

M I S S I O N A R Y

# HERALD

A P R I L 9 3

28:19 ACTION  
TEAMS AND  
CHANGED  
LIVES

**YOUNG  
PEOPLE**

FROM  
ISOLATION TO  
RECONCILI-  
ATION

**NEWS**

**YOUNG  
ZAIRIAN  
REFUGEES  
SPEAK OUT!**



**PLUS DOUBLE TAKE ACTION PULL OUT**



# C O N T E N T S



Cover. Carey the Android from the LOUD Tour, 1992. The tour arranged by BMS with the Oasis Trust, challenged young people about world mission. It was seen by over 6,000 people, many of whom made a commitment to get involved in God's mission of love to the world.

## H E R A L D

<b>IT TOTALLY CHANGED MY LIFE!</b> <i>Clare Hutt's experience of a 28:19 Action Team in Jamaica.....</i>	<b>3</b>
<b>NOW I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING!</b> <i>From the streets to security - a story of a young man's journey.....</i>	<b>4</b>
<b>WELCOMING PEOPLE IN</b> <i>Community life in Lille.....</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>YOUNG, GIFTED AND OVER THERE</b> <i>John Passmore on the 28:19 Action Team Programme.....</i>	<b>7</b>
<b>28:19 REFLECTIONS TWO YEARS ON</b> <i>Keith Holmes explores the questions raised by his experience.....</i>	<b>9</b>
<b>DOUBLETAKE</b> <i>Our pull-out section on Young People and mission.....</i>	<b>11</b>
<b>ON TO A WINNER</b> <i>Helen Matthews looks at the impact of 28:19 Teams on UK churches.....</i>	<b>15</b>
<b>PLEASE STOP HELPING THE PRESIDENT</b> <i>Two young Zairian refugees to London share their concerns.....</i>	<b>16</b>
<b>CALL TO PRAYER</b> <i>Updating the Prayer Guide.....</i>	<b>18</b>
<b>FUND FOR THE FUTURE</b> <i>Finding a vision.....</i>	<b>19</b>
<b>IN VIEW</b> <i>News and Views.....</i>	<b>20</b>
<b>XPECTATIONS AND XPERIENCES</b> <i>Steve Holloway, presenter of XPECT, the youth video, on mission.....</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>MAKING WAVES 23</b> <i>Iain Hoskins, Baptist Union of Great Britain Youth Officer, speaks out.....</i>	<b>23</b>

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**HERALD PRICES MADE CLEAR!**

You will by now know that the Herald increased in price to 35p a copy this year. We realise that whilst we told Church Magazine Secretaries of the changes, we didn't tell you the reader! So, to clear up any confusion, here is the scale of prices of Herald subscriptions for 1993.

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Clare Hutt - from Doctor to Divinity student through 28:19 Action Teams

## IT TOTALLY CHANGED MY LIFE!

Clare Hutt went to Jamaica in 1990 as part of the 'pioneering' 28:19 Action Team. She is now studying Divinity at Aberdeen University.

Looking back I can see how the 28:19 experience has totally changed the direction of my life. Firstly in terms of career - from doctor to divinity student! The experience of studying at the Department of Mission at Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, before going to Jamaica, provoked a lot of questions and challenged me to take this study further - hence I'm here now and really enjoying grappling with those questions and a host of others.

I am particularly keen to study missiology further and looking at Liberation Theology raises the very questions of how we study theology at all - how much does our tradition influence our thinking? What insights of faith can we learn from the world-wide church. Anyway all this has led me on to spend next year at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Switzerland. I never knew I'd have the confidence but can't wait to study in a more international environment.

What about when I finish studying? Well the idea of further overseas work is a real possibility. It may be a scary prospect but as I have more and more contact with people from different cultures, I feel God is really speaking to me.

My time in Jamaica has given me the courage to face God with the hard questions of life and death, and to realise the closeness of His presence working in the world. I returned from Jamaica very fired up with concern for

**T**he next century of mission is *now*." So states Lois McKinney writing in the current issue of *Missiology: An International Review*. She believes that "missionaries in the 21st century are not far off creatures from outer space who will someday inhabit our planet. They are today's children from around the world who are learning about missions in church education programmes." She is right. That's why this month we devote our pages almost exclusively to young people in mission.

A large number of 20th century BMS missionaries were inspired and recruited through BMS

# HERALD

Summer Schools. Many of the "enthusiasts" for mission on the General Committee and in our churches also caught the "mission bug" at Summer School. But that was yesterday. The Schools lost their popularity in the early '80s and we have had to find something new to replace them.

Young people were drawn in large numbers to the 28:19 and LOUD tours designed particularly for today's youth. During both tours they were challenged to think about the future of their lives and their Christian commitment. The response was tremendous. A large number of enquiries were received about Christian service at home and overseas.

The 28:19 Action Teams grew directly out of the first tour. Already many young people have received a "taste" of mission overseas, some for six months and others as part of summer teams. The experience has changed them. "I shall never be the same again," is the most frequent comment we receive. Some of them will eventually offer for longer term missionary service. Most of the others will spend a lifetime feeding back their world church experiences and their missionary enthusiasm into local Baptist churches.

"The next century of mission is *now*." What young people discover about the world church today is crucial as we move towards 2001 and beyond.





social and environmental issues, realising that our lifestyle is also part of our Christian witness. I must have been very unbearable to live with but gradually that energy has been channelled into my own lifestyle and into raising some of these issues in the University. The Gospel is spiritual, freeing individuals, but it is also social, affecting the corporate

dimensions of our socio-political system. That we can be used here and now by God in His work of building his Kingdom is mind-blowing and exciting. Looking back sharing with the Jamaican congregations gave me a real sense of the dynamism and vitality of the Christian faith.

It's easy to forget the harder times whilst on the 28:19 Team but they were all very character building situations to learn from. My experiences have opened up many opportunities such as working in America with economically disadvantaged children and now as a community worker running an after school club on one of the local estates.

The six of us are still good friends (believe it or not) and it's great to be able to meet up and still feel that team support and encouragement.

Jamaica now seems a very long way away and its hard to evaluate how it has changed me - perhaps you need to ask that question to the people that know me and my

lifestyle.

I have a real concern for the world-wide church but realise how little I appreciate the situation in other countries yet am eager to learn more of the experience of Christians across the world.

**"My time in Jamaica has given me the courage to face God with the hard questions of life ... and death."**

*Street outreach from Lille Baptist Church, France*



# NOW I KNOW WHERE I'M

**by Jean-Luc Melotte** *Jean-Luc knew isolation and struggle through living on the streets of Lille, France. Last year he found a new life.*

**I** KNEW AT the age of 13 that my parents were not my real parents. I felt so confused! My brother and sister told me what they had endured before the three of us were placed. I was six months old and they were several years older.

In a little village in the Pas-de-Calais, our family was quickly picked out by the neighbours and social workers. Our parents were







# HOW M GOING!

drunk day and night and the atmosphere at home was bad. I cried and yelled in a corner because of noise and hunger; my brother and sister were beaten by my parents who were aggressive through alcohol. One day, a neighbour, cheesed off with all the yelling, got in touch with the police. All three of us were placed with other families by the Social Services. I was six months old, puny and closely watched over by a doctor.

What I had heard about my real parents didn't make me want to know them. On the contrary, everything had gone very well

with my new parents and their three boys. However, in 1986 - I was 15 years old - I lost my adoptive father.... and I lost my head! I dropped out of school and started to hang around the bistros with my mates. I gave a lot of grief to my foster mother who resigned herself to appealing to an educator. I was placed in the home of a Belgian where they tried to make me study using every trick in the book. Impossible! Nothing could be done! I no longer wanted to! In the end, I found work in catering. I lived in an apartment with two or three friends.

After three months, I became aware of some petty drug trafficking in the restaurant and I got involved. I served the customers and smoked my hash behind the kitchen. The chief cook was the general dealer and the owner injected herself with heroin. When I finished work, sometimes at one o'clock in the morning, I was in a sorry state!

One day, I chucked it all in, walked out and went off to see what was happening in Lille. It was November 1991. I stayed for one week in a hostel ... and I said to myself: "Better the slave-galley than the hostels!" I quickly joined a gang of drop-outs who hung around the station. About a dozen of us squatted in an apartment close to the Commercial Market. We ate what we'd succeeded in nicking from the supermarkets. We got high on hash or shoot (heroin), according to our finances, by the light of a candle and we curled up on our mattresses. One evening, someone turned up with a stolen car. We filled it up by siphoning petrol from another car and went for a ride, which ended up.... in the police station. I was high and trembling. After raiding our squat, they released those who, like me, had no drugs or arms on them. Our squat had been bricked up, but our gang found another one a little further away.

I had become familiar with "Abej-Solidarits" (the social ministry of Lille Baptist Church) and one day, I thought, "I've just about had enough. Before it turns bad, I want to settle down and make something of my life." I asked the Abej team for help and they suggested to me that I should be looked after at "l'Alliance", one of the places of community life of "la Communaut de la Reconciliation" (Community of Reconciliation). I arrived there on 5 January 1992, ready to get out again if it



resembled a "home" ....

When I take stock, I can say that this stage of my life was an incredible chance. In April, it was possible for me to be taken on as a kitchen hand at the Sernam. I work in the self-service, preparing the dishes, doing the washing-up, cleaning the cookers. The atmosphere is good and I hope that I shall be kept on permanently. I am, little by little, letting myself be tamed by this community and learning about life full of faith in God.

However, I almost spoiled it all by several relapses. My problem? A desire to steal money and to blow it immediately! The past leaves its mark. One day I took advantage of the growing trust in me and I forced open a drawer where I thought I might find some money. I was suspected of doing it. I denied it...but was even so given several days to reflect on it... outside of the Community. I spent several terrible nights in a squat, near the Porte d'Arras, haunted by the knives and syringes of those who, by force of circumstances, I found myself among once again. It was a great shock. Looked after anew at l'Alliance, I became very keen on honesty. I even made sure my Metro tickets were punched. I am not going back! I am happy to commit my life to the Lord and to see what He will do with it.



Another thing: the reunions with my brother Joel. The last time I'd seen him was when I was six months old. We described ourselves over the telephone and arranged to meet at the station.

"Now then, is it you, my brother?" we both said simultaneously. He showed me photographs of my real mother, of my sister's wedding, etc... Briefly, I understood better from where I came, but I know even more where I am going!

*from Vivre Ensemble, the magazine of the Community of Reconciliation.*

28:19  
Action  
Team  
working in  
Lille,  
France



## WELCOMING PEOPLE IN

**A 28:19 Action Team is currently helping the community in Lille. This is how the Team members feel about it.**

Community life is all about sharing Jesus' love practically with others, and therefore one of the most important aspects of the community life here is welcoming in the homeless, the less fortunate, drug addicts, ex-prisoners, etc., from Lille. Through this they are able to offer these people not just a roof over their heads, but also the chance to be part of a family again.

Living here now, we are able to see the end results of people who have been helped by the community. Mustapha who lived at La Corde last year spent six months in prison two years back due to stealing. The Mustapha you talk to now is a very different man from the drug addict that he describes in his testimony.

Seeing how the community really does help those in need is exciting, but for us, living in the

community day in day out with those welcomed in from off the streets is hard. It demands a lot of time spent looking after them, being patient, and usually not seeing many positive results as people do not change overnight.

For example, Monsieur Jean has been living in La Corde for a year now, whereas before he was an alcoholic on the streets for 15 years. He still drinks and begs and when he returns home drunk it is very hard to see what has changed.

However, I think that we've learnt so much more about the importance of every life from living in the community and that where people are suffering and broken we need to learn to keep on giving and forgiving however frustrating it seems at times.







John Passmore, 28:19 Action Programme Co-ordinator

# YOUNG GIFTED AND OVER THERE

**For three years, the 28:19 Action Team Programme has thrown young people in at the deep end of world mission.**

**The scheme raises questions. Can young people contribute anything? Are young people too green to make a good impact? What do young people get from their experience? Is it worth the money?**

**Here, John Passmore, the 28:19 Action Team Co-ordinator, reflects on how and why the scheme came about and on its future.**

## **Why did the Action Team Programme come about?**

There were always a number of people in the 18 to 21 age range asking if there were opportunities to work overseas. Then the 28:19 Tour with Steve Chalke and Martyn Joseph challenged many young people to get involved in world mission.

We realised that our existing volunteer scheme only catered for those who had some skill or expertise to offer whereas the majority of those applying were taking a year out between school and further



education or employment. They had no particular qualifications or training but were enthusiastic about their faith and had energy to offer to the task of mission.

The 28:19 Action Programme was designed to provide a vehicle for these young people to become involved in mission and work in an overseas situation for a period of six months.

## **Who applies to be on a team?**

This scheme has been running for three years and the majority of people on the teams are taking a year out between school and college. Some have finished further studies or even given up jobs to join the teams.

The age range is from 18 to 25 years old. That may seem narrow but the existing volunteer scheme

continues for those above the age range or for those who wish to work as individuals.

## **What do the Teams actually do?**

This ranges from helping build a house in favelas in Brazil to working in the Neurology Department Library of a hospital in India; from teaching in a school for missionaries' children in Asia to helping those who have

dropped out of formal education in Jamaica to read and write; from producing radio programmes for a local Christian radio station to digging a baptistry; from working in a Centre for the Rehabilitation of Paraplegics to joining an evangelistic team at the Winter Olympics; from typing reports in an office and cataloguing the archives to working on the streets of a city with alcoholics and drug abusers.

## **What is the benefit of the scheme?**

For many of the young people this will be their one opportunity to be involved first-hand with an overseas church. Yet there are others who are maintaining the link with the country they visited and are planning to go back again



for short visits.

For some it has meant changing the course of study they had previously planned and they're now training with a view to further missionary service.

Six months is a short time and that is recognised both by the volunteers and their host countries. Yet it would be unfair to say that the young people are not able to make any contribution during that time. Even in countries where volunteers have had to learn another language they have tackled that problem and been able to communicate even to the point of some leading services and preaching.

It has been good for the host country to see people giving up time and even paying to come and join with them offering what they



have in the work of mission.

It has challenged young people in some countries to see young people coming from Britain to join with them and do some of the jobs which no-one else really wanted to do.

### **So the learning is a mutual experience?**

A team of six young people joining a small struggling church even for a short period has been a tremendous encouragement to the people. They've seen what is possible and have been challenged to take on new ways of outreach.

The young people from Britain have also been challenged and realised that they do not have all the answers. They have seen how much young people in other countries are doing and contributing to their own churches and the volunteers' own spiritual life has been deepened as a result. Many

return as changed people following their experience with the partner church and they are now better able to understand what it means to be a follower of Christ.

### **How is team preparation organised?**

The young people come together for one month of training and preparation before they leave. They learn to work together as a team and are given resources to help them deal with situations they are going to encounter.

In many cases the host country wait to receive the Team before making final decisions about what they will actually be doing and where they'll be living. The volunteers are then able to help in the process of deciding where they will be best used and the things they most successfully can do.

### **So is it a scheme that's coming up roses?**

Not all experiences have been positive and there are some places where the scheme has not worked as well as in others. But five of the countries who have previously received Teams are asking for more! This says something about how they feel the young people have made a positive contribution in their countries.

The scheme hasn't always been easy for the young people. Some have struggled through the six months overseas. Although there is a medical examination as part of the selection process two members have had to withdraw from the scheme before its completion due to medical reasons.

### **What supervision are the Teams given overseas?**

In many countries a BMS missionary is on hand as a support person with overall responsibility for the Team whilst in that country. Where there is no BMS missionary then one of the leaders of the Church takes on the responsibility. This has worked well and we hope we have maintained

a good balance between supervision and allowing the young people a free hand to express themselves.

### **What about the money involved? Is the Programme cost effective?**

The 28:19 Action Programme is not cheap for the BMS. Although the young people make a contribution to cover their travel and training the BMS is responsible for their accommodation and living allowance. This is a large investment in young people but along with helping our partner countries it provides an outlet for service which informs and enthuses the churches.

### **How does the 'informing and enthusing' part work?**

On return from the partner country the teams spend two months touring the UK sharing their experiences with the churches as part of the World Mission Link Programme. This is valuable in communicating the task of mission to British churches. It also enables young people to see that they can have a part to play in world mission through the experiences of the teams that visit them.

There is a period of debriefing and preparation before they embark on the tour and along with written evaluation sheets which the team members complete we are able to build up a picture of the scheme which is, of course, changing and developing each year.

### **Has the Programme mushroomed?**

This scheme has grown from one team in the first year to four teams currently working overseas. With present resources it is difficult to see how the scheme could grow much larger but we hope to maintain the level at four teams for the next year.

**John Passmore** is now Secretary for Europe and Action Team Co-ordinator.



# REFLECTIONS TWO YEARS ON: 28:19 THE ACTION

How has my time with the Team changed me?

It is difficult to say. It could easily be underestimated. I thought about Jamaica at least once a day for over a year without trying! The country is still on my mind, especially the joy and hope that people seemed to have, even in situations which appear "hopeless" to our eyes.

Jamaica opened up the complexity and variety of human experience, making me more open-minded toward the way those of other cultures see the world. It was a valuable time of listening and thinking, which has enabled me to see life from a third world perspective. I am shocked by how few people have a whole world view.

Jamaica increased my sense of urgency in working for a fairer world. I am now the chair of "Christian Aid" in the University with responsibility for organising meetings, fund-raising events and Christian Aid Week.

Jamaica tested my faith; - God became more "real" as I depended on Him day by day. I have found making time for God more of a struggle at college, however. It is easier to think that you are less dependent on Him at home, when in effect He and my need for Him is never changing.

Jamaican churches forced me to think and rethink what I believe, and I readdressed the part where I wanted to make a public

Keith Holmes, also part of the 28:19 Action Team to Jamaica in 1990, explores the questions raised for him by the experience.



commitment through baptism which took place on 18 September 1991. Since then I have become more confident in expressing my faith, and I feel better able to develop my faith without having to conform to the opinions of others.

The ministry of Jamaican pastors and lay preachers will have a great impact on my life. Living in a country where Christianity is present at every level showed me how much we have to learn from the Jamaican church here in Britain. The scope certainly exists for the Jamaica Baptist Union to send missionaries to Britain. Funding made available in this way could be extremely profitable for increasing our understanding of Jamaica's hopes and difficulties while increasing the perpectives of the church as a world church.

Mission is not really radical enough at the moment. Missionaries expect to return to England after five or ten years and continue life much as before. Furthermore the high status awarded to missionaries in Britain is

unhealthy; probably reflecting the complacency of British Baptists more than the sacrifice offered by missionaries. Missionaries are seen as the heroic figures of the church, whereas in fact they are HUMAN!

## THE TEAM EXPERIENCE

In Jamaica mutual support between members of the team was crucial to a successful six months. Team co-operation was then stretched to the limits during the two month tour in the UK. Being forced to get on well with each other was a useful experience for college life, and contributed towards helping me to see things from several perspectives, whilst not compromising my own position. It also developed leadership skills.

The team continue to be a source of mutual support and encouragement - we have met up regularly in the vacations since. Friends for life!

## THE DIRECTION OF MY LIFE

Seeing the church at work in Jamaica was an encouragement to me. The commitment of the pastors was indisputable, and I found the churches to be vibrant and at the heart of community life.

Jamaican Christians have



challenged me to make a commitment to God which with His help I hope to live out to the full. As well as Jamaican love, warmth and hospitality having a great effect on me, living with daily risks also forced me to rely more on God.

This experience has helped me to value some part of my Englishness, whilst being ashamed to be British on other counts, especially slavery and colonialism in Jamaica. At the same time I developed a new perspective - seeing Britain from a Jamaican point of view. Ever since childhood I thought it was "good" to "buy British", as if somehow we should protect British industry. By becoming Jamaican and supporting Jamaican people I started buying Jamaican, rather than imported goods. I had a funny dilemma at Christmas time - I wanted to buy someone a bar of chocolate, so immediately got a Cadbury's bar, instead of a locally made one. In this way local products become devalued. I should have bought Jamaican.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

Working with a church abroad



Keith Holmes

has made me think about how much of what we do in church is cultural. This ranges from leadership to attitudes to young people, preaching methods, style of worship and language used. It has made me less critical of unusual forms of worship in Britain or worship that I do not find helpful. I am now able to "fit in" to a wide range of Christian services where I find there is usually some way that I can benefit from the different ways people express and interpret faith.

While the church in Jamaica is vibrant and preaching excellent, it is difficult to know how deeply people are relating what they hear to every day life. As in Britain there are double standards. The difference is the standard of education. Jamaicans in the

*Hope, beauty and vibrancy in Jamaica*

**"28:19 was a thoroughly worthwhile life-changing experience, which has seriously challenged many assumptions. The year has had an enormous impact on my life as a Christian, particularly creating a world-view and a sense of urgency and radicalism in mission."**



countryside tend to be much less critical of preachers than British people. How important are knowledge and understanding to the Christian faith? Uneducated people have as much access to God's love!

The implications for the church in Britain are major. Preaching in Britain tends to be academic and removed from day to day experience. This must be a handicap to making the faith relevant to ordinary people. Our faith is more than a cultural ideology to spread to the ends of the earth, and yet can "Christianity" as it exists today be extracted from European culture and "fed" in a pure form to those of non-Christian cultures?

## CONCLUSION

28:19 was a worthwhile life-changing experience, which has challenged many assumptions. The year has had an enormous impact on my life as a Christian, particularly creating a world-view and a sense of urgency and radicalism in mission.





**DOUBLE TAKE**  
**TAKING A SECOND**  
**LOOK AT**  
**THIS MONTH'S**  
**ARTICLES**

**YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN MISSION**

1

**LIFESTYLE**

"Our lifestyle is also part of our Christian witness." (p4)

This would be true for Christians of all ages, but is there a particular lifestyle for Christian young people?

In your opinion, are there some Christian lifestyles that you think act against the message of the Gospel?

2

**MINISTERING TO THE WHOLE PERSON**

See "I know where I'm going!" (p6) How do you think Jean-Luc felt, when, suspected of stealing money from l'Abej, he was sent back to the world he'd come from to reflect? What were the motives of the people who did this? Was it a lesson that could be learnt any other way? What were the risks, for both parties?

3

**EXPECTATIONS**

Steve Holloway comments that he didn't see anyone in a pith helmet whilst in India. (p22)

What do you think a missionary looks like? Or a minister? A deacon? A social worker? Why do we stereotype people, and want to put them in our moulds?

4

**WORSHIP**

Keith Holmes says "Working with a

church abroad has made me less critical of unusual forms of worship, or worship that I do not find helpful." (p10)

Write an order of service for your ideal service. What have you put in? What have you left out!? Swop these around in your group (unnamed). Can you recognise who has written what?

Is the type of worship we are comfortable in just an extension of our personalities? If so, does changing our mode of worship mean changing our personality?



5

**WORLD VIEW**

Keith, again, says "I am shocked by how few people have a whole world view." (p9)

What do you think he means?

What is your world view? Do you think it is whole?

6

**INTO ACTION**

Since the 28:19 Action Teams seem to be such a success (p7-8), do you think something like this ought to be compulsory for all young Christians?

**Double Take**



**D**DOUBLE TAKE? Double Take is a way of using the Herald to consider, more deeply, the theme which is highlighted each month. Whether used privately, within a missionary or house group, or as part of Sunday worship, the hope is that a better understanding of the issues will lead to a change in attitudes, to a commitment to prayer, to involvement in mission and to action



# Bible Study

## 2 Timothy 1:3 - 7; 2:1 - 9, 20- 26.

**P**aul was nearing the end of his life when he wrote this his second letter to Timothy, who was still a young man at the time. Paul calls him “my beloved child”, that is, one who was born into God’s family through his ministry.

Bearing in mind that this was a letter written to a young man, go through this passage and list all the commands Paul gives. Even allowing for the fact that we all have different callings within the body of Christ, can you imagine yourself talking to young person like this? Give reasons for your answer. Are there things here that you do not think appropriate to say to a young person ?

### A godly upbringing (1:5)

Is there a case to be argued that having a Christian home background is actually a disadvantage, because young people then have no idea as to what they have been redeemed from?

How do you think Jean-Luc’s story (p5-6) might have been different if he had been born into a happier home?

In your group ask at what age did members become Christians, and from what backgrounds did they come?

### Rekindling the gift (1:6)

When a particular job needs doing in your church, what are the criteria you use in selecting someone to do it? Is “age” one of these? Do you think, both as a society and as Christians, we are guilty of being “ageist”?

Do you think young people have abilities to offer in the church? Name some. What do you think young people themselves feel

about their various gifts and talents? Are they overlooked in preference to older people’s abilities?

Imagine your church is hosting a 28:19 Action Team. What tasks would you give them?

### God did not give us a spirit of timidity (1:7)

It is said that evangelism amongst one’s peer group is most effective in the first six months after conversion. Why do you think this might be?

*Steve Chalke, as the defrosted evangelist, in the LOUD Tour, October, 1992.*

What characteristics and features do you like least about young people? List your answers.

Are there any things on this list you think God might actually like ?

### Be strong, share in suffering (2:1, 3)

Do you think that the society we live in puts too much emphasis on allowing children to enjoy their childhood? And, if so, does this mean our children do not understand the demands and responsibilities of adulthood?

### The word of God is not fettered (2:9)

Do you agree with Iain Hoskins (p23)? Do you think we try to channel the efforts of young people into our mould, into what we think they should be doing?

### Shun youthful passions, aim at righteousness....(2:22)

Are youthful passions the same the world over? And are they always wrong? What do you think of the young Zairian’s comments (p17) in which he says that young people in London are very badly behaved? Try to rephrase this verse in terms a young person would be happy with.





**T**he gospel of Jesus is all about taking risks, and not getting engulfed by the status quo. It is about moving out into the unknown, and not building a house on sinking sands. Taking a step into the unknown may bring about all kinds of reactions within us; it may thrill and excite, or it may send a feeling of sheer panic down our spine.

Generally (although certainly not exclusively) it will be our youth who will be most prepared to step out for Jesus; to throw aside the restraints that having a family, a mortgage and paying into a pension scheme bring upon us. As Joel prophesied it will be our young men and women that are the visionary members of our church communities.



## ACTION POINTS

1

Conduct a survey amongst the young people of your church, and ask them how they see your church in one, five and ten years time. Ask them about what they like now, and what they would like to change.

Then ask yourselves how far are you prepared to act on what they've told you. If they ask for something you think absurd or impossible, analyse what it is that makes you think it is absurd or impossible.

*(Above)  
Street evangelism in Barcelona during the Olympics*

*(Top)  
Singing the Good News on a Barcelona street*

2

If you don't have many young people, or if you're losing them, are you prepared to do something to stem the flow?

Conduct a survey amongst the older people in your church asking them what they will do to encourage young people at your church.

3

Ask a young person to take part in some activity you're involved in, either Christian or secular.

4

Write a letter to a young person you know, however vaguely. Maybe a student from your church, studying away from home, or just the son or daughter of a friend.

5

How much do you really know about young people? Do you think your vision is coloured by TV news, or newspapers? Scan your local newspaper for something good young people have done.

Double Take Double Take



# Worship

## RESOURCES

### Youth and Missions

by Paul Borthwick. Pub.Victor

### A Mind for Mission

by Paul Borthwick. Pub.NavPress.

Both these books are obtainable through Alliance Book Services, P.O. Box 21, Brackley, Northants, NN13 6BJ. 0280 705590.

## TWO CONFERENCES COMING UP :

15th - 17th June 1993 at The Dukeries, Mansfield, Notts

### A MIND FOR MISSION

Offering youth specialists special training featuring stimulating, lively conversations with other Youth specialists from different areas of youth ministry and opportunities to share seminars on important issues facing Youth ministry today.

Preceded on Monday 14th June by an Intensive 8 hour course, investigating how young people move from being led to being leaders.

Speakers : Paul Borthwick, Minister of Missions at Grace Chapel, Lexington, Massachusetts; Nick Mercer, Vice Principal of London Bible College; Chandu Christian, Principal YMCA National College, responsible for training in Youth and Community work; Iain Hoskins, National Youth Officer of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, and Anne Foreman, Director of the Church of England Youth Service.

### 28:19 THE ACTION

For more information on the Action Teams, write to John Passmore, BMS, P O Box 49, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 8XA, or phone him on 0235-512077

18th - 20th June 1993 at Feldon Lodge Centre, Hemel Hempstead, Herts

### WHAT NO.....

A weekend of practical training for all youth leaders and motivating youth towards World Missions. Also practical sessions to help face the challenge of current trends in youth culture and the media together with Bible teaching, worship and new ideas for your youth group.

Speakers : Paul Borthwick ("The Indiana Jones of Youth Ministry"); Peter Swaffield, Oasis Trust, and Iain Hoskins, Baptist Youth Ministry.

For further details on both these conferences, contact Baptist Youth Ministry, PO Box 44, Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 8RT. Tel. 0235 512077.

## RESOURCES FOR YOUTH GROUPS

The BMS Young People's Project "Where Angels Dare" has, for the past two years, been exploring the hard questions of world mission. Part IV of the Project pack will be available late spring. It will be sent out automatically to those who have already received Parts I - III, but if you have missed out on this, please write to BMS and reserve a Part IV pack. We also have a few Part IIIs left.

Apart from this project pack, we do have a lot of youth resources. If there is something specific you would like to help you with your Youth work, eg. ideas for Youth services, dramas, games, Bible studies, please write in to BMS telling us what you require, and we will do our best to meet the needs.

## PRAYER

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the days draw nigh.....and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. Ecclesiastes 12:1, 7.

While I am young, Lord,  
don't let the days pass me by.  
I only have one life,  
and it's very easy to fritter it away,  
always wanting to experience  
something new,  
something I haven't tried before,  
sometimes just for the heck of it.  
Lord, you understand about the  
exuberance of youth,  
the acting first,  
the thinking after,  
the crazy schemes,  
the hare-brained ideas.  
Help me channel all my energy,  
all my high spirits and vigour  
into the great river of your Holy Spirit.

As I grow older, Lord,  
renew me from within.  
Help me to think 'young'  
and not get ground down  
by the mill of life.  
Let me keep in proportion  
the things that claim  
my time and money  
house, garden, car, church meetings,  
and help me to realise that  
people and relationships  
are much more important.  
Get me out of the rut in which I live my  
daily life,  
to say 'yes' instead of 'no',  
to be flexible and open to your Spirit's  
leading,  
wherever that may take me.

And when I am old, Lord,  
let me not despise youth.  
Let me not complain,  
nor be angry, or bitter,  
nor put down their ideas  
and find fault with their  
frivolity and enthusiasm.  
May I remember  
I was young once.  
Help me to listen to them,  
even though I may have heard it  
all before from my generation.

May I find my rest in You  
content to know  
You are continuing to  
build Your church  
as You know best,  
in each and every generation.



# ON TO A WINNER

When BMS 28:19 Action Teams return home they are expected to visit many local Baptist churches in the UK.

How are they received? Helen Matthews has been looking at this question.



Susannah Beasley-Murray  
El Salvador Action Team 1993



Kay Heaps  
El Salvador Action Team 1993

Touring British Baptist Churches



The 28:19 Action Teams, from Brazil, Asia and France, spent two months visiting churches and schools throughout Britain. Through drama, sermons, visual aids and music they shared the joys and frustrations of their six months missionary work.

For some members of the Teams, this was the hardest part! The young people spent hours travelling, and often their accommodation was on church floors. However, they were able to improve their skills. Several of them confessed to great nervousness in addressing a large number of people - but they were not spared!

The Teams also shared their experiences with the BMS General Committee. Many Committee members were enthusiastic about the young people - especially those who had hosted them in their churches.

Other comments have testified to their effect upon the churches.

"It does seem this package that the BMS now offers is a winner," says Richard Steel from Newport, Isle of Wight. "People were

most impressed with the calibre of these young people and the things they presented in the Services were refreshing in style and content."

And Gerry Denston, minister of South Street Baptist Church, Brierly Hill sums up his reaction with one word: "Great!" He has already booked another team for next year.

The young people themselves have continued to be challenged in their faith as they have toured Britain. Living, travelling and working in small teams has sometimes been difficult. Much of the time they were very tired.

However, the experience for them all has been one they will not easily forget. As several of the team members have said, "Life will never be the same again!"

At present, teams are in El Salvador, Jamaica, Italy and France.



David Mitchell  
El Salvador Action



# 'PLEASE STOP HELPING THE PRESIDENT.'

**Wilma Aitcheson, former BMS missionary in Zaire, has been involved with settling and housing Zairian refugees arriving in London. Two young refugees reflect on their home country and their current situation.**



*Living in Zaire*

**I** am a 17 year old Zairian girl. I fled from Zaire last year because of the unrest there. The responsibility for the unrest lies with the President. I would like him to share power with other leaders, and for someone else to be President now. We need a good leader who can get Zaire going, just as it was in the past, when the country became independent. For example Etienne Tshisekedi is Prime Minister. He is a good man and could make progress but the President is stopping him. Even today soldiers are killing and stealing. We need a leader who has wisdom to run the country.

The country is being ruined by white people (expatriates) and by soldiers. I would ask that white people stop helping the President because they are helping him to remain in power and that is not good for the country.

When I arrived in London, I was welcomed by the government. This didn't surprise me as London is a place where visitors are welcomed, those who have fled from their countries. If the government wanted to kill us they could, but they welcome us. Here we can speak about politics without fear.

For my family who are left in Zaire - I am very concerned about them - they are in great difficulty. I pray that God will help them. I am a Christian and I help people who go to church. I share with them the name of God. The church in London welcomed me. I go to the Baptist church at Anson Road.

In class, we talk about my country and how it will be made better. Young people in London are very good. I like them.

'The church in London welcomed me.'

Wilma writes: This young girl was separated from her sister when she fled. She arrived alone in London, and was cared for in a local authority children's home

for six months, until we managed to trace her. She is the sister of a woman whose husband was killed.

## A YOUNG MAN IN FEAR OF HIS LIFE

This is the testimony of a young man who has fled Zaire. He now lives in London. His reflections on his experience are both powerful and disturbing.

I am a young Zairian man. I think that Satan and his followers (e.g. political and military authorities) have ruined Zaire. I fled from







### A story of two churches

Self Street Baptist Church had known its Link-Up missionaries for a long time and were delighted on hearing that they were due on Home Assignment.

The churches in the Link-Up Group met to work out a programme for the visit. Self Street said that it would organise hospitality. It felt that the Saturday meeting for all the churches in the group should be at Self Street. Also, since the missionaries knew its young people, they should take the Self Street Sunday evening service and after church young people's group. The Link-Up visit came and seemed to go well. The missionaries had a full programme and renewed old friendships. "But," they commented, "we didn't really get to know the other churches in the Link-Up group. Wherever we went we met members of Self Street. We enjoyed it, but we still don't really know the other churches, or they us. What a lost opportunity."

Help Road Baptist Church had known its Link-Up missionary for a long time too. When the Link-Up group was formed they did a presentation to the other churches in the group about the Link-Up missionary and the country she was working in - the other churches in the group were really pleased, and complimentary!

When the Link-Up visit was being planned Help Road asked if the missionary could stay with one of its members but suggested that the other churches offered to provide meals. The programme was arranged - Saturday meeting with groups from each church taking part, Sunday services and smaller weekday meetings in the different churches, and a Youth Meeting which would be at Help Road since the missionary had met some of the Help Road Youth Group before.

Putting all the plans into action was exhausting but, at the end of the visit, all the churches said it had been one of the best visits they could remember! The missionary commented "It was really good meeting and getting to know all the churches." She had also been impressed by the youth meeting "there were young people involved from all the churches."

Zaire due to the threat of persecution, harassment, fear of torture and death.

A friend helped me to escape from prison. In order for Zaire to change, we need a change of heart, a change of mentality. People need to change. At this time, Zaire is being torn apart by dictatorial powers and those who support these power. Private and secret armies of those in positions of power are threatening ordinary people. For those left in Zaire, life is very difficult. Illness is rife and very little medication is available. There's no work. People are dying like flies. Pharmacies have been looted.

Here in London, I am safe from all of this but I am finding it

difficult financially. When things are difficult, it's my faith in God which enables me to continue. Jesus Christ is looking after me, even when life is difficult. The greatest obstacle here in London is the English language.

I think that, in general, young people in London are very badly behaved and I think that we as aliens should not follow their example. I have talked to young people here and have discussed things like politics, sport and finance.

I go to the Gospel Church of God, at Shoreditch. There people are being brought to God and the church is very good. We meet in Shoreditch Tabernacle Baptist Church.

**"It's my faith in God which enables me to continue."**



*The refugee experience of London - safe but finding life difficult*





By that baptism into his death we were buried with him, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, so also we might set out on a new life.

Romans 6:4

*Saving God,  
forgive us for wanting  
success without effort,  
resurrection without death  
and mission without price.*

*Remind us again  
how much your mission of love  
costs,  
show us how we need to bury self  
before we can set out on a new  
life.*

*Encourage those  
who are living in the darkness of  
uncertainty;  
help them to see more clearly  
the way you are leading them.*

## CALL TO PRAYER

missionary vision to go into all the world, beginning with India, and spread the Good News.

**WEEK**  
**21**

May 23 - 29  
BELGIUM AND  
FRANCE

These two countries, our neighbours across the Channel, need our prayers as much as areas of traditional missionary work.

Pray for Joyce and Stuart Filby in Belgium, where their hard work is producing the first shoots of growth. Several young people have come to the Lord, and Stuart has held his first baptismal service (in a children's paddling pool!)

Pray for Jane and Les Bromley, going to work at Ferrières. Remember Chris and Christine Spencer, who have recently moved to Le Havre after many years of service in Zaire.

Also for Robert and Catherine Atkins, who are still striving to adjust to life in France, not just living with the French language, but also more subtle adjustments : adapting to the French way of thinking and doing things.

**WEEK**  
**23**

June 6 - 12  
YOUNG PEOPLE

This whole issue of the Herald has been about young people in mission. Pray for the young people in your church, that they may give themselves fully to God, being open to the leading of His Spirit, and being willing to spend time in mission for Him.

Pray for Youth Leaders, who hold such a key position in these formative years, that they may help and encourage young people in their charge.

The 28:19 Action Teams that went out to France, Italy, Jamaica and El Salvador last year have now returned. Pray for them as they now travel round churches in Britain, telling of their experiences. Pray for the next group of young people getting ready to go on the 1993/4 Action Teams.

**WEEK**  
**24**

June 13 - 19  
PEOPLE IN  
MISSION

Praise God that all the time people are obeying God's call to mission overseas. Some are, at this moment, being challenged, and are sorting out within themselves whether this is the right choice to make. Pray for clear and definite guidance.

Others are taking this step a little further, and are in contact with BMS or other missionary agencies. Yet others are actually preparing for missionary service overseas.

Remember especially three couples, who, at time of preparation of this Call to Prayer, are being commended to the General Committee for acceptance as BMS candidates to work eventually in Albania, Italy and France.



**WEEK**  
**20**

May 16 - 22  
INDIA

Although there are no BMS missionaries

in North India, we remember the Indian Christians who work there.

There are three Provincial Unions - the BUNI (Baptist Union of North India), the BCM (Baptist Church of Mizoram), the BBU (Bengal Baptist Union), and the CBCNI (Council of Baptist Churches of North India) encourages and supports them. They are all preparing for a United Conference to be held at the end of this year; pray these preparations will go smoothly, and that the conference will enable them to work together the more effectively for the sake of the Gospel.

This area includes Mizoram, where nearly 95% of the people are Christians. They have a real keen

**WEEK**  
**22**

May 30 - June 5  
NEW INITIATIVES  
IN MISSION

Sometimes the doors

close on established missionary work, but all the while new opportunities are opening up, and churches from different areas of the world are now asking us to come and help them.

This is tremendously exciting and challenging!

We want to respond to these calls for help, and are able to do so because of money raised by the BMS Fund for the Future.

The Fund closes its books in October. Please pray that the required money will come in by then, (we are appealing for £2m) to enable us to undertake this work. (And if you want to be part of the answer to this prayer, you can find

### 1993 PRAYER GUIDE UPDATE





# Fund for the Future

Funding a vision lies behind **Fund for the Future**. In a rapidly changing world, new opportunities for world mission appear every day. BMS needs to have money available to respond to these opportunities as quickly as they



occur.

Who could have foreseen that Bulgaria would need a British Baptist minister this year to get involved in church planting? Who would have imagined that 1993 was the year when a Baptist church could be started in Tirana, Albania?

Who could have planned that a Baptist Radio station in Nicaragua, begun in 1992, would be so successful that its equipment would need upgrading in 1993 in order to

reach more people with the Good News?

No-one! Along with supporting long-term BMS commitments, the **Fund for the Future** is enabling us to respond to these immediate needs.

A big, bright and bold publicity campaign is hitting the churches this month! We hope that you have seen the posters and leaflets telling you more about the vision for **Fund for the Future!**

Each month, your minister will be receiving creative ideas for how to include various aspects of the

Fund in your worship services. The ideas can also be used in House

Groups, Women's Groups, Men's Groups and Youth Groups so

please ask your Minister for a copy!

*Jenny Gomez, a DJ at the Baptist Radio Station, Nicaragua*

*Mission opportunities in Tirana, Albania*



## NEEDED OVERSEAS

MINISTERS, THEOLOGICAL TEACHERS AND CHURCH WORKERS

### ALBANIA

Experienced church planters

### BRAZIL

Church based community/social workers. Pastors for deprived inner-city areas

### EAST EUROPE

Those equipped for theological education and for training youth workers

### INDONESIA

Couple for theological/discipleship training

### ITALY

Ministers to work in cooperation with the Italian Baptist Union

### SRI LANKA

One minister/ministerial couple for long term commitment

### ZIMBABWE

Minister/Ministerial couple for training of lay leaders and church planting

For more information on these and other openings for overseas service please contact: Janet Claxton on 0235 - 512077



## THE FIRST GRADUATES

The first university graduates from the College of Christian Theology in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The ten students have passed their BTh degree. Congratulations to them, to the Chairman, the Revd R N Baroi, and the Principal, Dr Simon Sircar.



Four of the first graduates, College of Christian Theology, Dhaka, Bangladesh

## POWERLESS CHILDREN'S LAW IN BRAZIL

Although a comprehensive law to defend children's rights was passed two years ago, street children continue to wander Brazilian cities, living in acute poverty and subject to violence, including death by vigilante squads.

Brazil has reached the point where people "are afraid of the children and this is shocking," said the Revd Julio Lancelotti, co-ordinator of Youth Ministry in Sao Paulo.

"It is necessary to plant seeds of hope, not death, for the children," he said, referring to the frequent murders of street children.

A recent report by

The Revd. Carmen Peña Garay at her ordination

UNICEF "Poverty and the Family", brought more attention to the situation of street children. The document says "In 1990, 7.5 million children and adolescents between the ages of ten and 17 worked in Brazil, representing about twelve per cent of the economically active population. Almost 40 per cent of this group consisted of young people between the ages of ten and 14 years of age." Under the 1988 constitution, children under the age of 14 are not allowed to work.

Although more than 46 per cent of these children between ten and 14 work eight hours a day or more, the majority receive, at best, minimum wage.

The low wages are the result of high unemployment and low education levels. According to UNICEF, 46 per cent of children and adolescents in Brazil have less than four years of education.

LatinAmerica Press

## BOYCOTT ON NESTLÉ INTENSIFIES

An intensification of the boycott of Nestlé products has been called for. The delegates of the International Nestlé Boycott Committee, representing 14 countries, heard that despite its promises to restrict marketing practices, Nestlé - which controls over 50 per cent of the \$8 billion world baby milk market - still uses tactics such as free supplies, inducements to doctors, direct advertising and misleading information for health care workers



and governments.

A motion put forward by the Church of England Oxford Diocesan Synod urged the General Synod to challenge the Church Commissioners to sell the C of E's £1.69 million shares in the company if Nestlé does not end its promotion of baby milk.

The BMS General Committee decided to support the boycott of Nestlé at its November 1992 meeting.

EPS

## ITALIAN BAPTISTS REJECT GOVERNMENT HELP

At its meeting in February, a special assembly of the Italian Baptist Union rejected the offer of help from a government "Eight per Thousand" tax whereby the Union, along with Catholic and other Protestant Churches could have received state aid to support its social ministries. The issue of the church/state relationship was hotly debated in a two day meeting.

## NICARAGUAN BAPTISTS ORDAIN WOMAN

January 30 was a special day for Carmen Peña Garay, pastor of the Hebron Baptist church in Juigalpa. Carmen became the first ordained woman minister of the Nicaragua Baptist Convention. Baptists from across the country gathered in the auditorium of the Baptist Theological College in Managua for a ceremony that ran from 9 am until the afternoon.

The three part programme included morning worship, followed by Carmen's presentation of her thesis on "The Ministry of Women since the time of Jesus". She then had to face questions from the assembled ministers and church representatives. Before lunch, a vote was taken and Carmen's suitability for ministry was approved. At the afternoon service, Carmen was ordained.

She was presented with a book of letters written to her by Baptist women ministers around the world. Letters from BMS and





the Baptist Union of Great Britain were delivered by David Martin, BMS Overseas Secretary for Central America.

## ANTI-SEMITIC GRAFFITI SMEARED ON CHURCH IN ITALY

Antisemitic graffiti was daubed on the walls of the Grosseto Baptist Church in Tuscany, Italy. The Protestant community had taken a stand in the previous weeks "on the basis of Bible texts against the reappearance of anti-semitism and in defence of the equality of all ethnic groups." The perpetrators also scribbled the word "mason" on the letterbox of the minister, Sergio Tattoli, on leaving a copy of an antisemitic tract. For Mr Tattoli this episode highlights the need to reflect on the Christian roots of antisemitism. "Only a superficial reading of the Bible can lead to the devious conclusion that Jews are racists, believing them to be superior to other people. In fact, the Old Testament prophets affirmed unequivocally the universal dimension of the Biblical faith," he said.

## BOLD NEW INITIATIVE FOR FUND FOR THE FUTURE

Exciting new Fund for the Future materials

were sent to every Baptist church in the country in March. The first in a series of three posters, a folder and multiple copies of leaflets arrived on the doormat of each Minister and Missionary Secretary.

The materials reflect the urgent need to finance bold new mission work around the world. Service ideas help church leaders to introduce various parts of the Fund in their worship services - and each Minister will receive a monthly service idea until October, when the Fund closes.

The goal is £2 million. For more information on projects supported by the Fund and other resources contact Jim Neilson on 0235 - 512077

### KESWICK on the Isle of Wight 1993

27 June - 2 July

God's Great Salvation

Morning Bible Readings from Hebrews and Evening Meetings

with

Revd Alec Motyer  
Revd Steve Motyer

Westbrook Crusader Centre  
Oakhill Road, Ryde

World Mission Speakers and World Church Exhibition

Other information from

Ernest Maton 0983 526578  
Leslie Gregory 0722 328076

# VIEWPOINT

May I reply, through the Herald, to the article by John Dyer on Lay Training (Dec 1992).

Dear John

I thought I would like to remark on your recent article and make some observations.

It contains some generalisations, some of which may arise from editorial trimming. The first misrepresentation to be identified is about students and seminaries. In my experience there are many students attending seminary classes and they are more than anxious to do so. This in itself demands great dedication. Most of them, as you are aware, have to work to survive and to pay the fees. The seminaristas who have the most pressure are those who study and attend in the evening. This is often the cheapest but perhaps not the best structured form of training. They have to work, prepare sermons for Sunday and of course have reading and preparation not to mention visitations all which have to be fitted into an already busy day.

The mention of the larger churches obscures the real frontier of evangelism and action which has to do with the small group churches, often in favelas. For instance, there is only one church within the whole ABC district of Sao Paulo which has more than one paid pastor. Many congregations have, in fact, no pastors at all. Numbers are often less than 70 members and it is not made clear that the income of £40 a month may apply to less than half the members and also be for the total survival income of a family. This has direct relevance to the financial independence of the congregation and the establishment of a church building.

Lay involvement in the function of these favela churches is therefore essential. Often they cannot afford to support and maintain a minister. The challenge which is being faced cannot be accomplished by the structured courses mentioned here but

have to take place as a continuation of instruction for membership and in doctrine. The background to many is totally uninstructed or they are escaping from sects or distorted faiths. With the privilege of being a member and having democratic rights to be handled they enter a new experience not common to their social or political life. The use of lay enthusiasm in involvement in the administration of the sacraments needs considerable caution and wisdom.

David Meikle

Sao Bernado do Campo  
Sao Paulo, Brazil.

## CHECK OUT

### DEPARTURES

David Stockley to Albania  
Chris and Christine Spencer to France  
Lee and Evelyn Messeder to Brazil  
Mark and Andrea Hotchkin to Belgium for language study, in preparation for work in Guinea-Conakry on secondment to the Leprosy Mission  
Suzanne Roberts to Mozambique on secondment to ACRIS  
Peter Clough to Nepal (volunteer)  
Angela Sinclair to Vellore (volunteer)  
Les and Jane Bromley to Belgium

### ARRIVALS

Stephen Green from Zaire  
Ruth Montacute from Zaire  
Ann Bothamley from India  
Derek Punchard from Brazil  
Isobel Strang from Nepal  
David Stockley from Albania

### VISITS

Angus MacNeill to Zaire  
John Passmore to the USA and Jamaica  
Tom Bowman to Sri Lanka and Nepal  
Cath Mawson to Nepal and India

### LEGACIES

Alfred Rix	3,331.00
W B King	26.94
Mrs Elizabeth K Gulliver	50.00
Miss M I M Causton	1,000.00
Alice Sarah Lloyd	4,702.49
Daphne Ann Munson	6,963.00
O M Gale	2,152.15
Miss M MacIntosh	500.00
E D Morgan	14,633.15
E A Jessop	834.21
Lorna Joyce Hyde	5,094.54
K B Brown	11,053.07

### GENERAL FUND

Cardiff: £20.00; Cardiff: £20.00; Aberdeen: £50.00; Anon for Zaire Fund: £1,000.00; Charities Aid: £17.77; CAF Voucher: £50.00; Anon: £3.00; CAF Voucher: £50.00; Darlington: £4.00; Darlington: £35.00; Kent: £10.00; Weston-super-Mare: £5.00; Anon: £10.00;



# XPECTATIONS XPERIENCES

Steve Holloway was a co-winner of a BMS competition to "front" a new video for young people. XPECT - The Video, looking at the relevance of mission today, was released in 1992. So what does he think?



slightly clearer in my mind about the missionaries' normal routine. However a visit to India and Bangladesh to film XPECT - The Video corrected a few misconceptions. Being a full time evangelist meant that I knew, spiritually, what mission was about. I didn't know, however, that it wasn't merely preaching to 2,000 locals each day. I learned that it was often a long, hard and demoralising journey through "secular" work in order to earn the right to be heard by just one person.

It is a common and often natural feeling to think that the world only exists where you are. I remember being on holiday and working out the exact time it was back in England. My friends were at school. For obvious reasons a wry smile of smugness and contentment emerged. I realised at that point that God was at work there as well as where I was. I then understood God's omnipresence (a word used to show that I did learn something at Bible college). This was then heightened during the making of XPECT. God really does care for each person no matter who or

One of my earliest memories is of spending some time on holiday with a group of missionaries in Thailand. At the time I had great difficulty understanding exactly what these missionaries did. They seemed to spend the mornings singing and praying, the lunchtimes devouring colossal amounts of food, the

*Filming XPECT The Video - with Steve Holloway and Meriel de Vekey*

afternoons were spent asleep and the evenings were for talking to each other a lot. I remember watching these "pioneers" and thinking, "I could handle this." I was later informed that they also were on holiday. This clarified one situation but still left me none the wiser as to what they really spent their days doing.

As time went on I became



where they are. He loves and died for a small, abandoned child in a Calcutta slum, as well as for me.

Since then my perspectives on mission and evangelism haven't wildly changed but they have deepened and broadened. This has led to a greater desire to reach people everywhere and not just concentrate on this country. The Good News is international. This in turn has led me to plan a visit to Uganda to serve and teach there, and explore the possibilities of ministry in other countries.

In hindsight, I didn't see anyone in a pith helmet or any other stereotypical missionary "uniform", only people seeing a need and addressing it. In fact people just like you. Perhaps I'll go out again. Perhaps I'll see you there.

Steve Holloway



Steve's experience led to a "greater desire to reach people everywhere".

M A K I N G W A V E S M A K I N G W A V E S M A K I N G W A V E S M A K I N G W A V E S

# M A K I N G W A V E S

FROM IAIN HOSKINS, NATIONAL YOUTH OFFICER OF BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

**Y**oung people involved in mission are consuming the images they have been given. The majority of them don't do things intuitively; they take what's on offer. We offer them 28:19 Action Teams and they go on them. We offer them time with Oasis, doing mission at home, and they enter into it fully. But it is not young people creating mission themselves; rather it is young people responding to what they have been offered. So they work in offices, homes, churches and schools. They are doing what we've told them to do, going where we've sent them. We tell them this is the need. As Christians we should respond to that need. And they do that - respond to that need. But is this work something they would naturally have taken upon themselves as their contribution to mission?



It would be wrong to say that young people don't have concern for all that is going on in the world today. Of course they have concerns, particularly about the world and the environment, more so than some adults. Middle class kids have had their sense of privilege heightened. But for a lot the humanitarian response is sometimes a greater drive than the Christian response. Young people, indeed people of all ages, have many reasons why they want to be involved in mission. But they cannot escape answering the questions: What are we going there for? Are we just going to make clones of ourselves? Will we help the people we're with discover Jesus? Are we allowing young people to be Christians in the way God wants them to be, as He has liberated them to be? Are we brave enough to say to our young people, "how is God telling you to live out mission in your world today?" Older people need to be less prescriptive as to how they think. We may have to let go of our cherished notions. Let the young people discover the Jesus of the Gospel, and what He wants to do in their lives for themselves.



# Help foot the bill and put Luis on wheels.

There's a lot Luis wants to do - like lay training, pastoral support, visiting the bereaved and others in urgent need, as well as taking Sunday services. Nothing unusual for a pastor, in fact. But for Luis it's almost impossible.

His five congregations are spread out over 120 miles in Nicaragua and he has no transport. Which is why we want to buy him a motorcycle through *Fund for the Future* and bring Luis closer to his people.

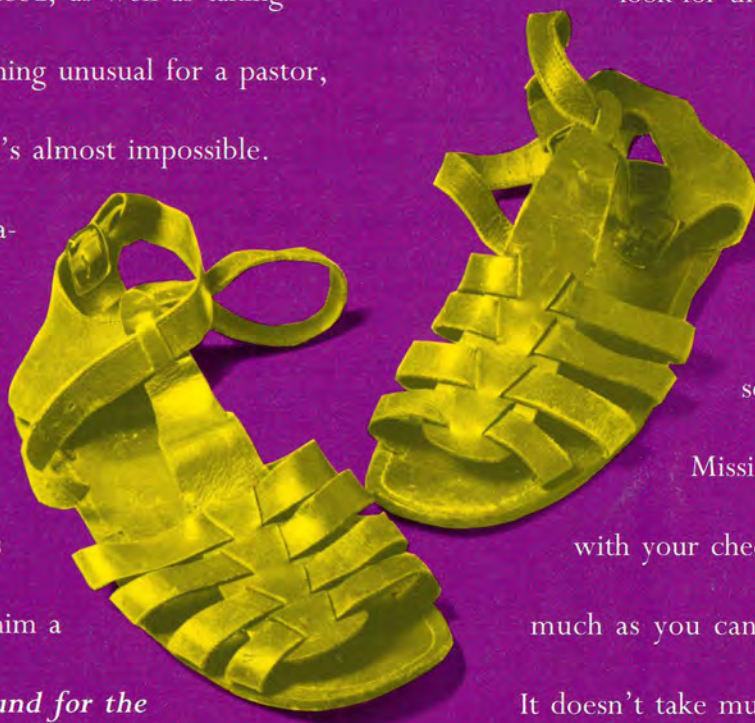
*Fund for the Future* is a scheme which exists to fund exciting new projects and partnerships, providing for mission work globally.

We've already given the go-ahead to a wide variety of plans. From helping the Union of Baptists in Belgium, to enabling support for an evangelist in Indonesia.

We need to raise £2m by October and with

your help we can do it. If you'd like more details about *Fund for the Future* ask your Minister, or look for the leaflets in your church.

It's easy to make a contribution. You can simply fill in the coupon now and send it to the Baptist Missionary Society along with your cheque. Please donate as much as you can and give Luis a lift. It doesn't take much to make a world of difference.



## Fund for the Future

Baptist Missionary Society

Yes, I do want to make a world of difference. Please accept my gift payable to the BMS Fund for the Future.

£5     £10     £20     £50     £100  
 £250 GiftAid     £ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Home church \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and send to: BMS Fund for the Future, PO Box 49, Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8XA.

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