise and laughter (and a few tears), friendships and food in plenty, mornings spent in reflection and discussion, afternoons either on the beach, in town or engaged in individual or team sports, evenings of cabarets,

games and videos, 'raids' (organised stunts planned and executed largely by scholers at the expense of staff), and last but not least the wit and wiles of **Johnnie Hall** whose imagination, creativity and lively personality have been a hallmark of many a summer school over the years.

Nice 89 was a very different experience. Five of us travelled from Britain to Nice where we joined up with Pastor Jean-Pierre Dassonville, then in pastoral charge of the only Baptist congregation in this, one of the Mediterranean's most popular tourist resorts, and three young Parisians. Our

final destination was a Baptist Centre situated on the outskirts of St Martin Vesubie, 60 km north of Nice in the 'foothills' of the Southern Alps. It was here that we were to spend two weeks making what contribution we could to the completion of a centre which when finished will, it is hoped, serve the Baptist churches throughout France and perhaps further afield.

Its setting is delightful, its surroundings, inspirational. Shrouded by forest mountains it offers a magnificent environment for those who enjoy an active retreat. A short drive 'up' takes you to the beginnings of spectacular mountain trails which led our party on one occasion to a site from which we were able to view at close hand the border with Italy. A short walk down, from the Centre, brings you to St Martin itself, a quaint village with its typically French 'market place' where gentlemen play 'boules'; with its roadside cafés where news and views are shared over a cup of rich real café (what else!), and with its boulangeries, boucheries and patisseries each attracting custom by their distinctive aromas.

The centre has been under construction for a number of years. It stands alongside the original building, a Nissan hut, given to the church by the French army, which had no further use for it. The hut is still functional and while we were there was our makeshift kitchen, dining room and table-tennis hall.

The task given us was to concentrate our energies on the 'finer aspects' of interior decorating. The foundational work had already been done. With Jean-Pierre as our 'foreman' we set-to, painting walls, cementing floors and rearranging ceilings; we tiled bathrooms and toilets and shifted furniture redistributing beds, tables and chairs. We worked well together making the most of our variety: of culture, personality, language and humour. We certainly enjoyed ourselves a great deal. We were liberal with our work breaks. We needed to be.

Not only was the work demanding and often messy but . . . this was the south of France and hadn't we also come all this way to get a tan?!

Jean-Pierre was a sympathetic task master not unaware of longer 'ly-ins' and shorter working days as time progressed. He granted us several 'holidays'. Towards the end of week one we took a day out to picnic in the mountains enjoying the fresh air. In the middle of week two, we travelled south to Monaco and Monte Carlo for a day of sight seeing and swimming.

The facilities at the Centre for the period of our stay were basic; but quite adequate for our needs. By the time folk arrive for this summer's camp, they will no doubt have been greatly improved. We were comfortable, well accommodated and certainly well fed. When not at work, we played table tennis, volley ball, chatted, read, cooked, ate or slept.

On our second Sunday we were joined at the Centre by a group from the congregation in Nice. With Jean-Pierre we helped to put together a morning service which was well received - despite my insistence through my sermon address that Nehemiah's exemplary achievement was not as I had intended to 'rebuild', but to rebaptise the walls of Jerusalem (confusing the friendly verbs rebatir and rebaptiser). An easy mistake to make I am assured. Our task I suggested had been in a similar vein. We were there apparently to help baptise this new centre. Perhaps not so far from the truth after all.

Though this holiday lacked the consistent biblical input so much a part of other summer schools, it provided useful opportunities for Christian friendship across frontiers of language and culture which are the 'hall mark' of the growing partnership of the BMS with baptist churches in France.

Simon Houghton

Nice 1989

GUESS I HAVE TO WRITE about what happens when five people who have never met before get on an aeroplane to go to Nice and spend two weeks working on things they have never done before. On top of that working with some French young people who do not speak too much English.

To be honest I was pretty scared when Mum and Dad left me at Gatwick. I didn't really know where I was going, what I would be doing and certain only in the knowledge that my French was close to non-existent. But the thing that I will never forget about the whole trip was the way that we all

got on so well together right from the start. Communication barriers were got around one way or another and we certainly did a lot of laughing. Simon, our leader, was really great and luckily speaks fluent French — without him perhaps we would have had one or two problems.

From the moment we landed all the people from the Nice Baptist Church, and especially their minister Jean-Pierre, went out of their way to make us feel at home. They had been anticipating our arrival for sometime and we felt almost like royalty as they all wanted us to meet them and stay in their homes. They kept thanking us for coming and for the work we did.

The work went on in the mountains, some 60 km away from Nice and consisted of cleaning, tiling, cementing, painting and so on. Most days we ended up covered in paint or cement from hand to toe which was OK except that for most of the time the only working shower was in a wood shed outside, with slugs for company! On my first working day I tiled a wall and was so impressed with myself I took photos of it.

The novelty of work did start to wear off towards the end but we compensated by playing more and more volleyball and holding tabletennis competitions. Despite Jean-Pierre's efforts, breakfast started to get later and later although we blamed it on being kept awake by mice in the ceiling! And with the trips to Monte Carlo, visiting perfume factories and clear blue skies, trekking through the mountains and swimming-pool side barbeques we somehow survived!!

Cooking the meals was always quite an event which we took in turns, although we had to overcome a degree of French Male Chauvanism to get certain people into the kitchen! Everything that came out tasting slightly weird was deemed 'English', but breakfast was always 'French' with bowls of coffee and loads of French bread (which apparently must be dipped into the coffee).

Our last night happened to be 14 July and so we sat on Nice beach late at night and watched an expensive firework display. When we said our goodbyes the following day I think we all felt we were saying goodbye to some really close friends, almost brothers and sisters!

Sylvia Hart

THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE BMS

The BMS has just moved out of London to Didcot in Oxfordshire. This is only the latest of several headquarters as Claud Turner points out . . .

IN A BOOK, PUBLISHED IN 1885 entitled *The Homes of the Baptist Missionary Society from Kettering to Castle Street*, Charles Kirkland took less than 15 pages to describe the various headquarters of the Society. The remaining 80 were merely biographical, the reader being given thumbnail sketches of 21 famous people – two treasurers, three secretaries and 16 missionaries – connected with the early years of the BMS story. People are more important than

places. Heroism and obedient service for the Kingdom are of greater import than buildings. Nevertheless, places have their significance as the Bible clearly shows and in the story of the BMS this is also true.

In a back parlour in Widow Wallis's house in Kettering on Tuesday, 2 October 1792, the Baptist Missionary Society was born and for many years Kettering remained its chief, though not the only, seat of the Mission. Until 1820, Committee meetings were held at many places, including Guilsborough, Arnesby, Long Buckby, Northampton, Clipston and Salisbury as well as Kettering. General Committee Meetings were held at Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Oxford, Reading and Northampton. So great was the Provincial representation on the committees that for almost three decades neither treasurer nor secretaries were resident in London.

Andrew Fuller, the first Secretary of the Society until his death in 1815, had no faith in London management and opposed it to the last. Dr John Ryland, who followed Fuller as secretary, shared his predecessor's feelings and on one occasion said, 'I tremble for the ark of the Mission when it shall be transported to London and fall into the hands of mere counting-house men.'

Until 1812, when three London ministers were added, the only Londoner on the Committee was Mr William Burls, who became a joint treasurer in 1819. However, it was not long after Fuller's death that the Society moved to London. The Committee had been meeting occasionally in London in such places as the New London Tavern, Mr Burls' house and Dr Rippon's vestry. It is also thought that



they met at the King's Head, Cheapside, which apparently was a common resort for all Societies.

At the General Meeting, held on Thursday, 7 October 1819 at Cambridge it was resolved that the Central Committee should meet on 13 October at 15 Wood Street, London. At that meeting it was decided that 'it was absolutely necessary for the proper management of the affairs of the Society that Mr Dyer, the Secretary, removes to London or its vicinity as soon as convenient'.

The next day, when the meeting was continued, the committee decided to rent the rooms at Wood Street for £60 per year. They agreed that other societies – like the Baptist Irish Society, the Baptist Fund, Baptist Magazine, Baptist Itinerant Society and the Stepney Institution – could also use the rooms on payment of an appropriate rent.

These premises, however, proved to be of no permanence and at the meeting of the Central Committee on 26 June 1820, it having been reported that the rent was to be increased to 80 guineas per annum, it was resolved that as the rooms were not altogether suitable for the use of the Mission, they be vacated at Michaelmas.

Premises were then obtained at 9 Wardrobe Place, Doctors' Commons. Here the Society stayed for three years, until it became the tenant of the Particular Baptist Fund at Fen Court, Fenchurch Street at £70 per annum.



This was described as a partially sunless and depressing building, a 'gloomy abode', yet nevertheless it remained for 20 years the home of the Mission. The work was by now growing fast, the missionary staff had increased, the income had nearly doubled from £12,000 in 1822 to £22,000 in 1842 and the first Jubilee of the Mission had been celebrated at Kettering. There was an urgent need for larger premises. A plot of freehold land was purchased on the site of a new thoroughfare called Moorgate Street and an imposing building was built at a cost of £10,300 and opened in 1842. Here the Society stayed until 1865 when again the need for more room was acutely felt. City property was at that time fetching fabulous sums and the premises in Moorgate were sold for £19,500. This sum proved more than sufficient for the new Mission House eventually erected. In the interval of nearly five years, inadequate premises were occupied in John Street, Bedford Row, until the new House in Castle Street was opened and dedicated in April 1870. Castle Strreet was later re-named Furnival Street and No 19 remained the

Headquarters of the Society for 74 years.

What changes were experienced in those years: World War One, the world economic depression of the 1930's, the beginning of the closing together of East and West and North and South in terms of distance, and then World War Two. At the beginning of the latter hostilities in September 1939, the Mission House staff evacuated to High Wycombe but returned after about four months when the expected aerial attack on London had not materialised. However, the Battle of Britain commenced during the following summer and on the night of 9-10 September 1940 the Mission House was bombed; the nearby temporary accommodation afterwards found was also attacked on 24-25 September. The work was dislocated, correspondence hindered, and many records were lost. A few rooms were still usable at Furnival Street and a skeleton staff remained. Others were transferred to 'Sunnylands', The 'Headlands', Kettering. Furnival Street was again damaged by enemy action and in 1944 it was pronounced unsafe for occupation and was evacuated. Providentially the Society had already been negotiating for a property consisting of two houses near to Baker Street and almost on the day of the second bombing of Furnival Street the offer to purchase this property was accepted and 93-95 Gloucester Place became the new, albeit, as was made quite clear at the time, only a temporary home. It was recognised that this property was not thoroughly suitable to the Society's requirements, and it was borne in mind that money had been given to the Ter-Jubilee Fund in 1942-43 for a new home for the Society which, even then, had been proposed. Later No 97 Gloucester Place was acquired followed by No 60 opposite. The latter was subsequently disposed of leaving 93-97 as the Society's headquarters.

Now the move out of London has taken place and the Society together with the Baptist Union of Great Britain has moved into Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot.

Such is the story all too briefly told of the many homes of the Society; how much more could be added bearing in mind that in these buildings policies have been shaped, decisions great and small taken by men and women dedicated to the task of carrying out the Lord's uncancelled commission. The work of the BMS is far from finished, many opportunities present themselves in







Burton and Ward of Sumatra

Carey served in India throughout his missionary career, but his influence spread much further east. Here **Stanley Mudd** explains how news of Carey and his achievements inspired others to work in Indonesia.

partnership with overseas churches for extending the Kingdom of God and proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ by word and by deed.

The challenge of this present hour demands men and women as consecrated and obedient as the honoured servants of the past; Committees, whether they meet in Didcot or elsewhere will be called upon to make momentous decisions in the power of the Holy Spirit. The whole great enterprises of the Kingdom goes on.



page 9: Mission House, Kettering page 10: Furnival Street top left: Furnival Street office staff bottom left: Baptist House, Didcot above: Gloucester Place

'BENCOOLEN' (or 'Bangkahulu' as Indonesians call it) is on the south west facing coast of Sumatra, some 300 miles from Batavia (now Jakarta). The East India Company of London had been there since 1685 and it had had, in the early eighteenth century, a Baptist Governor, but it was Raffles (now Sir Stamford Raffles) who, when he arrived in 1818, implored the help of the Baptist missionaries from either London or Serampore or both.

His own first impressions were not happy. 'This is, without exception, the most wretched place I ever beheld... the roads are impassable, the highways over-run with rank grass, the Government House a den of ravenous dogs and polecats.'

Raffles asked for a printing press and encouraged belief that there would be opportunities for translating and printing the Bible in the languages of the islands. Carey was anxious that one of the younger missionaries should go there and it was **Nathaniel Ward** – William Ward's nephew – who answered the call. He had come to India at the age of 15 after the death of his father, became appren-



Danish Church, Serampore

ticed to his uncle, was baptised in what is now the Carey Church in Lalbazar and was on his way to Sumatra by the end of 1818, to be joined before long by two missionaries from London – **Richard Burton and Charles Evans.** They had been instructed carefully by the Society along the following lines:

'To be useful to the Sumatrans you must avoid all airs of conscious superiority, express no disgust at what may appear strange or uncouth in their manners, conciliation and kind familiarity such, in fact, as shall impress them with a conviction that you are really seeking their good. Use no harsh language either with reference to the person, character or writings of Mahomed or the notions and practices of heathen superstition, but attempt gradually to awaken a concern after superior information and then communicate that information as they are able to bear it. Remember especially the fact that the great Engine which God has employed in the conversion of the heathen is the declaration of His love as displayed in the Cross of Christ.'

The two London missionaries arrived in Bencoolen in June 1820 and a delighted Sir Stamford Raffles wrote of them, 'they are scholars and gentlemen and their wives are well calculated to aid their endeavours'. Burton went north towards Batak country, and Evans further up the coast to Padang, but Ward was soon afterwards joined by William Robinson arriving from Java with his wife and family.

Their efforts at evangelism were not immediately very fruitful, but there was plenty to occupy them in the establishment of schools and (particularly for Ward) in the printing and publishing of books and tracts. Ward was secretary of the local Bible Society and planned a Javanese translation in addition to that in Malay.

Raffles had suggested to Burton that he attempt to evangelise the Batak people in the north of Sumatra and he set about learning their language – related to, but distinct from, Malay. They were cannibals and, it was said, ate their prisoners alive. Burton's first journey was made in an 18 foot open boat off a dangerous coast, wind and rain adding to their discomfort. He and his wife, Mary, settled at Sibolga on the coast, some 500 miles north of Bencoolen and only about 100 miles as the crow flies

from the 800 square miles Lake Toba – the rugged and forested mountains. There had been a previous expedition by two Englishmen 50 years before but, apart from a confirmation of cannibalism in the area, the expedition had provided little information.

In 1824, Ward joined Burton and they set out to cross

'I performed the journey on foot,' wrote Ward, 'chiefly without shoes and stockings, in Malay dress and straw hat. The first two days were extremely fatiguing... but by the third I became so far practised as to take the lead of the party. On the fifth day we emerged into a country so beautiful and cultivated and a population so dense as filled us with astonishment. We remained some time visiting the villages... and reading to the people some of Burton's tracts and explaining the object of the mission and were uniformly treated with attention and respect... Burton had, unfortunately, an attack of dysentery which prevented our going further ... we have since received letters from the king, residing on the borders of the lake, inviting us to return and visit him.'

The journey had been fatiguing and dangerous but the two missionaries brought back important information about the people and the country. If Baptist missionaries had been able to stay in north Sumatra, much good work might have been done, but it was decided by the British and Dutch governments that Sumatra should be exchanged for Chinsura in India and Burton, his wife, Mary, and a group of orphan girls were compelled to leave. They sailed for Calcutta on a boat so leaky that pumps were in use the whole of the voyage.

Burton had translated the Gospel of John into Batak and had started an English-Batak dictionary. He began to work as a missionary in Bengal but died prematurely in 1828. Missionaries from the Netherlands began work again among the Bataks, but progress was very slow and the lives of missionaries often in danger but, by the beginning of the nineteenth century, a strong, independent, self-supporting church had established which grows to this day.

When the Dutch took over the colony, most Europeans left Bencoolen, property declined in value and the Dutch authorities favoured Islam rather than Christianity. Ward found it difficult to continue printing because of a shortage of paper and in 1826 gave up his responsibilities in the Nature School Institution where he had had some success, and he moved to Padang, now considered to be the capital of the country. The BMS committee in London had decided to close the Sumatra Mission as evangelistic and other work were proving impossible. Ward, however, begged to remain and lived on in Padang for another 25 years. He supported himself, studied Malay, and printed John, Genesis and a Harmony of the Gospels in that language, but other attempts at printing and his agricultural ventures proved unsuccessful and his appeals to the Society proved in vain. How much longer he continued to live in Sumatra and where and when he died, we do not know.

But the work among the Batak people in Sumatra, carried on principally by the Rhenish Missionary Society, went from strength to strength. In 1871 there were approximately 1,200 Christian Bataks. By 1911 there were 100,000 and, by 1938, 380,000 members of a completely self-supporting church – about a third of the Batak people.

Life as Usual

Last year the Church in China spoke out in support of democracy and deplored what happened to the students in the massacre of Tianamon Square. How has this affected the work and witness of the Church?

THE GOVERNMENT HAS reaffirmed its policy of religious freedom, according to Bishop K H Ting. He says that church life and work has been going on more or less as usual.

I did fear some adverse affects on the church, but this has not happened. I think this shows there is now a better understanding of the principle of religious freedom. But I hope that anti-China infiltration from abroad will stop so that our churches can continue to enjoy the understanding and goodwill of the people.'

There has been some talk of winding up the 'Three Self' organisations in China, but Bishop Ting has denied this. The 'Three Self' movement is concerned for the church in China to be self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating. These principles have more or less been achieved.

'No matter how good the Three Self principle is the important thing is not to display it as an exhibition piece, but to apply it,' said Bishop Ting.

'Chinese Christians want to see that our church is governed well, is supported well and does the work of Christian propagation well. Our feeling is close to that of Israel for the welfare of Jerusalem as shown in the Psalms.

We like the Three Self organisations to specialise themselves in working closely with government and secular organisations for the better implementation of the policy of religious freedom; to help Christians to be more politically conscious and abide in the right way to Three Self principle; to encourage Christians to serve the people in building up our national culture, both materially and spiritually; and to serve society and serve the church.

'Local churches and Christian councils on all levels should surely do these things, but we see the Three Self organisations as helping to work with the churches and Christian councils more effectively.'

Asked about Bibles, Bishop Ting

said that they were still being published.

Bibles are being printed in various kinds. There are Bibles in simplified Chinese characters as well as in the traditional script. There are Bibles using Shangti as well as Shen as the name for God. We are producing reference Bibles as well as New Testaments with Psalms and Bibles in languages of more and more minority nationalities.'

Why was the China Christian Council not represented at the Lausanne II missionary conference in Manila? Was it connected with what happened on 4 June?

'No. The China Christian Council produced a public statement as early as 18 May which objected to Lausanne II's interference in Chinese national affairs and its divisive approach to the question of Chinese participation.'

Bishop Ting spoke about the attacks on the Chinese church by some overseas groups.

There is a good amount of religious freedom and the amount is increasing. For the good of the church and its witness to Christ, we do not approve of confrontation as our principle in our relation to the state. There is space for negotiation and dialogue and criticism. We feel that such attacks from the outside show a singular lack of Christian charity.

'We know about attacks. We were severely attacked during the Cultural Revolution. Then we could not understand why God allowed these unjust attacks. But we now see clearly all the attacks that the Christians' sufferings were preparations for a



stronger witness. That we suffered at the hands of the "Gang of Four" enhanced our credentials before our people. They are readier today to hear what testimony we Christians are bearing.

'Today we leave attacks against us from overseas unanswered because we have more important things to do. An old Chinese proverb says, "Correct yourself if your critic is right; stick to your way and work harder if he (or she) is unjust.'

Bishop Ting also spoke of the work of the Amity Foundation.

'Our work in health, social welfare and rural development is expanding. We feel that the Amity Foundation remains an effective way for Christians from overseas to be involved in China.'



B O O K REVIEWS

'With Christ in the Wilderness' Derek Worlock and David Sheppard

Published by the Bible Reading Fellowship, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PP

FOR THOSE WHO ARE STILL looking for a Lent book this is well worth considering. True it is written from an Anglican and Roman Catholic background and some Baptists may find this difficult to take. But Derek Worlock, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, and David Sheppard, Liverpool's Anglican Bishop, have done a good job of expounding Bible passages and relating them to life today. There are many illustrations arising from the pastoral experience of the two authors and anyone using this book to travel through Lent will see many signposts pointing the way to Christian living and action.

This book takes the reader day by day through Lent. These are ideas for group discussion, personal reflection and suggestions for prayer.

The 160 pages are good value at

World Mission Training Day

Saturday 3 March for Ministers, missionary secretaries etc Stuart Road Baptist Church Liverpool 10.30 am – 3.30 pm Saturday 21 April BMS NORTH ROADSHOW Tarporley, Cheshire 10.30 am – 3 pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8, 9, 10 May BMS NORTH ROADSHOW on Tyneside

Details:

Northern Area Representative The Revd Roy Turvey 22 Netheroyd Hill Road Huddersfield HD2 2LP Telephone: 0484 546549

SOUTH WESTERN AREA MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

'The Global Mission'

Saturday 25 April 10 am - 4.30 pm

at

Taunton Baptist Church, Silver Street

featuring

Rev John Passmore, BMS YP Secretary
Dr Suzanne Roberts, from Bangladesh
Rev Peter Amies, BMS Western Area Representative
Rev Lewis Misselbrook, Vice President, Western Association
Rev Roger Hayden, General Superintendent, Western Area

Details from Peter Amies, 0272 875563

or

Miss Pauline Trouson, 02974 2583

Baptism at Rangamati

'A day to remember,' says Sue Headlam

BOUT 30 MILES NORTH of Chandraghona, in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, lies Rangamati on the edge of a large man-made lake. On 17 December, a group of Christians gathered at the lake-side for a baptismal service.

First of all, a worship service, conducted by the Rev James Roy the pastoral superintendent, was held in the small Baptist church on the Baptist compound.

Then the candidates went down to Rangamati lake to be baptised. Twenty-four tribal young people, from the Chakma and the Marma tribes, were baptised that day by the Rev James Roy and the Rev T K Sarker the hospital chaplain at Chandraghona.

After the baptismal service, everyone returned to the church for an act of thanksgiving when the young people were received into church membership.

It was a day to remember, a day when 24 young people were added to the Christian church in Bangladesh. □

The Baptist Missionary Society is looking for a

MEDICAL SECRETARY

A full-time nurse/secretary with overseas missionary experience is required for the Medical Department of the Baptist Missionary Society. This position includes a wide range of duties, and, together with the Medical Officer, is primarily concerned with the health care of missionaries and their children. The work also includes link-up between home and abroad for hospital supplies and professional organisations. Much of the work is secretarial and therefore good typing and office skills are essential.

Applications including full CV or request for further information should be sent to:

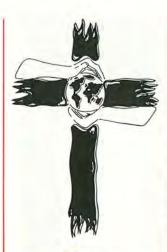
Reverend R G S Harvey General Secretary PO Box 49, Baptist House 129 Broadway, Didcot Oxon OX11 8XA

Envelopes marked 'CONFIDENTIAL – Medical Post' should reach the above address by 23 March 1990.









Close Encounters

M ore than 500 young people will be making their way to the Lake District in July for some Close Enounters.

'It's not for the fainthearted,' said Derek Clark, National Baptist Youth Worker.

'Close Encounters will focus on our relationships with each other, with Christ as Lord and with our communities at local, national and international level.'

Close Encounters is organised jointly by Baptists from England, Scotland and Wales. The hope is to build on the vision and challenge of the 1988 Baptist Youth World Congress in Glasgow.

Meeting at the Lakeside YMCA National Centre in the Lake District from 21-28 July the young people will enjoy a fabulous range of sports activities. There will also be an extensive range of workshops, concerts and challenging speakers including David Coffey, Martyn Joseph, John James, Steve Chalke, Sue Evans, Rob Stacey, Douglas Hutcheon, John Rackley, Ian Burley, John Biggs and Alan Nelson.

Secular Support

The French Protestant
Federation has
declared its support of the
secular character of
French society. It sees it
as a 'richness to preserve'.

The declaration is part of the debate taking place in France about preserving the secular character of state-supported schools. The Federation calls secularism the 'juridical form of liberty of conscience, and, for Protestants, a spiritual necessity'.

No Surplus from Sale

At last, after protracted negotiations, 93 and 95 Gloucester Place, the London home of the BMS for more than 40 years have finally been leased to Rose Green Development. There will be no huge surplus remaining from the leasing but neither will the Society need to make a special appeal for money.

We'll cover the cost of the transfer to Didcot,' said Reg Harvey, BMS General Secretary.

The Society is leasing two of the three houses, which have made up its London headquarters.

'Rose Green Development Company are paying slightly in excess of £2.7 million. They will then be paying a commercially based ground rent for the property once it is developed. This should give us a continuing income, initially, of £15,000 to £20,000.'

The sale of 97 Gloucester Place is not yet complete but it is anticipated that the price will be about £0.4 million.

'This, together with the money we have been accumulating over the years in a special fund for the rebuilding of Mission House should cover the total cost of transferring to Didcot. But there will be no huge surplus!,' Reg Harvey warned.

However, we are grateful to God that we have kept faith and not made an appeal to the constituency for any capital input.'

Stamps

The BMS Stamp Bureau raised £4,187.25 in 1988-89. The Bureau has now embarked on collecting cards and coins as well. Richard Camp reports that the bureau now has a stock of these items. If you are a collector, why not write to Richard at 3 Barnfield Crescent, Wellington, Telford, Shrops TF1 2ES for fuller details.

Worldwide

A nnouncing a new style BMS Prayer Tape.
From 1 May the BMS will be releasing World Wide, a monthly, 15 minute, news style programme with short interviews and articles. It will include both world and home news as items for prayer.

It is designed to be used in a variety of ways by the churches. Excerpts can be used in worship, youth meetings, house groups, or the whole tape can be played — it's short enough — at a missionary meeting.

If you don't already receive the present monthly prayer tape but would like to receive our new style World Wide then please write to: BMS, PO Box 49, Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8XA.

In Flight Bibles

Swissair has made
Bibles in French,
German and English
available on all its flights.
It is doing this in response
to many requests — from
nervous passengers?



Student Arrests

Three Baptist students were 'kidnapped' in El Salvador on 25 January. The three men are students at the Baptist Theological Seminary and, according to reports, they were taken after taking



part in a Bible study at Emanuel Baptist Church in San Salvador.

They were picked up by a group of heavily armed men in civilian clothes. Neighbours, who witnessed the incident, said that the kidnappers were driving a white Toyota Land-Cruiser Jeep.

The men, who were driving a Pick-up and Mini-bus, are named as: Carlos Avalos Balencia, 22; Vilente Garay Garay, 41; and Victor Manuel Fuentes Perla, 32. Enquiries revealed that they were not in the custody of the National Police or Army and it is suspected that they have been arrested by the notorious Treasury Police.

Baptist churches, homes and offices were entered and searched by soldiers or police on at least 18 occasions in November and December.

The Baptist Seminary at Santa Ana was singled out for attention on 27 November. The Seminary was entered and searched by soldiers when the dean's secretary was arrested, taken to an army garrison and questioned for an hour, and then released.

On the same day, the Rev Ruth Elizabeth Mooney, a US Baptist teacher at the college, was arrested. Armed and uniformed soldiers of the Second Infantry Brigade went to her house, searched the home and arrested Ruth Mooney and her housekeeper. The housekeeper was released on that same day and Ruth Mooney was released on 28 November 'pending further investigations'. Although no demand was made for her to leave the country she nevertheless left several days later.

Quotes

No local church would be so arrogant or unbiblical as to suggest that they were too financially strapped to reach beyond themselves.'

'If the local church is to be involved in mission, we must start dreaming again. We must capture the dream of Jesus and those who followed Him. We must believe that in our congregations are both 'goers and growers', young people, young adults and older ones who can dream and go as they are supported by excited people.'

From Enterprise the magazine of the Canadian Baptist Overseas Mission Board.



A Dashing Figure!

Adash across London

Bridge has netted
£3,000 for the Baptist
Missionary Society. The
money from the sale of the
Society's London
Headquarters arrived at
the offices of CIBC
Investment Management
Limited at 3 o'clock on a
Friday afternoon, when
most of the major banks
had closed their books for
the weekend.

Ringing round, CIBC eventually found a bank that needed £2,100,000 to balance its books — but they needed a cheque within ten minutes. A cheque was quickly written out and Dick Boddie of CIBC performed an Olympic sprint over London Bridge to deposit the money — just in time.

The investment earned the Society around £3,000 over the weekend before it was reinvested on the Monday.

Music Cassettes

For those who want a memento of the visit of the two young people's music groups from Mizoram and Brazil (see earlier pages in this magazine) cassette tapes of their music will be on sale during the tour. You will be able to purchase them at each of the venues or by writing to the BMS.

Onions and Oaks

ne young girl spent
Friday evening peeling
onions for the Pimu
project. She is a member
of OAKS (divided into
Acorns, Saplings and
Tree-tops), the young
people's group at London
Road Baptist Church,
Portsmouth which has
raised over £400 for the
BMS Pimu project.

The young people invited members of the church to a Pimu Meal, using the menu from the Project Pack. They built a hut from cardboard boxes and some, using items brought back from Zaire, dressed up in costume.

'It was a very effective evening,' said missionary secretary Jon Starnes.

'It entailed a lot of hard work by the children as they were encouraged to prepare all the vegetables themselves — including the onions.

During the summer the children were all given a box of smarties and asked to return it filled with coins. This was a tremendous success. One of the lads, who is just 13, organised a "Fun Run" on a Saturday evening round the city. This raised well over £150. They are now organising. each month, Sunday lunches for the retired folk in the church. The proceeds will go to the Pimu Project.'

IN VIEW

VIEW POINT

Why do Missionaries Leave?

And so the debate continues. Why do today's missionaries leave the field to return home? Why do 'apparently' so few respond to the challenge, from Scripture and the church to serve God, His people and this world beyond the relative security of the homeland?

In December's Herald an answer was provided. Missionaries, some at least, return from the mission field, because they have 'lost their way' no longer able to hear the call of God on their lives. At the same time few at home recognise a call to service, both because 'so many pooh-pooh the very notion that God can speak to them directly' and because 'the kind of teaching that is being dished out' in our home churches is insufficiently provocative and challenging. According to lan Thomas, many of our Christian brothers and sisters have lost that sense of conviction, that 'spirit' which fired with courage and commitment our missionary pioneer, the Apostle Paul. Many of our churches too have been drained of the visionary zeal which emboldened our missionary predecessors, one hundred, even two hundred years ago.

Though I accept there is truth in what Ian has written, the thrust of his 'answer' is, I believe, narrowly conceived.

There are a number of reasons why missionaries might choose to leave or stay at home.

It is just possible that God's

calling on a 'life' is for short term service overseas or indeed for missionary work at home.

It is not always appropriate for partners in an equal partnership with an overseas church to remain when their place might be better occupied by a national.

It is surely 'right' in certain circumstances for the needs of family home and abroad — aging parents, a child's education — to be given priority.

It is unavoidable in certain cases that a person's health be the reason for a premature departure from the field.

It is surely permissible for missionaries, who after all are only 'human' to back down, on occasion, under the many stresses that overseas service, in particular, places on the individual or family unit — climate, language, culture, living conditions, working relationships and the work environment, separation from family and friends.

Those who do stay put may not necessarily be the product of inadequate instruction but may in their turn be called to service of a different kind in the very different, perhaps less self-evident context, of the home or the work place.

With Tim Bulkeley (February) I accept lan's stress on the centrality of the calling to service. However we must be careful not to view missionaries as a 'race' apart. They are to quote Ted Hale (February) only 'a part' of the movement of God's Spirit in every society, and as such they must accept that they will be subject to the often unpredictable 'movements' of the Spirit . . . subject too, to the exhaustive demands, weighty responsibilities and the all too frequent (though not irredeemable) failures which are the product of our humanness . . . subject too to the ever changing nature of our society. We live after all in an era considerably different to that of the Apostle Paul ... different again from the world of our nineteenth century predecessors. The growth of the church in the developing world and the apparent decline of the church in the West require of us now a reinterpretation of the nature of our missionary service.

Simon Houghton, Missionary on leave

Called

Letters in the last two months of the Missionary Herald imply either directly or indirectly that once a person receives a call to work overseas that will remain unchanged until retirement.

Surely this is not correct. The call of God comes many times, not just once — how else do we explain those working ministers in this country feeling they should go overseas; those working in one profession certain that the call now is to a new role; those who are pastors accepting a call to college teaching?

As a Christian I know that God has called me to follow the way of Jesus. In the 40 years since I first heard that call I have worked in a number of jobs and in two different countries. I have been a nurse, a teacher, a community worker and an organiser. I have also been a wife and mother for 29 years of those 40 years. Some of those changes were the result responding to a call that came loud and clear e.g. becoming a nurse, going to Bangladesh, accepting the call of the church in the UK. Some of those changes were less clearcut, opportunities arose where I could be used, I accepted the opportunity (some might say tested if this was 'of the Lord') and it became clear that this new job, new occupation was right, was where I was needed at that particular time. While accepting some of these changes has been a time of rejoicing others have been painful. There have also been times, as at present, when I have to learn what it means to live with uncertainty.

This is not to say that we couldn't have better systems of care for missionaries, better information, better training and preparation — obviously we need to make sure that all we do is the best to enable God's work to be done.

But, plese don't let's get ourselves into the way of thinking that implies that God only calls people to go overseas but not to return to serve, or that God only calls those who go overseas once. We are a little at risk of telling the Almighty what He should be doing.

Audrey Rowland

FELLOWSHIP 1990

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Baptist Holiday Fellowship Ltd (MH) 1 The Esplanade, Minehead Somerset TA24 5BE

Telephone: (0643) 703473

The Baptist Missionary Society is looking for a

JUNIOR EDUCATION SECRETARY

to complete the BMS Promotion Team

The person appointed will seek to stimulate interest in World Mission to under 15 year olds in British Baptist Churches by a variety of ways, including literature, audio-visuals and visits to churches, schools, etc.

This multi-disciplined role requires a creative, versatile and innovative committed Christian.

Some knowledge of Baptist Churches is an advantage but not essential.

Applications including full CV or request for further information should be sent to:

Reverend R G S Harvey, General Secretary Baptist Missionary Society PO Box 49, Baptist House 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8XA

Envelopes should be marked 'CONFIDENTIAL – JES Post' and should reach the above address by 23 March 1990.

MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS

ARRIVALS

Miss R Montacute
on 20 December from Kinshasa, Zaire
Rev L Henstock
on 31 December from Colombo,
Sri Lanka

Drs C and M Burnett and family on 12 January from Yakusu, Zaire

Rev D Mee

on 18 January from San Salvador, El Salvador

DEPARTURES

Mr and Mrs R Ellett and family on 11 January to Kinshasa, Zaire

Rev and Mrs M Hambleton on 12 January to Kelani, Sri Lanka

Dr J Prentice on 18 January to Kathmandu, Nepal

BIRTHS

Gordon Iain Mason was born to Andrew and Linda Mason on 3 December 1989 He weighed 7lbs 14ozs

Twin girls

Hannah and Beth
were born to Gordon and Ann McBain
on 9 January 1990
weighing in at 6lbs 8ozs

David Edward was born to Richard and Sue Hoskins on 15 January 1990 and weighed in at 8lbs 11ozs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LEGACIES

Reuben Smith	3,289.19
Mrs J L Pilcher	1,000.00
Miss W M Hasler	100.00
Edith Hampton	100.00
Marjorie Annie Wren	200.00
F L Skidmore	245.61
Mrs A J Cox	24.37
Miss A M Dann	13,737.45
Miss C F C Harding	1,000.00

GENERAL WORK

via DH: £10.00; Brighton: £10.00; Ripon: £40.00; Brauning: £3.00; Dixon: £10.00; Humberside: £35.00; via LH: £57.00; Godalming: £50.00; via BPB: £26.00; Glencath: £45.00; Exeter: £5.00; via BUC: £15.00; Charities Trust: £4.75; Andover: £10.00; Belfast: £40.00.



SON SEEKERS Summer Holidays for 1990

MORE GREAT EXPERIENCES TO SHARE

NO MORE NURSERY RHYMES

28 July - 11 August at THE GAINES

(just eight miles from Worcester)

Here is your chance to get to know God and each other better as well as relax, study, play, swim. Age range 14-25 £160 + VAT for fortnight £85 + VAT for one week.

OVERSEAS EXPERIENCES

TEN FOR TRINIDAD

Fancy a month in the Caribbean this Summer? There are only ten places on this trip to Trinidad to share in the Summer Programme of the Baptist Union of Trinidad and Tobago's Youth Department.

Exact dates to be confirmed. Estimated cost — **£750**

NAUGHTY BUT NICE

31 July-10 August

To help the Baptist Church in Nice with the building of its campsite at Saint Martin de Besubie, a mountain village in the southern Alps, 60 km from Nice. Places for British young people are limited so write quickly. Food and accommodation will be provided so the only cost will be that of travel.

MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS FROM: SON SEEKERS PO BOX 49, BAPTIST HOUSE 129 BROADWAY, DIDCOT OX11 8XA

PHAB HOLIDAY

21-28 July

This year the holiday will be held at Ysgol Gogarth at Llandudno. PHAB brings physically handicapped and able-bodied young people into an atmosphere which helps them to understand each other's problems.

If you are physically handicapped (15-25) or able-bodied (16-25) why not come along and join in the activities — music, drama, photography, arts and crafts, etc.

Cost £47

APPLICATION FORMS FROM: Mr Henry Gibbon, 91 Bonsall Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 5SX.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Among those taking part: Martyn Joseph, David Coffey, Steve Chalke, Live Option, Sue Evans, Sheila Cahill, John Rackley

must for all young
British Baptists. The
Summer's most exciting
week! July 21-28 at
Lakeside, the YMCA National
Centre in the Lake District.

Encounter the radical challenge of Christ in the world through activities, seminars, concerts and celebration.

Five categories of accommodation — all meals included — from £95 per person for the week.

For more details/booking forms write to: Close Encounters PO Box 44 129 Broadway