



Registered Charity No 250334

Men Matters

www.mybmm.co.uk

News-sheet December 2013



Oh Come Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord

The past year has seen a number of changes in the Baptist Men's Movement. I have taken over the Chair of the organisation, we have a new Secretary and also changes at Baptist Voice. Since the Conference we have moved to put Mission back to the centre of our focus. I am encouraged by the ideas that have been put forward and am excited by the prospects for 2014 and beyond.

My hope for next year is that there will be dialogue within the organisation and the sharing of ideas so that men's involvement in mission will grow.



BMM Secretary

At the last Executive meeting we welcomed Andrew Phillips as our new Secretary. We are grateful to him for agreeing to take on this valuable work.

To email Andrew:

Secretary@baptistmen.org.uk

To contact BMM by post our new address is:

Baptist Men's Movement
c/o Synergy House
6 Barlow View
Dronfield
Derbyshire
S18 1YJ

Subscriptions

Eric, our vigilant treasurer, would like to remind those who pay an annual subscription that we are fast approaching a new year when subscriptions are due.

If you do not currently support us financially there a number of options as follows:

- An **annual** subscription of £25 (or more)
- A **monthly** subscription of £5 (or more)
- A **quarterly** subscription of £15 (or more)

Note: If your donation is equal to or greater than £4.00 per month you will receive a bimonthly copy of **Sorted** magazine; the lads mag with morals As a registered charity we can reclaim tax through the Gift Aid Scheme.

For a subscription form please contact Eric: eric.bushell@ntlworld.com



It is some sadness that we say goodbye to Geoff and Gilbert who have been producing Baptist Voice since 1990. After 23 years I guess they deserve a break! They have seen many changes over the years not least in the technology used. There is much work involved in putting together the programme each month and it is a tribute to them that they have kept going for so long and an indication of their passion for this medium to reach out to those with sight disabilities. In addition they have been regular contributors on the National Council and attendees at Conference.

We wish them every blessing in their 'retirement' and for their future ministry.

Before departing, they recruited Ralph Birtwistle who will take over in January and we will include his profile in a future edition of **Men Matters**.





Helping Hand

At the recent National Council we broke in to two groups to look at ways in which we can take the Movement forward and be missional to our local communities. We both came up with the idea which has the working title 'Helping Hand'. (Bit too close to the Brownie motto for my liking!)

The idea came from requests which a number of people received to carry out simple tasks for people such as changing light bulbs, tidying a garage or putting things in the loft. These are activities which the person is unable to carry out for themselves.

The idea would be to set up a database of volunteers which a church can access if they are unable to resource it themselves. It has been suggested that it might function in a similar way to Parish Nurses. There is no intention that this work should replace tasks which would normally be carried out by a paid tradesman.

It would be helpful to receive some responses to this idea both in terms of a name but also ways in which it could be set up. Ideally, responses should be before our next National Council which is on the 18th January.

Responses by email to:
tony@aylwardfamily.co.uk or telephone
Tony Aylward on 01634 301701



In New Zealand in 2011 an organisation was set up to provide a serving and resource based approach that helps the 'church' to engage in the community (our cities, towns, villages and sports clubs) in meaningful ways during the 2011 rugby tournament. It was always intended that this should be a legacy organisation which would carry the brand forward to successive Rugby World Cups.

Its vision was as follows:

Engage in Community... Provide services to the rugby community... Build legacies...

The Cup provides the opportunity for the average 'Church-goer' of NZ to seize the opportunity to **engage in their community**, to serve and to share to the nation, the teams, sports people, sports clubs, the New Zealand community and sports fans who visit our country... and feel good about it.

The Church knows how to serve, because that is its mandate, that is what Christ did. The nation needs the help of the 'NZers' to be official volunteers or to provide a range of services that we are good at. This is an awesome opportunity to link arms

and **provide services to the rugby community**, to serve as we are called to.

NZ is under the magnifying glass for this main stage event. How the Church serves and brings value will help make this event a success, it will position the Church to be the 'go to people' for services at future main stage events and will set up future ministry for where ever the tournament is hosted in the future. It is our chance to **build legacies!**

That legacy has been passed to England who is hosting the Rugby World Cup in September and October 2015. BMM have been represented on a steering group which will take the Engage legacy forward. It was formally announced at the end of November there will be further details coming out in the early part of 2014. It may seem a long time until the event but, like More than Gold with the Olympics, there is a lot to think about and plan.

So, find out about the event at: <http://www.rugbyworldcup.com/>. In particular find out if there will be matches played in your area and start thinking about ways you can become engaged!

