

The 168th Annual Conference
of the Wesleyan Reform Union of
Churches

CONFERENCE 2017



The Hayes Conference Centre,
Swanwick, Derbyshire

June 19th to 21st 2017

Welcome to the 168th Annual Conference of the
Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches
The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire
June 19th to 21st 2017



MR DAVID ROOKSBY

Union President 2016 - 2017

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this, the 168th Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches. Regardless of whether this is your first time at our Conference, or whether you have been here many times before, you are equally welcome and I pray that God will bless you, as we work our way through His business, over these next three days.

It has been a privilege to serve you as President over the past twelve months. Thank you to everyone who has given us hospitality, prayer, love and support on our travels. Sandra and I have many fond memories of our visits, we have been blessed and learnt so much.

I said at last year's Conference that I believed that as a Union of Churches we were at a T junction, that we could not continue as we have done, that our future would look different to our past. Changes are coming, some are being implemented and will be reported upon during this Conference, other areas will be discussed, further explored and prayed about over these days. We are on a journey together and we meet to seek God's vision and direction for us.

There are three phrases that I cannot get away from, I feel that God is saying them clearly as we prepare to meet.

- We need to "Strengthen what remains."
- That as a Union of Churches, we are in this together.
- The words spoken over us by Glen Balfour at Conference 2015. "Be young at heart, consider things in ways you have not considered before," and, "don't be embarrassed or shy of your own tradition." Within these two phrases lies our way forward.

May this Conference be a time of blessing and refreshment from God as we meet together.

God bless,
David

Union President



MR PHILIP HARTSHORN
Union President 2017 - 2018

How time flies - I can't believe it is a year since I was planning what to say in relation to Phil as he was nominated as President-elect, and here we are with the big day approaching.

With the passage of time I feel more convinced that Phil will make an ideal Union President. He became a member of General Committee last year, and by doing so has become more acquainted with his future role and the workings of the Union.

To re-cap, Phil was born into a WR family in Nuneaton, progressed from Sunday School to youth group, to becoming Sunday School teacher and youth leader, and being involved in taking services.

Swanwick youth conventions and YPD youth holidays were a feature of Phil's life, and that is where he met Sue Cosgrove, who later became Mrs P. Hartshorn, and who will be supporting Phil wholeheartedly throughout his year of office.

Phil truly puts his Christian faith into action in a very capable but unassuming way. Nothing is too much for him, and we in the Barnsley Circuit benefit tremendously. He became an accredited preacher in 2002, is circuit secretary, and has served as circuit president. His whole personality reflects his love of the Lord, his willingness to help us all in whatever way he can, his ability to relate to all ages and circumstances. The phone-calls when things are not going so well, the offers of help, and the countless acts of kindness not widely known but sincerely appreciated by those involved.

Phil and Sue are a great pair, working together in their Christian endeavours. They have two grown-up sons, Jonathan and Mark, and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of their first grandchild to Jonathan and Catherine, due in July.

I commend Phil to you as the President of the Wesleyan Reform Union 2017-18, knowing that he will be a true ambassador for his Lord, and consequently for the Union. Love and support goes with Phil as he embarks on this important and challenging year of office. May the Lord be ever with you.

God bless

Marjorie Mottershaw (Smithies, Barnsley Circuit)

Conference Speaker



REV BILL BYGROVES

Pastor at Bridge Chapel and Chaplain at Liverpool Football Club

Bill has been married to Dot for over 40 years they have four grown up children and three adorable grandchildren. Bill has been a Pastor at Bridge Chapel for 37 years. He is also Chaplain at Liverpool Football Club.

INFORMATION SHEET

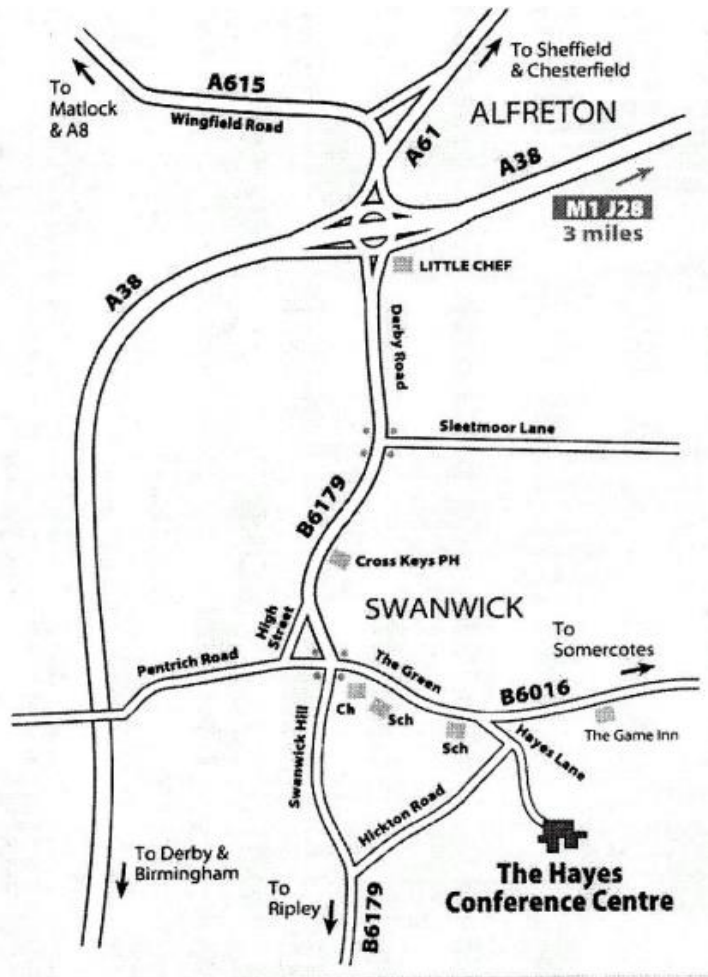
FIRE SAFETY

- If people are not staying overnight, and have booked full board, they must advise the Union Administration Manager (Alina Taylor) or the General Secretary.
- The Hayes imposes a **NO SMOKING** rule in all areas – please respect this.
- In your bedrooms are instructions about **FIRE**. You should read these carefully and check your exit routes.

NOTICES

- We will be meeting in the Butterley Hall which is situated off the corridor between the dining room and the toilets.
- During the Presidential Induction and, again, during the Communion service, an offering will be taken and Gift Aid envelopes will be available for those people who pay income tax. Every pound given as Gift Aid will attract a further sum from the Inland Revenue.
- There are plenty of car parking spaces around the Conference Centre.
- Delegates are asked not to leave valuables in their bedrooms. The Conference Centre will be happy to lock them away for you and issue a receipt upon request.
- A name badge will be given to you on arrival at Conference. It is requested that you wear this throughout the Conference and return it before departure.
- In the case of an **EMERGENCY**, the number to leave at home is **01773 526000** (7.30am - 11.30pm).
- Any other matters you need to know will be conveyed to you on your arrival at the Conference Centre.
- It is necessary for the smooth operation of the Centre that, on the morning of departure, (preferably before breakfast) you strip your bed and place the linen outside your door.
- Bedrooms need to be vacated after breakfast on the day of departure or by 10.00am at the latest.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is **SWITCHED OFF**, or at least silent, during all formal sessions.
- All areas of the Centre (including bedrooms) now have Wi-Fi internet access. Please note that this is NOT password protected.

The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire DE55 1AU



By Road

From Junction 28 of the M1 - Take the A38 dual carriageway towards Derby. Leave the A38 at the marked exit for the A615 Matlock/A61 Chesterfield and then take the B6179 towards Swanwick and Ripley at the roundabout. At the traffic lights in Swanwick turn left towards Somercotes (B6016), then 500 yards down the road turn right into Hayes Lane. The Conference Centre is straight ahead.

From Matlock - From the A6, take the A615 from Crown Square, Matlock, heading for Alfreton. Turn right at the top of the steep hill in Oakerthorpe, then left approximately 50 yards further on. At the junction of the A615 with the A61 in Alfreton, turn right. Go straight ahead over the traffic island, following the A61 signs for Swanwick and Ripley. At the traffic lights in Swanwick turn left towards Somercotes (B6016), then 500 yards down the road turn right into Hayes Lane. The Conference Centre is straight ahead.

From Derby - Take the A38 out of Derby towards Mansfield. Turn off on to the A61 signposted Matlock and Chesterfield. At the roundabout, turn right onto the A61, signposted Ripley and Swanwick. At the traffic lights in Swanwick turn left towards Somercotes (B6016), then 500 yards down the road turn right into Hayes Lane. The Conference Centre is straight ahead.

By Train

Our local British Rail Station is Alfreton Station on the Sheffield/Nottingham Line, although trains are limited. It is about three miles from the Hayes Conference Centre, but there is a plentiful supply of taxis at reasonable rates. It may be easier to travel to Derby Station, and then catch a bus or taxi from Derby.

By Bus

From Derby, take the 91 or 92 to Mansfield, and ask to be dropped opposite "The Gate" in Swanwick. From there, walk down Hayes Lane, and the Conference Centre is straight ahead.

LIST OF OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016-2017

PRESIDENT

Mr David Rooksby

PAST PRESIDENT

Pastor Andrew Wilcock

PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE

Mr Philip Hartshorn

TREASURER

Mr George Phillips MSc

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Mrs Alina Taylor BA

GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

Rev Phillip J Hearson

Rev Geoffrey Lee BD ALBC

Mr George Phillips MSc

TRUSTEES

Rev Steve Blyth BA; JNC

Mr Cliff A Darby

Mr Graham Evans

Rev Ian Fall

Mrs Daphne Hodkinson

Rev Maurice Nicholls

Mrs Muriel Stonehewer

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Mr Stuart D Allen

Mr Cliff Darby

Mr Graham Evans

Rev Ian Fall

Rev Stephen Griffiths

Mrs Marjorie Mottershaw

Rev M Nicholls

Rev Peter H Norton

Mrs Carole A Parkinson

Mr David Rooksby

Mrs Muriel Stonehewer

REPRESENTATIVE OF HOME MISSIONS

Pastor Andy Wilcock

REPRESENTATIVE OF OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Mrs Jan Shepherd

REPRESENTATIVE OF CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND SOCIAL ACTION

Mrs Daphne Hodkinson

REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

Rev Steve Blyth BA; JNC

REPRESENTATIVES OF WOMEN OF ACTION

Mrs Beth Ely

Mrs Sandra Fall

REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCAL PREACHER'S FELLOWSHIP

Mrs Carol A Nicholls

LIST OF DELEGATES FROM CIRCUITS AND CHURCHES

ALDERMANS GREEN

Mr David Lee

Mr Barrie Parsons

ASHBY CIRCUIT

Mrs Brenda Busby

ASHINGTON (WORD OF LIFE)

Pastor Michael Hedley

ATTLEBOROUGH

No representative

BAKEWELL CIRCUIT

Mr Sam Bown

Mrs Rita Allen

Mrs Jean Yates

BARNESLEY CIRCUIT

Mrs Tracey Hamby

Mrs Dorothy Irwin

BEDWORTH

Mrs Natalie Johnson

BIRDS EDGE

No representative

BRADFORD CIRCUIT

Mr Chris Barnes
Mrs Margaret Barnes
Mr Paul Brown
Mr James Fenton

CHOPPINGTON

No representative

CHURCH ON THE ROCK

Mrs Jackie Clarke

CLYDEBANK

Rev Ishaku Bitrus

DEDDINGTON

No representative

DENBY DALE

No representative

DORRINGTON

Mr Hugh Kinnard

FIFE STREET

Mr Sam Downing
Mrs Pauline Downing

FRITWELL

No representative

GLASGOW ABUNDANT LIFE

Rev Eddison Mubengo

GRIFFYDAM

Mrs Judith Darby

HAZLEMERE

Rev Sharon Hollamby

HEATH END

Mrs Lisa Macbeth

HECKINGTON

No representative

HIGH WYCOMBE CIRCUIT

No representative

IVINGHOE

No representative

LOWESTOFT

No representative

OLDBURY

Mr Mark Parsons

OLD HILL

Mrs Sue Haggart

ROTHERHAM, MEXBOROUGH AND DONCASTER CIRCUIT

Mrs Christine Houghton
Mr John Houghton
Mrs Jean Sykes
Mr Ian Sykes
Mr Howard Copley
Mrs Anne Downing

SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT

Mr Bernard Oldman
Mrs Julia Hodson
Miss Maureen Robinson
Miss Jean Handley

SLEAFORD CIRCUIT

Miss Lydia Philips

SOULDERN

No representative

ST JUST

No representative

SWANTON ABBOT

No representative

SYRESHAM

Mrs Dorothy Dunkley

WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT

Mrs Sandra Rooksby
Mrs Ellie Minney
Mrs Lyndis Payne

ADDITIONAL DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE**MINISTERS PROVIDENT SOCIETY**

Rev Philip Hearson

VISITORS & REPRESENTATIVES TO CONFERENCE

VISITORS

Mrs Lindsay Hedley
Miss Shirley Allcock
Mrs Sue Hartshorn
Mrs Meryl Griffiths
Mr Graham Johnson
Mr Keith Horobin
Mrs Pauline Horobin
Mrs Claire Brown
Mrs Kathie Kinnard
Mr Gavin Card
Mrs Hannah Card
Mr Steve Macbeth
Mr Mike Care
Rev Irvine Grey
Mrs Helen Evans
Mrs Jean Oldman
Rev Colin Braithwaite
Mr Anthony Taylor
Mr David Tuckett
Mrs Faith Sharp
Mrs Susan Norton
Miss Gloria Wallis
Mr David Bracken

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDEPENDENT METHODIST CONNEXION

Mr Ken McDermott

REPRESENTATIVES OF LEADERS OF WORSHIP AND PREACHERS TRUST

Rev John Bolton
Mr Philip Nuttall

STUDENTS

Mr Michael Hedley
Mrs Lindsay Hedley
Mr Graham Johnson
Mrs Jackie Clarke
Mr Steve Macbeth
Mrs Lisa Macbeth
Mr David Tuckett
Mr David Bracken

CONFERENCE 2017
The Annual Conference of the
Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday, June 19th 2017

10.45am	Coffee
11.30am	Reception open for early arrivals and room allocation (Note: Rooms will NOT be available until after lunch, so please do not ask)
12.45pm	Lunch
2.30pm	Opening devotions and Prayer (David Rooksby - Retiring President)
3.30pm	Afternoon Tea Meeting of the Housing for Retired Ministers Trustees (Conference Office)
4.00pm	Names of Representatives to be read Apologies for absence Prayer for new members of Conference Standing Orders (taken as read) Obituaries Correspondence Election of President Election of President-Designate Nominations for General Committee Half Yearly Meetings 2017 onwards Conference 2018 onwards Appointment of Union Trustees Appointment of Guardian Representatives Ministerial Committee Report Christian Ethics and Social Action Report Statistics Greetings from the Independent Methodist Connexion Greetings from the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust WA Report
5.30pm	Break
6.30pm	Supper
7.45pm	Induction of the Union President

If you wish to raise any matter in Any Other Business, you are requested to hand it (in writing) to the President or Administration Manager by 6.00pm on Tuesday.

Tuesday, June 20th, 2017

8.00am	Prayer Groups
8.30am	Breakfast
9.30am	Opening Devotions (Phil Hartshorn- President) Resolution of Loyalty Appointment of, and prayer for, General Committee Local Preachers' Fellowship Report Overseas Missions Report
10.45am	Morning Coffee Meeting of the Ministerial Committee (Conference office)
11.15am	Treasurer's Report Home Missions Report YPD Report Ministers Housing Report
12.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm	Meeting of the General Committee (Butterley Hall)
2.30pm	Speaker - Bill Bygroves, "O Church arise"
3.45pm	Afternoon Tea
4.15pm	Speaker - Bill Bygroves, "A Church in the community"
5.30pm	Break Meeting of the Ministers' Provident Society (Committee Room)
6.30pm	Supper
8.00pm	CESA – Jonathan Parkinson, "Caring for Life"
9.30pm	Meeting of Management Committee (Conference Office)

Wednesday, June 21st 2017

- 8.00am Prayer Groups
- 8.30am Breakfast
- 9.45am Opening Devotions (by Women of Action)
Notice of Motion (change from 'General Secretary' to 'Administration Manager')
Safeguarding
MPS Report
Approval of Union Committees for 2017-18
Any Other Business
Vote of thanks
- 10.45am Morning Coffee
President meets with Communion servers (Butterley Hall)
- 11.15am Conversation on the Work of God
- 12.45pm Lunch
- 2.00pm Conference Communion
- 3.30pm Close of Conference
- 3.45pm Afternoon Tea for any who have requested (and paid for it)
- 4.15pm Meeting of the Union Trustees (Writing Room)
- 6.30pm Supper for Trustees, their passengers and drivers

AGENDA OF BUSINESS

For The 168th Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches

NOTICES

Conference Sessions commence at 2.30pm on the Monday. It is desired that all delegates will stay to the conclusion of Conference.

STANDING ORDERS FOR CONFERENCE

Six months' notice must be given by members of Conference of any resolution which in any way affects the Constitution of the Union.

No Resolution, or Notice of Motion, which in any way affects the Constitution of the Union, shall be received from any member of the Conference or General Committee, unless such Resolution, or Notice of Motion, shall have first received the approval of the Circuit, or Church where there is no Circuit, or General Committee of which such individual shall be a member of good standing at the time when such Notice of Motion shall be made.

The Business Sessions of the Conference will be preceded by devotions, and will be conducted by the following:

MONDAY AFTERNOON	THE RETIRING PRESIDENT	Mr David Rooksby
TUESDAY MORNING	THE PRESIDENT	Mr Philip Hartshorn
WEDNESDAY MORNING	THE W.A. REPRESENTATIVE	Mrs Beth Ely

1. **Names of Representatives**

Apologies for absence

Appointment of:

- Secretaries to Conference
- Recorders of Minutes
- Letter Writers
- Scrutineers

Decide as to the admission of representatives of the Press and Visitors.

2. **Decide as to Standing Orders as follows:**

Discussion only allowed on a motion duly moved and seconded.

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

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

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

All printed reports and statements to be taken as read.

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

3. **Obituary List**

4. **Read Correspondence for Conference**
5. **Election of President**
Nomination to be moved by Mrs Marjorie Mottershaw
6. **Election of President-Designate**
Nomination to be moved by Mrs M Stonehewer
7. **Nominations for General Committee**

ALDERMANS GREEN	
ARNOLD	
ASHBY CIRCUIT	Rev M Nicholls
ASHINGTON (WORD OF LIFE)	
ATTLEBOROUGH	
BAKEWELL CIRCUIT	Mr S D Allen, Mrs B Ely
BARNESLEY CIRCUIT	Mrs M Mottershaw
BEDWORTH	Rev S Griffiths
BIRDS EDGE	
BRADFORD CIRCUIT	
CAWSTON CIRCUIT	
CHOPPINGTON	
CHURCH ON THE ROCK	
CLYDEBANK	
DEDDINGTON	
DORRINGTON	
FRITWELL	
GRIFFYDAM	Mr C A Darby
HAZLEMERE	
HEATH END	
HECKINGTON	
HIGH WYCOMBE CIRCUIT	
IVINGHOE	
LOWESTOFT	
NUNEATON	
OLDBURY	
OLD HILL	
ROTH, MEX & DONC CIRCUIT	Mr G Evans
SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT	Mrs M Stonehewer, Mrs. C Parkinson
SLEAFORD CIRCUIT	
SOULDERN	
ST. JUST	
SYRESHAM	
WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT	Rev I P Fall

8. Half Yearly Meetings 2017 onwards

2017	18 th November	Church on the Rock
2018	17 th November	Ashby Circuit
2019	16 th November	Bradford Circuit

9. Conference 2018 onwards

2018	Mon 11 th June to Wed 13 th June	Swanwick
2019	Mon 17 th to Wed 19 th June	Swanwick
2020	Mon 15 th to Wed 17 th June	Swanwick

10. Appointment of Union Trustees

11. Appointment of Guardian Representatives

12. Ministerial Committee Report

Report by Rev. Peter Norton

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of John Williams. He served in several of our churches and as the General Secretary of our Union of Churches. We want to record with gratitude all that John did for the Lord and for our Union.

Others who have served in ministry have also passed away this year and the Committee want to recognise this in mentioning Emma Wilcock, Robert Nuttall, Brian Pratt and Keith Slater all who served in ministry within the Union.

During this year there have been some appointments to ministry. Steve and Lisa Macbeth to Heath End Church and others are to be inducted during the next year. We also expect to ordain Michael Hedley at the Ashington Church later this year subject to his examination by the Ministerial Committee in September.

This year we have continued to discuss the possibility of buying in resources, this is an ongoing theme for us.

Colin Braithwaite has been acting as the Pastor to the Pastors this year and has now relinquished that duty and is expected that Rev Peter Norton will now take up that position.

We hope that you will notice the presentation of the new Courses. We are thankful to Alina for all the work in reformatting the courses and of course to Geoff Lee for all his hard work in updating the courses. Please consider using these resources in other ways such as Bible study guides, Lent courses or personal study for your own edification. Copies can be bought for £5 even if you do not want to take the course.

Rev G D Lee still does a lot of work for us for which we are grateful.

Students attending conference will still receive lectures, this year Irvine Grey will give these lectures.

We would like to record our thanks to all those in ministerial and leadership positions for their willingness to serve in the situations they have been called to, please remember them all in your prayers.

Ministers

(Figures in brackets denote years in Present Charge)

Year Ordained

- 1956** **Rev Geoff Lee BD**
"Rosebank", 1 Abbey Road, Simpson, MILTON KEYNES, MK6 3AE
Tel. 01908 395246 - Email: geoffdlee@talktalk.net
BOZEAT CHURCH (18)
- 1960 (Retired)** **Rev John Goulder Th.M.**
48 Jarvis Court, Burwell Hill, BRACKLEY, Northants, NN13 7AU
Tel. 01280 841469 - Email: jwg35d@gmail.com
- 1969 (Retired)** **Rev David Allcock**
23 Darrell Place, NORWICH, Norfolk, NR5 8QW
Tel. 01603 501040 - Email: allcock603@btinternet.com
- 1971 (Retired)** **Rev Tony Hodkinson**
30 Beaumont Avenue, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, Leicestershire, LE65 2NF
Tel. 01530 416521 - Email: daphton@sky.com
- 1974 (Retired)** **Rev Maurice Nicholls**
29 Willow Court, Uplands Drive, MARKFIELD, Leicestershire, LE67 9WF
Tel. 01530 242422 - Email: carolnicholls72@gmail.com
- 1976 (Retired)** **Rev Frank Robinson**
5 Ernery Close, SHERINGHAM, Norfolk, NR26 8YB
- 1980 (Retired)** **Rev Colin Braithwaite**
34 Goathland Place, SHEFFIELD, South Yorkshire, S13 7TE
Tel. 0114 269-4035 - Email: braithwaite.colin2@gmail.com
- 1985** **Rev Stephen Griffiths**
4 Glenwood Gardens, Bedworth, Warwickshire, CV12 8BD
Tel. 024 7649 1624 - Email: stephengriffiths@mypostoffice.co.uk
BEDWORTH (THE LITTLE CHAPEL) CHURCH (5)
- 1988 (Retired)** **Rev Peter Norton**
75 Upper George Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants, NN10 8JN
Tel. 01933 356104 - Email: revsnorton@btinternet.com
- 1997 (Retired)** **Rev John Leslie**
co. Robert Leslie, The Saracen's Head, Wolterton, North Norfolk, NR11 7LZ
- 1998 (Retired)** **Rev Michael Alderson**
3 Knuston Drive, Rushden, Northampton, NN10 9AB
Tel. 01933 413136 - Email: Malderson@btinternet.com

- 1998** **Rev Phil Hearson**
 11 South Park, RUSHDEN, Northants, NN10 9LY
 Tel. 01933 312392 - Email: p-j.hearson@sky.com
RUSHDEN HIGH STREET CHURCH (11)
- 2004** **Rev Ian Fall**
 "The Manse" 161 Wellingborough Road, RUSHDEN, Northants, NN10 9TA
 Tel. 01933 312919 - Email: ian.fall@virgin.net
RUSHDEN MISSION CHURCH (11)
- 2013** **Rev. Stephen Blyth BA; JNC**
 12 Rannoch Drive, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV10 9DT
 Email: blyth.sa@gmail.com
- 2014** **Rev. Irvine Grey MA, Mphil**
 39 Calvertstown Road, PORTADOWN, Northern Ireland, BT63 5NY
 Tel. 02838 326751 - Email: irvinegrey@aol.com
- 2015** **Rev. Eddison Mubengo**
 56 West Donnington Street, DARVEL, KA17 0AP
 Tel. 01560 673507 - Email: mubengoe@yahoo.co.uk
GLASGOW ABUNDANT LIFE AND LIBERTY CENTRE CHURCH (2)
- 2016** **Rev. Sharon Hollamby BA**
 2 Willow Walk, HAZLEMERE, HP15 7UJ
 Tel. 01494 815858 - Email: ministerhfmchurch@hotmail.com
HAZLEMERE CHURCH (1)

MINISTERS AWAITING ORDINATION

Mr. Michael Hedley

12 Warren Court, ASHINGTON, Northumberland NE63 8LL
 Tel: 01670 814425 - Email: wordoflifechurch@hotmail.co.uk

MINISTERS AND PASTORS INDEPENDENTLY APPOINTED BY CHURCHES (in alphabetical order)

Rev. Chris Barnes - BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH CHURCH

257 Bowling Hall Road, BRADFORD, BD4 7JT
 Tel. 01274 306230 - Email: chrisbarnes257@hotmail.co.uk

Mr Neil Bedford - ADDINGHAM - MT HERMON CHURCH

7 ST. Helena's Park, Otley Old Road, HORSFORTH, West Yorkshire, LS18 5HZ
 Tel. 0113 2037230 - Email: neil.bedford@btinternet.com

Rev. Ishaku Bitrus - CLYDEBANK CENTRAL CHURCH

76 Barns Street, Whitecrook, CLYDEBANK, West Dumbartonshire, G81 1QY
 Tel. 0141 952 2293 - Email: ajibauka@gmail.com

Rev. Colin Bolton - OLD HILL - ST JAMES CHURCH

31 Bagley Street, STOURBRIDGE, West Midlands, DY9 7AU
Tel. 01384 346378 - Email: colinbolton53@gmail.com

Rev. Paul Brown - BEACON COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Manse 10 Thorncroft Road, Wibsey, BRADFORD, Yorkshire, BD6 3EP
Tel. 01274 670336 - Email: pastorpaulbrown@ymail.com

Mrs Jackie Clarke - CHURCH ON THE ROCK CHURCH

24 Century Road, OLDBURY, West Midlands, B69 4AS
Tel. 0121 552 7153 - Email: dibleyj@btopenworld.com

Mr John Diggle - OWLERTON CHURCH

35 Flaxpiece Road, Claycross, CHESTERFIELD, Derbyshire, S45 9HB
Tel. 01246 867782 - Email: johndiggle113@gmail.com

Mr James Fenton - MUFF FIELD CHURCH

12 Brodley Close, Hipperholme, HALIFAX, HX3 8LS
Tel. 01422208028 - Email: isaiah40v8@gmail.com

Rev. John Langford - NEW SWANNINGTON CHURCH

133 Loughborough Road, WHITWICK, Leicestershire, LE67 5AS
Tel. 01530 451549 - Email: jjjlangford@ntlworld.com

Rev. Nick Lugg - MEXBOROUGH LIFE CHURCH AND CENTRE CHURCH

28 West View Road, MEXBOROUGH, South Yorkshire, S64 9BE
Tel. 01709 801224 - Email: nick@mexboroughlifechurch.org

Mrs Lisa Macbeth - HEATH END CHURCH

14 Dorset Close, NUNEATON, Warwickshire, CV10 8EN
Tel. 02477051943 - Email: lisamarymac@gmail.com

Mr Steve Macbeth - HEATH END CHURCH

14 Dorset Close, NUNEATON, CV10 8EN
Tel. 02477051943 - Email: sjmacbeth@gmail.com

Mr Peter Mitchell - SWANTON ABBOTT CHURCH

49 Hadfield Road, NORTH WALSHAM, Norfolk, NR28 0BE
Tel. 01692 218125 - Email: beryl.mitchell@talktalk.net

Mr Mark Parsons - EBENEZER - OLDBURY CHURCH

77 Franchise Street, KIDDERMINSTER, DY11 6RA
Email: mark.ebenezerchurch@yahoo.co.uk

Mr Ian Relf - IBSTOCK CHURCH

3 Oakley Close, Shepshed, LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire, LE12 9AS
Tel. 01509829166 - Email: barbara.relf1@ntlworld.com

Pastor Issy Walton - DEDDINGTON CHURCH

The Wesleyan Manse 3 Castle Street, DEDDINGTON, Banbury, OX15 0TE
Tel. 01869 337157 - Email: PastorIssy@hotmail.com

Mr Andrew Watts - LOWESTOFT CHURCH

Triumph Cottage Mutfordwood Lane, Carlton Colville, LOWESTOFT, Suffolk, NR23 8HD
Tel. 01502 476581

Mr Andy Wilcock - HAMPDEN VIEW CHURCH

29 Daniel Hill Street, Walkley, SHEFFIELD, South Yorkshire, S6 3JH
Tel. 0114 2334852 - Email: hampden@blueyonder.co.uk

Jonathan & Susannah Youdan - MAYFIELD CHURCH

159 Abbeyfield Road, SHEFFIELD, South Yorkshire, S4 7AU
Tel. 0114 2424639 - Email: jyoudan06@aol.com

13. Christian Ethics and Social Action

Report by Mrs D. Hodkinson

How refreshing to hear a Prime Minister talk about their Christian faith and sound as if they mean it! Praise the Lord that Theresa May has said that people must feel able to “speak about their Christian faith, and that absolutely includes their faith in Christ”. We know that she goes to Church on a regular basis, but pray that she also has a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

The horrific attack on Westminster Bridge on March 22nd must lead us to pray for wisdom for our Governing authorities, for protection from terrorism, and that the response of those in authority will be right and effective.

One of the charities which we are pleased to support is “Caring for Life”. This year they have celebrated thirty years of God’s blessing on their work with the vulnerable and needy. We are delighted that Jonathan Parkinson is our speaker here at Conference.

Thanks to your generous donations, we have been able to give donations of £500 to Caring for Life, £500 to the Christian Institute, £300 to DayOne and £300 to Hope UK.

Thanks to Andy Wilcock who prepared our Values Day material on the subject of “Finding rest in a restless society”. We trust you found it thought provoking.

Thanks to the committee who continue to provide articles for the Contact magazine, and special thanks to Ian Fall who has served as the Chairman of CESA.

As I retire from the position of Secretary of this committee, pray that God will lead some-one to take on the responsibility.

14. Statistics

Name of Church	Junior Members	Senior Members	Preachers Full & Trial	Scholars	Teachers	Children: Primary School	Young People: Senior School	Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA)	WA Members	Average Attendance
ALDERMANS GREEN*		56		20	7			2		40
<i>ASHBY CIRCUIT</i>										
Ellistown		4								5
Ibstock		17						3		12
Moirá		10						2	7	16
New Swannington		14						2		11
	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	44
Ashington (Word of Life)	1	15	3			31		2		25
Attleborough*		12	0	0	1	0	0	0	10	14
<i>BAKEWELL CIRCUIT</i>										
Bonsall		18	1			7				24
Curbar		9	4							10
Stonedge		30	4	3	1			3		30
Stoney Middleton		4	1	12	2		12	1		4
Winster		4						1		13
Youlgrave		10								12
	0	75	10	15	3	7	12	5	0	93
<i>BARNSLEY CIRCUIT</i>										
Barnsley		12	4							10
Cliffe Bridge		5	2	3	3			1		18
Cudworth*		5	1							6
Dodworth		9				13	7			10
Hoyle Mill*		3								4
Hunningley		8								10
Smithies		7				16	4		20	12
Staincross	2	12	2					1		15
Worsbrough		8						1		8
	2	69	9	3	3	29	11	3	20	93
Bedworth		18		2	1			1		14
Birds Edge		15	4	4	1			2		18
<i>BRADFORD CIRCUIT</i>										
Addingham		29						2		30
Beacon Community*		28	3		5			2		40
Bethel Community		16	2	8	3	26		3		44
Muff Field		23		4	2			1		15
	0	96	5	12	10	26	0	8	0	129

Name of Church	Junior Members	Senior Members	Preachers Full & Trial	Scholars	Teachers	Children: Primary School	Young People: Senior School	Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA)	WA Members	Average Attendance
Choppington	3	5	2							12
Church on the Rock		16	2	11	2	3	8			19
Clydebank*	5	38	1	6	3	4		1		35
Deddington		12								12
Denby Dale		8	1	5	2					18
Dorrington		6	1	3	1			2		19
Fritwell		7								8
Glasgow (Abundant Life and Liberty Centre)	7	12	1	2	1	2	4	2		15
Griffydham		14		13	6	24	14	4		36
Hazlemere		28	1	17	6	19	10	1		51
Heath End		24	4	6	2	12	18	2	11	35
Heckington		6						1		12
<i>HIGH WYCOMBE CIRCUIT</i>										
Beaconsfield*		15	1	11	2	26		3	6	17
Wycombe Marsh*		6		4	2	3		2	8	24
	0	21	1	15	4	29	0	5	14	41
Ivinghoe		7	1							12
Lowestoft		1				1				7
Nuneaton		7		0	3			3	7	14
Oldbury		33						2		35
Old Hill		20						1	14	15
<i>ROTHERHAM, MEXBOROUGH AND DONCASTER CIRCUIT</i>										
Bowbroom		24						1		20
Cornerstone		10								14
Elsecar		7	2							10
Hough Lane	4	14	1	4	1		4	1		18
Jump		22	1			45	15	7	7	27
Mexborough Life Church	20	50	6	10	8		15	6		70
Newhill*		10			2			1		10
	24	137	10	14	11	45	34	16	7	169

Continued on the next page

Name of Church	Junior Members	Senior Members	Preachers Full & Trial	Scholars	Teachers	Children: Primary School	Young People: Senior School	Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA)	WA Members	Average Attendance
<i>SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT</i>										
Coal Aston		6								16
Greenhead		7						1		8
Grimesthorpe		18	1	3	1	2	1			17
Hampden View		9	1	5	2	10	10	1	15	33
Mayfield		13	3					2	8	16
Oughtibridge		50		16	5			7	0	47
Owlerton		11						1	14	27
Philadelphia		7						1		12
Richmond		24	3	4	3	10	8	3	8	40
Sharrow Vale*		30	4	80	12			16		230
St Mary's		8		8	3			1		15
Woodseats		6						1		10
	0	189	12	116	26	22	19	34	45	471
<i>SLEAFORD CIRCUIT</i>										
Brant Broughton		2								8
Ruskington		9	1					1	8	20
Ruskington Fen		5			1					15
	0	16	1	0	1	0	0	1	8	43
Souldern		4	2	6	1					6
St. Just		17						1		12
Swanton Abbott		7						1		12
Syresham		16		9	3					22
<i>WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT</i>										
Alma Street		9							8	15
Bozeat		17	1			10	12	1		9
Isham		4								10
Rushden High Street		45	2	25	3	21		4	18	50
Rushden Mission		44	1	18	3			5		51
Wymington		12		4	2			1		15
	0	131	4	47	8	31	12	11	26	150
SUMMARY OF STATISTICS										
TOTALS FOR 2016	42	1238	90	347	113	290	179	141	179	1847
TOTALS FOR 2017	42	1183	75	326	106	285	142	118	169	1751
INCREASE	0									
DECREASE		55	15	21	7	5	37	23	10	96

(*) Please note that we have had to use last year's figures for these churches

15. **Greetings from the Independent Methodist Connexion**
16. **Greetings from the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust**
17. **Women of Action Report**
 - a. **Report by Mrs S Fall**

We give thanks to Almighty God for the way He has guided and encouraged the Women of Action over this last year.

In November we held a ladies day at Ebenezer Church called 'Let's talk about Jesus' which was a great success. Each one of us has a story to share and it is important that we share it. There was teaching and guidance on how to write our story and how to tell it. Many ladies shared their own stories publicly for the first time. We were challenged to share our story with someone before Christmas and give them the copy of the New Testament that was given to each lady on the day.

As you will be aware we have been on a journey since 2014 questioning our purpose and role. Seeking God for direction as to if and how this work is to continue. We are very pleased to say that God is not finished with us yet.

There has been a lot of discussion and an even greater amount of prayer.

We know that prayer is so important but we also understand the difficulties of arranging dates to be able to meet together to do this. So, in February 2016 we launched a nationwide call to prayer, and fast where possible, for the work and future of the Women of Action. We encouraged ladies everywhere to take some time each Wednesday to bring this work before God and seek His will for the way forward. Knowing where we have come to now confirms to us that God has heard our prayers and is answering them. So, we would like to thank everyone who has given of themselves in this way and supported the Women of Action.

In March this year we had an incredible morning of prayer. It was so good to be able to meet together in God's presence and know His leading. From this it was proposed and agreed at the AGM that 2017/2018 be a year of fallow in that we will not do any planned events but will meet regularly throughout the year to continue to seek God and put plans in place for the years ahead. Roles will also be assessed and allocated as appropriate. This period will be co-ordinated by Sandra Fall and all ladies are encouraged to be involved in the whole process.

This is an exciting time for us but also one of faith as we step forward from what has been into this new phase for the Women of Action. But we are not fearful, as we know that we have a God who holds all things together and as long as we are seeking and trusting in Him we know that He will guide us into what He has purposed for the women of our union of churches.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers and would ask that you encourage the ladies of your churches/circuits to be a part of this with us. We are stronger together.

Officers for the year are:

Coordinator	Sandra Fall
Secretary	Sandra Fall
Treasurer	Daphne Hodgkinson
Representative to Women's World Day of Prayer	Muriel Stonehewer
Representatives to General Committee	Sandra Fall
	Pauline Downing

b. Accounts by Mrs D Hodkinson

WOMEN OF ACTION	2016/2017	2015/2016
Income		
Balance brought forward	1635	1771
Offerings		116
Donations	300	265
Conference repayments	40	105
	1975	2257
Expenditure		
President's Gift	50	50
Conference Fees	150	435
Half Yearly Fees		10
Secretary's Expenses		67 (2 years)
Quiet Day	-	-
Spring Event		60
Balance carried forward	1775	1635
	1975	2257
OUTREACH ACCOUNT		
Income		
Balance brought forward	211	311
Gift to Sandra Fall's studies		100
Balance carried forward	211	211
SUMMARY		
General Account	1775	1635
Outreach Account	211	211
	1986	1846

18. Resolution of Loyalty to be moved by The President, Mr Philip Hartshorn

“May it please your most Gracious Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to accept the sincere greetings and best wishes of the members of the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches assembled for their 168th Conference at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

We give thanks to Almighty God for your long and loyal service to our nation and commonwealth.

May we assure you of our ongoing prayers for you and your family, and for your Government. May God grant you strength, wisdom and guidance as you continue to fulfil your responsibilities.”

19. Appointment of, and prayer for, General Committee

20. Local Preachers’ Fellowship Report

Report by Mrs C Nicholls

Our day of “Ministry for all” was held on October 15th, 2016 at our Jump church. 36 people attended. Names were very slow coming in and at one point caused concern. We are very grateful to our Jump Church in providing Breakfast, lunch and tea.

Our speaker was excellent it was remarked that the day had been challenging and had gone far too quickly. Our speaker Mark Foster from the Wirral a representative of the Slavic Gospel Association took as his theme “Spiritual Refreshments in Romans”. He reminded us that the Gospel is from God and from start to finish it is about the Lord Jesus and not about us. Jesus must be the subject of our witness and preaching. Paul had a clear witness, he was eager to preach the Gospel and not ashamed, He believed what he said.

Mark challenged us to read Romans and to be prepared for the Gospel to captivate us. He asked have we the same excitement about the Gospel that Paul had. There is no need to apologise for believing in the Gospel we need to be faithful and present the Bible as it is and not be pressed into the worlds mould.

The families of Emma Wilcock and Brian Pratt were remembered in the main meeting and in the committee meeting. Also, the family of Keith Slater as he had been very involved in the Local Preachers fellowship.

We were delighted to welcome three new Committee members. Mr Phil Hartshorn, Mr David Tuckett and Mr Harold Copley. Other Committee members are Rev Colin Braithwaite, Mrs Daphne Hodgkinson, Mr Brian Hyde, Robert Nuttall and Mr Ray Evans.

We are sad to report that Robert Nuttall pastor of Denby Dale church and member of the committee went to be with His Lord early this year. He served His Lord faithfully and will be missed by many. We remember Cynthia his wife and Alexander his daughter at this time.

Officers were re-elected, Rev M Nicholls as Chairman and Mrs Carol Nicholls as Secretary both to be reviewed at the 2017 meeting.

Cost of the day to be kept at £15

Speakers gift £200 plus travel £70

Host church £50

Date 21st October 2017

Speaker for 2017 Roger Carswell from Leeds (Booked) Theme for the day will be 'Refusing to be silent about Jesus - preparing for effective evangelism'.

Speaker for 2018 Ian Ellershaw vice principle of Capernwray Bible school

Speaker for 2019 Steve Brady has been contacted but unable to come.

We discussed how best to advertise the event and it was agreed to include this in "Excited about Mission" and July-August Contact.

Long service certificates have been awarded to Rev G D Lee for 60 years in ordained Ministry and Rev J Leslie for 60 years as a preacher.

21. Overseas Missions Department Report

a. Report by Mrs J Shepherd

How rapidly the time goes from one year's Conference to the next.

This year has been a time when we have seen much suffering and much movement amongst people from many nations. We have seen the closure of the camp in Calais – The Jungle; we have seen myriads of people trying to travel from Syria, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, DRC, Somalia, to name but a few, to somewhere in Europe to try and find a better life. How heart-breaking it is to see all those people searching for a new life, a new beginning in a new country. We pray that those Christians who have the opportunity to share with them will show the love and compassion that they so need and point them to Jesus who is able to give them new life now and for ever.

We are pleased to be able to tell you that Lesley Notghi is now in Madagascar at the Good News Hospital in Mandritsara. She has already had 5 weeks of intensive language study – the local language is Malagassy – and she is looking forward to working in the hospital very soon. We have received a number of photos from Mandritsara, of her new home, her new Church and her new surroundings. We continue to pray for her, her work and the hospital as well as the Church and the school that have grown up around it.

Margaret, who is our longest serving missionary, has retired during this year. She will now be spending more time at her home in Chesterfield but is still planning to visit her Mission Field regularly, only now as a tourist rather than as a resident. Pray for her as she settles down into her life style here which, I suspect, will be quite different to what she has been used to.

As I have visited Churches around the Union, it has been good to see how many of them have held events to support this year's project. A really BIG thank you to everyone who has supported "Jessie's House". We will announce the total amount of our gift at Conference when we will also present our project for the coming year.

Finally, a date for your diary – October 22nd, 2017.

At one of our meeting recently, it was suggested that we hold a Missionary Sunday which could be celebrated by all of our Churches, much as Values Day is celebrated in February. We are putting together a pack of activities – quizzes, recipes, information and a message outline so that it can be used for a day or as part of a weekend. We are also hoping to have a message from all of our Mission personnel to share with you in that information pack. Of course, it can be used at a different time if that is more appropriate for any of our Churches.

Thank you for your continued support for our team and may God bless you all as you move forward in His Name into the future.

b. Present List of Missionaries, by Mrs J Shepherd

List of Overseas Mission Personnel 2017-2018

1995	Mark & Angie Barnes	via Mr G Evans 10 Carr Road Wath upon Dearne Rotherham, S63 7AA
2003	Helen	c/o Wesleyan Reform Union Arab World Ministries 123 Queen Street Sheffield, S1 2DU
2013	Sarah Armitage	Partners Relief & Development UK PO Box 557 Mexborough S Yorks, S63 3EN
2016	Dr Lesley Notghi	c/o Jan Shepherd 23 Ashby Road Ravenstone, LE67 2AA

List of Associated Overseas Mission Personnel 2017-2018

1986	Margaret	c/o Wesleyan Reform Union 123 Queen Street, Sheffield, S1 2DU
1990	Stephen & Gill Bryant	67 Budbury Tynning Bradford on Avon, BA15 1QE
1995	Phil and Diane Benstead	c/o Wesleyan Reform Union 123 Queen Street, Sheffield, S1 2DU
1995	Stephen and Nessie Levinsohn	60 Falcon Avenue, Brickhill, Bedford, MK41 7DX
1996	Graham and Jean Womersley	Sunnymeads, Ashlett Road, Fawley, Southampton, SO45 1DS
1998	Jonathon and Ann McClean mccleansinthailand@gmail.com	c/o 145 Farringdon Road Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 5DL
2002	Jacky Taylor Jacky2010@mailforpeople.com	c/o Mrs A Chattaway, 82 Wren Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4NF
2003	Rob and Grace Moorin rmoorin@yahoo.com	c/o Mr & Mrs R L Moorin Coates Lane, High Wycombe, HP13 5EY

c. Accounts by Mr G Evans

Year	2016/2017	2015/2016
OM Accounts		
General Fund		
Income		
Balance 1st April	671.96	8029.48
Donations		
General Fund	3292.40	3107.72
Interest from Reserve Account	0.37	0.73
Interest from Investment Accounts	19.22	23.80
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	233.87	
Total	<u>4217.82</u>	<u>11161.73</u>
Expenditure		
Conference Fees	110.00	110.00
Secretary's Honorarium/Expenses	25.00	25.00
Interest to Training & Fairhurst	3.00	3.00
Annual Gifts		
WEC	750.00	2500.00
UFM	250.00	1000.00
R Moorin	250.00	500.00
Arab World Ministries	500.00	1250.00
Partners	500.00	1250.00
J Taylor	250.00	750.00
G & J Womersley	125.00	375.00
Steve & Gill Bryant	125.00	500.00
Stephen & Nessie Levinsohn	125.00	375.00
Friends - Lesley	500.00	
Phil & Diane	125.00	
OMF		250.00
Transfer to House of Hope Project		351.77
Wycliffe Bible Translators		250.00
People International		1000.00
Balance 31st March	579.82	671.96
Total	<u>4217.82</u>	<u>11161.73</u>

Gifts include two years awards for 2015/16

Accounts by Mr G Evans (continued)

	2016/2017	2015/2016
Irving & Edith Fairhurst Memorial Fund		
Balance 1st April	1034.08	1133.08
Interest	1.00	1.00
Balance at 31st March	<u>1035.08</u>	<u>1134.08</u>
Training Fund		
Balance 1st April	2121.92	2119.92
Interest	2.00	2.00
Balance at 31st March	<u>2123.92</u>	<u>2121.92</u>
Summary		
General Fund	579.82	671.96
Project Fund	2542.22	2660.26
Training Fund	2123.92	2121.92
Fairhurst Memorial Fund	1135.08	1134.08
Total	<u>6381.04</u>	<u>6588.22</u>
Balances		
Current Accounts Nat West	2130.25	1957.02
Reserve Account Nat West	1033.99	1433.62
National Savings Accounts	3216.80	3197.58
Total	<u>6381.04</u>	<u>6588.22</u>
 House of Hope 2014		
Income 14/15	3303.41	
Income 15/16	1196.59	
Expenditure	4500.00	
Balance	<u>0.00</u>	
 Fountain of Life 2015		
Income 15/16	2660.26	
Income 16/17	2439.74	
Expenditure	5100.00	
Balance	<u>0.00</u>	
 Jessie's House 2016		
Income 16/17	2542.22	
Income 17/18	0.00	
Expenditure	0.00	
Balance	<u>2542.22</u>	

22. **Union Treasurer's Report**
Report by Mr G Phillips

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2017

	2016/2017		2015/2016	
Employment of Funds				
LAND AND BUILDINGS		485,000		485,000
FURNITURE AND FITTINGS COST	27,332		27,332	
Less: Depreciation to date	27,332	0	27,332	0
INVESTMENTS		995,271		981,400
LOANS TO CHURCHES				
Chapel Loan Fund	11,200		14,000	
Extension Fund	68,750	79,950	51,750	65,750
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors:				
Union	1,361		1,208	
Magazine	124		114	
National Westminster Bank plc				
Deposit Account	183,300		64,900	
Current Account	37,922		21,560	
Cash in Hand	213	222,920	286	88,068
		<u>1,783,141</u>		<u>1,620,218</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors:				
Union Expenses, etc.	3,963		3,252	
Actuarial Fees	2,700		3,250	
New Connexions	305	6,968	305	6,807
		<u>1,776,173</u>		<u>1,613,411</u>
REPRESENTED BY:				
Property Fund		485,000		485,000
Loan Fund		138,185		138,035
Extension Fund		775,745		649,237
Ellis Crossley Traing & Pastoral Aid Fund		4,827		4,990
Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust		1,801		1,783
Home Missions Account		1,386		1,406
Young People's Department Account		5,782		4,279
Christian Ethics and Social Action		515		515
Local Preachers Fellowship		3,371		3,367
General Reserve		41,116		61,623
Holdback Policy Capital Account		318,445		263,176
		<u>1,776,173</u>		<u>1,613,411</u>

UNION EXPENSES ACCOUNT

		2016/2017		2015/2016
Income				
Assessment		41,642		40,863
Interest		9,048		10,468
Profit from Resource Centre				-33
Connexional Plan		656		671
Year Books		682		478
Child Protection Fees		196		376
Sundries		446		495
From General Reserve		28,703		32,577
		<u>81,373</u>		<u>85,895</u>
Expenditure				
Salaries etc		46,351	48,308	
Gen Sec's House, Car, Telephone		<u>1,055</u>	47,406	<u>4,581</u>
Pension Fund			7,543	12,545
Church House Expenses			4,936	4,463
Year Books			457	414
Magazine			1,483	1,945
Conference			1,079	1,665
Administration -	Telephone	2,838	2,357	
	Postage	496	686	
	Stationery	982	1,040	
	Insurance	<u>1,291</u>	5,607	<u>1,433</u>
				5,516
Travelling -	Conference	308	280	
	Half Yearly	225	298	
	General Committee	<u>1,911</u>	2,444	<u>2,822</u>
				3,400
Sundry Expenses-	Subscriptions	639	155	
	CAS	474	676	
	Sundries	275	74	
	Legal Costs	1,332	60	
	Bank Charges	<u>667</u>	3,387	<u>711</u>
				1,676
Depreciation				254
Accountants			1,128	1,128
Actuaries			5,903	
		<u>81,373</u>		<u>85,895</u>

	2016/2017		2015/2016	
CONNEXIONAL PLAN				
Income from Churches		861		949
Less Postage and Travel		205		278
Transferred to Union Expenses Account		<u>656</u>		<u>671</u>
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT				
Sales		2,597		2,201
Printing		3,552		3,552
Postage		528		594
Net Cost transferred to Union Expenses Account		<u>-1,483</u>		<u>-1,945</u>
		<u>2,597</u>		<u>2,201</u>
GENERAL RESERVE				
Balance 1st April 2016		61,623		22,451
Collections				200
Holdback excess & Transfer				61,721
Donations				751
Rent from Cardwell Avenue	7,291		6,801	
Less costs	<u>1,030</u>	6,261	<u>493</u>	6,308
Rent from Thornbrook Close	3,600		3,900	
Less costs	<u>835</u>	2,765	<u>731</u>	3,169
		<u>70,649</u>		<u>94,600</u>
Donations		1,000		
Sundries		830		400
Union Expenses		28,703		32,577
Balance 31st March 2017		<u>40,116</u>		<u>61,623</u>
		<u>70,649</u>		<u>94,600</u>

	2016/2017	2015/2016
HOME MISSIONS ACCOUNT		
Balance 1st April 2016	1,406	1,129
Donations	4,213	4,725
Interest	14	13
Transfer from Extension Fund	71,000	51,500
	<u>76,633</u>	<u>57,367</u>
Cost of Development and Outreach Consultant	13,920	13,728
Travel	272	545
Grants	61,055	41,688
Balance 31st March 2017	1,386	1,406
	<u>76,633</u>	<u>57,367</u>
YOUNG PEOPLES DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT		
Balance 1st April 2016	4,279	2,366
Donations	1,460	2,150
Interest	43	26
	<u>5,782</u>	<u>4,542</u>
Salary, etc.		231
Travel		22
Sundries		10
Balance 31st March 2017	5,782	4,279
	<u>5,782</u>	<u>4,542</u>
CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND SOCIAL ACTION		
Balance 1st April 2016	515	390
Donations	1,745	1,905
Interest	5	4
	<u>2,265</u>	<u>2,299</u>
Caring for Life	500	400
Christian Institute	500	600
Day One	300	400
Hope UK	300	200
Conference fees	150	145
Sundries		39
Balance 31st March 2017	515	515
	<u>2,265</u>	<u>2,299</u>

2016/2017**2015/2016****LOCAL PREACHERS FELLOWSHIP**

Balance 1st April 2016		3,367		3,083
Retreat		550		845
Seminar				445
Donation		60		
Interest		34		24
		<u>4,011</u>		<u>4,397</u>
Retreat		490		605
Seminar				260
Conference		150		145
Sundries				20
Balance 31st March 2017	General Fund	1,724		1,730
	Trust Fund	1,647	3,371	1,637
			<u>4,011</u>	<u>4,397</u>

ELLIS CROSSLEY TRAINING & PASTORAL AID FUND

Balance 1st April 2016		4,990		4,745
Donations		1,265		1,630
Fees		50		50
Interest		50		52
Transfer from Extension Fund		3,000		5,000
		<u>9,355</u>		<u>11,477</u>
Salary etc.		3,012		2,817
Service Increments		420		660
Training		549		2,970
Travelling Expenses		45		
Removal expenses		422		
Costs		80		40
Balance 31st March 2017		<u>4,827</u>		<u>4,990</u>
		<u>9,355</u>		<u>11,477</u>

		2016/2017	2015/2016
EXTENSION FUND			
Balance 1st April 2016		649,237	632,969
Sales	Ashington	141,270	23,354
	Colby Long Road		66,933
	Wath	53,829	
	Rotherham	23,725	
Sundries			149
		<u>868,061</u>	<u>723,405</u>
Transfer to Home Missions		71,000	51,500
Transfer to Training & Past Aid		3,000	5,000
Grants	Aldermans Green		10,000
	Mexborough	0	<u>2,400</u>
			12,400
			5,268
Costs	Rotherham	3,691	
	Highthorn	1,230	
	Warmsworth	7,846	
	Ashington	856	
	Leasingham	1,020	
	Wath	<u>2,673</u>	
		17,316	
Balance 31st March 2017	Investments	707,995	597,487
	Loans	68,750	51,750
		<u>776,745</u>	<u>649,237</u>
		<u>868,061</u>	<u>723,405</u>

2016/2017

2015/2016

HOLDBACK POLICY CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Balance 1st April 2016		263,176	271,231
Sales	Ashington		25,000
	Wath	51,156	
	Rotherham	18,239	
		<u>332,571</u>	<u>296,231</u>
Grants	Bethel Bierly	12,410	9,160
	Denby Dale		1,524
	Transfer (Nottingham)		22,371
	Barnsley Circuit	669	
	Hoyle Mill	797	
	Worsborough	250	
		<u>14,126</u>	<u>33,055</u>
Balance 31st March 2017	Barnsley Circuit		1,716
	Bakewell Circuit	178,071	178,071
	R,M & D Circuit	70,505	1,110
	Guidepost	25,000	25,000
	Wellingboro Circuit	3,851	3,851
	Bradford Circuit	18,180	30,590
	Denby Dale	20,419	20,419
	Birmingham	2,419	2,419
		<u>318,445</u>	<u>263,176</u>
		<u>332,571</u>	<u>296,231</u>

LOAN FUND

Balance 1st April 2016	138,035	137,935
Collections	<u>150</u>	<u>100</u>
Balance 31st March 2017	<u>138,185</u>	<u>138,035</u>

PERCY AND RUTH JOHNSON MEMORIAL TRUST

Balance 1st April 2016	1,783	1,764
Interest	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>1,801</u>	<u>1,783</u>
Balance 31st March 2017	<u>1,801</u>	<u>1,783</u>
	<u>1,801</u>	<u>1,783</u>

	2016/2017	2015/2016
INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTION		
Interest from Investments	9,212	10,582
Less Retained by Union Expenses Account	9,048	10,468
	164	114
Distribution:		
Home Missions	14	13
Young People's Department	43	26
Ellis Crossley Training & Past Aid	50	52
Christian Ethics and Social Action	5	4
Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust	18	19
Local Preachers Fellowship	34	
	164	114

INVESTMENTS

	Invested at 31/03/2016	Invested 2016/2017	Repaid 2016/2017	Invested at 31/03/2017
Income Bonds	500,000			500,000
Virgin Money	479,763	103,861	90,000	493,624
National Savings Bank	1,637	10		1,647
	981,400	103,871	90,000	995,271

CHAPEL LOAN FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

Description	Original Loan	New Loans Year to 31/03/17	Balance 31/03/16	Repaid Year to 31/03/17	Balance 31/03/17	Collection Received 31/03/17
2002 Ellistown	3,000		100		100	
2011 Mayfield	18,000		9,900	1,800	8,100	100
2013 Jump	5,000		4,000	1,000	3,000	50
	26,000	0	14,000		11,200	150

EXTENSION FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

Description	Original Loan	New Loans Year to 31/03/17	Balance 31/03/16	Repaid Year to 31/03/17	Balance 31/03/17	Collection Received 31/03/17
2007 Farnham Common	15,000		5,750		5,750	
2009 Clydebank	60,000		46,000	3,000	43,000	
2016 Hazlemere	20,000	20,000			20,000	
		20,000	51,750	3,000	68,750	0

23. Home Missions and YPD Report **Report by Mr Cliff Darby**

Most of the time of the Home Missions team over the past two years has been taken up with encouraging and supporting churches around the Union as they seek to discover whether God might be guiding them to seek to appoint an Area Worker.

As a result, meetings have been held with a number of churches, particularly in the Brackley and East Midlands areas.

As a result of these meetings and the prayers that have gone alongside them, we are now in a position to start to advertise for a suitable person in at least one and perhaps both of these areas. At the same time, there are discussions continuing among a number of other churches seeking to move in the same direction.

These are times of great change within our denomination, and there is a very real sense that now is the time to step out in faith – something we are often not too strong at.

Safeguarding is still high on the agenda of discussion points and there is always an open door for anyone who wishes to receive help and direction on this subject.

The work we have been doing on safeguarding originated with the YPD committee, but over time it has become clear that there is actually a much wider call on the resources and support than solely within the bounds of youth work.

Because in YPD this has for some time been the main topic of discussion, it had been agreed that, for a period at least, we will combine the meetings of these two committees. This is made easier since there is a large overlap of personnel between the two of them.

We live in challenging time, and all of those who are involved in either home missions or youth work greatly value your prayers.

24. Housing for Retired Ministers Fund Report

a. Report by Mrs A Taylor

The Housing for Retired Ministers Trust was set up in our Union in an effort to assist our ordained Ministers financially, particularly at the time of their retirement when sometimes they have problems with housing and other needs. The Trust has been able to help several of the Ministers over the years in different ways.

The Trustees of the Scheme are always ready to discuss problems with our retiring or retired Ministers and to help where they can. In the first instance they would encourage any of our retired Ministers to contact the Administration Manager to request an application form. Any requests will receive a sympathetic ear.

We are sorry to report that during the last year, one of our trustees Mr Brian Pratt, passed from this life to his eternal home. We record with gratitude, all that Brian did for the Union – and for the Lord. The Trustees now are: Muriel Stonehewer, George Phillips, Cliff Darby and David Rooksby.

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

b. Accounts by Mr G Phillips

	2017	2016
	£	£
<u>Receipt</u>		
Interest Northern Rock Building Society	459.47	876.09
Donations	<u>1,320.00</u>	<u>1,760.00</u>
	1,779.47	2,636.09
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Grant towards Rent	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Net Incoming Resources	579.47	1,436.09
Building Society Balance at 31 st March 2016	<u>38,736.10</u>	<u>87,300.01</u>
Loan Granted		50,000.00
Building Society Balance at 31 st March 2017	<u>39,315.57</u>	<u>33,736.10</u>
<u>Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2017</u>		
Building Society Account		
Northern Rock Building Society	39,315.57	38,736.10
Secured Loan	50,000.00	50,000.00

25. Safeguarding issues

26. Ministers' Provident Society Report

b. Report by Rev P Hearson

Firstly, as always we would like to thank all those who have prayed for or given to the work of the Society over the past year, whether individuals, churches or circuits.

At the beginning of the year we were supporting 8 ministers and 4 widows. There have been some changes during the past 12 months. Rev. John Williams was called home to glory – we give thanks for his long and faithful ministry and of course we continue to support Dorothy. In addition, two of our ministers reached the age where they are eligible to receive gifts. This means that at the end of the year we are supporting 9 ministers and 5 widows.

Annuities were made at the same rate as the previous year. We have received many emails, letters and telephone calls thanking us for the gifts. In some cases the annuitants have moved away in retirement and so our quarterly letters assure them that they have not been forgotten.

You will note from our financial report that the balance of funds has once again reduced. Interest received is still significantly lower than several years ago and donations from churches continue to be much lower than they were, understandably as the number of churches has reduced. We have been able to continue to give generously, largely due to a substantial legacy received but the balance of this gift is falling rapidly and soon will be used in its entirety.

Finally, during the year Emma Wilcock was also called home to glory – she was a very supportive Board Member for many years for which we are most grateful to God.

Rev. Ian Fall – Chairman

Mr. David Rooksby – Treasurer

Rev. Phillip Hearson - Secretary

c. Accounts by Mr D Rooksby

Ministers Provident Society Accounts

	2016/ 2017	2015/ 2016
Income		
Balance Brought Forward	£50,727	£62,133
Donations	£1,373	£1,235
Subscriptions	£78	£24
Legacy	£0	£0
Virgin Money Interest	£417	£585
TOTAL	£52,595	£63,977
Expenditure		
Annuitants	£13,250	£12,750
Funeral Contributions	£500	£500
Sundries	£11	£0
Balance Carried Forward	£38,834	£50,727
TOTAL	£52,595	£63,977
Balances		
HSBC Community Account	£1,165	£1,725
Virgin Money	£37,669	£49,002
TOTAL	£38,834	£50,727

27. **Approval of Union Committees for 2017-2018**
28. **Any Other Business**
29. **Vote of Thanks**

WESLEYAN REFORM UNION ANNUAL CONFERENCE – June 19th to 21st 2017

The devotional sessions will be led by **Bill Bygroves**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
8.00	Reception will be open from 11.30am but rooms WILL NOT be ready until 2.00pm so please do not ask.	Prayer Groups	Prayer Groups
8.30		Breakfast	Breakfast
9.30		Business Meeting	9.45am Business Meeting
10.45	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
11.15	Preparation of hall (Stewards)	Business Meeting	Conversation on the Work of God
12.45	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
		1.45pm Meeting of General Committee	
2.30	Opening devotions and prayer	Speaker: Session 1 - Bill Bygroves <i>"O Church Arise"</i>	2.00pm Conference Communion
3.45	3.30 Afternoon tea	Afternoon tea	Afternoon Tea (if pre-booked)
4.15	4.00 Business Meeting	Speaker: Session 2 - Bill Bygroves <i>"A Church in the Community"</i>	Meeting of the Union Trustees
5.30	Free time	Free time	
6.30	Supper	Supper	Supper for Trustees, passengers & drivers
7.45	Induction of the Union President	8.00pm CESA - Jonathan Parkinson <i>"Caring for Life"</i>	
9.15	Free time	Free time	
9.30	Free time	Meeting of Management Committee	

