

NATIONAL NEWS by Andrew Hallaway**GOVERNMENT CALMS GAY MARRIAGE FEARS**

Now that same-sex marriage has been made legal in Northern Ireland, Secretary of State Julian Smith has reassured religious groups that their freedom of speech will be protected.

Smith promised legislation for free speech after the Christian Institute threatened legal action if religious liberties were not upheld.

They will be able to sack rule-breakers

According to Premier News, he said that mere criticism will not be regarded as an offence, religious groups will not be sued for refusing to support same-sex weddings and faith-based organisations will be able to sack staff who break their rules by marrying gay partners.



Reassurance: Julian Smith says he will protect the right to traditional views on marriage in N Ireland

The Christian Institute welcomed the assurances, set out in proposals published by the British government for consultation in January, but said it would be watching to see that faith leaders are not taken to court for refusing to officiate at same-sex weddings.

FAMILY SUES OVER DEAD DAUGHTER

The churchgoing family of London teenager Nora Quoirin, who was found dead after she disappeared from a Malaysian resort last year, is suing the hotel's own-

er for alleged negligence. Quoirin, 15, who had special needs, went missing from the room she shared with her siblings at night in August 2019.

High Court to decide if kids should be given trans drugs

A former transgender patient has mounted an unprecedented legal challenge against the Tavistock Clinic, which helps teens change their gender medically.

The landmark test case at the High Court against the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust's Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS), will decide whether children are able to give informed consent to treatment for gender reassignment.

Children are being rushed into life-altering decisions

The case was originally brought on behalf of Susan Evans, a former psychiatric nurse at the clinic, and 'Mrs A', the mother of an autistic 15-year-old girl who is on the GIDS waiting list. Ms Evans says that puberty blockers for under-18s should be illegal and that children are being rushed into life-altering decisions.

Now Keira Bell, who underwent treatment at the clinic, has taken Ms Evans' place as the lead claimant. She said, "I do not believe that children and young people can consent to the use of powerful and experimental hormone drugs like I did."

LONDON OUTREACH SEES HUNDREDS TURN TO CHRIST

Rev Alex Afriyie, London Baptist Association Moderator and leader of The Turning in London

in ten boroughs "saw 1,144 people make responses to the Gospel" in one week. There were also instances of "instant relief of symptoms after prayers of healing".

"1,144 people made responses to the Gospel in one week"

The Christians involved came from a wide range of denominations including Baptist, Anglican, Methodist, Pentecostal, Catholic, New Church and Brethren churches.

Rev Afriyie commented: "I realised that we have not believed that the Gospel alone is truly powerful enough to bring salvation to all who believe... and the simple sharing of it will generate faith in people to make a response."

He added: "I saw that when churches unify in an area for the work of evangelism there is truly an anointing of eternal life."

'The Turning', a simple evangelistic initiative, has been reaping a harvest in London.

Rev Alex Afriyie of the London Turning Team reports that after just "one hour of evangelism over 100 people responded to the Gospel in prayer".

After three years of preparation, the mission launched in September at Westminster Chapel. The following missions

Life is Fragile

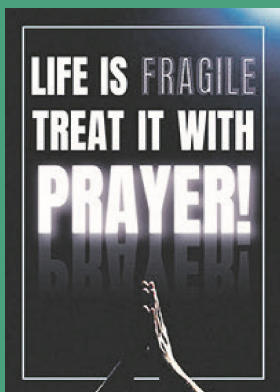
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To be one of the first churches encouraging your members in this campaign, place your order by 10th March 2020.

This life-changing A3 poster is available from <http://westergatefellowship.co.uk/life-is-fragile/>

(A Welsh language version is also available on request)



A MAJOR EVENT FOR 2020

SAN REMO

PATHWAY FOR PEACE

**ABOUT SAN REMO 100**

Commemorating the Centenary of the San Remo Conference where a Mandate was given to Britain to implement the Balfour Declaration and bring about a Jewish national home.

SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO

WHEN

Saturday 18th April
12:30-5:30pm

WHERE

Emmanuel Christian Centre,
Marsham Street, Westminster
SW1P 3DW

REGISTRATION:

You can pre-book your place on line
WWW.LNF.ORG.UK/TICKETS
or at the door on the day
Price: £10 per person + tea/coffee

WWW.LNF.ORG.UK/SANREMO

SANREMO@LNF.ORG.UK



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Red Hill Christian Centre, Warwickshire



Peter Timms
(Chair of Trustees)

Divine Judgement (half-day Biblical teaching): Peter Timms

Saturday 29th Feb 9.30am-12.30pm £15pp

Join Peter for a half day of teaching, exploring: Heaven & Hell, Contemporary Judgement, the Final Judgement and the Return of Jesus. There are many Biblical examples of God judging people for their actions. How does God judge people today? What happens to people when they die? Is everyone going to heaven when they die and if not why not? The Bible also says that God will ultimately bring a final judgement upon people and nations, but on what basis will that occur and when will it happen? Peter will help you consider these and other associated issues from a Biblical perspective.

Hebrew Context & Culture: Tom Brooker

Saturday 21st March 9.30am-4pm £20 pp

This new course will explore familiar Bible passages through the lens of the Hebrew context and culture. Discover how parables and accounts of Jesus and his disciples take on new depth when understood in their historical context. We will consider how understanding language, context and culture of the Scriptures impact their meaning.

Tom is a passionate teacher and student with a particular interest in understanding the Hebraic context and culture of the Scriptures. He has travelled and taught internationally including leading study tours in Israel, Rome and the UK. He has also been studying Biblical Hebrew with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem since 2012.



Tom Brooker
(Director)



Looking ahead... SAVE THE DATE

Thurs - Sun 10th - 13th Sept

Red Hill welcomes Chuck Cohen from Intercessors for Israel for our second "Jerusalem Style" prayer conference.

Cost £145 per person

Includes all sessions, buffet lunches on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Shabbat dinner & Evening meal Saturday. Accommodation not included.

Contact us for more information

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Email: info@red-hill.org



www.red-hill.org

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UK CONFERENCE 2020

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JOEL 2:1

12-14 JUNE 2020
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RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND

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Dr Mihail Malancea

invites you to a

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for CENTRAL ASIA, MUSLIM WORK in the UK and GLOBAL INITIATIVES

Come and join us and hear of God's great work in the old Soviet bloc, testimonies of these new believers and inspiring challenges for the future.



Left, Dr Mihail Malancea, Director, Divitia Gratiae University, Moldova

Dates and venues – book your place

March 7th All Saints Church, Crowborough. Contact EEF

March 16th to 19th Bill Addley, Belfast. Contact br.addley@btinternet.com

March 14th & 15th Birmingham. Contact Rev Daniel Bara, baradaniel@gmail.com Tel 07842153039

March 21st Landmark Community in Deal, The Landmark Centre, 129 High St, Deal, CT14 6BB. Contact EEF

Bring a lunch, drinks provided.

For more info contact EEF

Ron.dgu@gmail.com Tel: 01892 663391
www.eurasia.org.uk www.uni-dg.md



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Jonathan Aitken

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will be giving his testimony at

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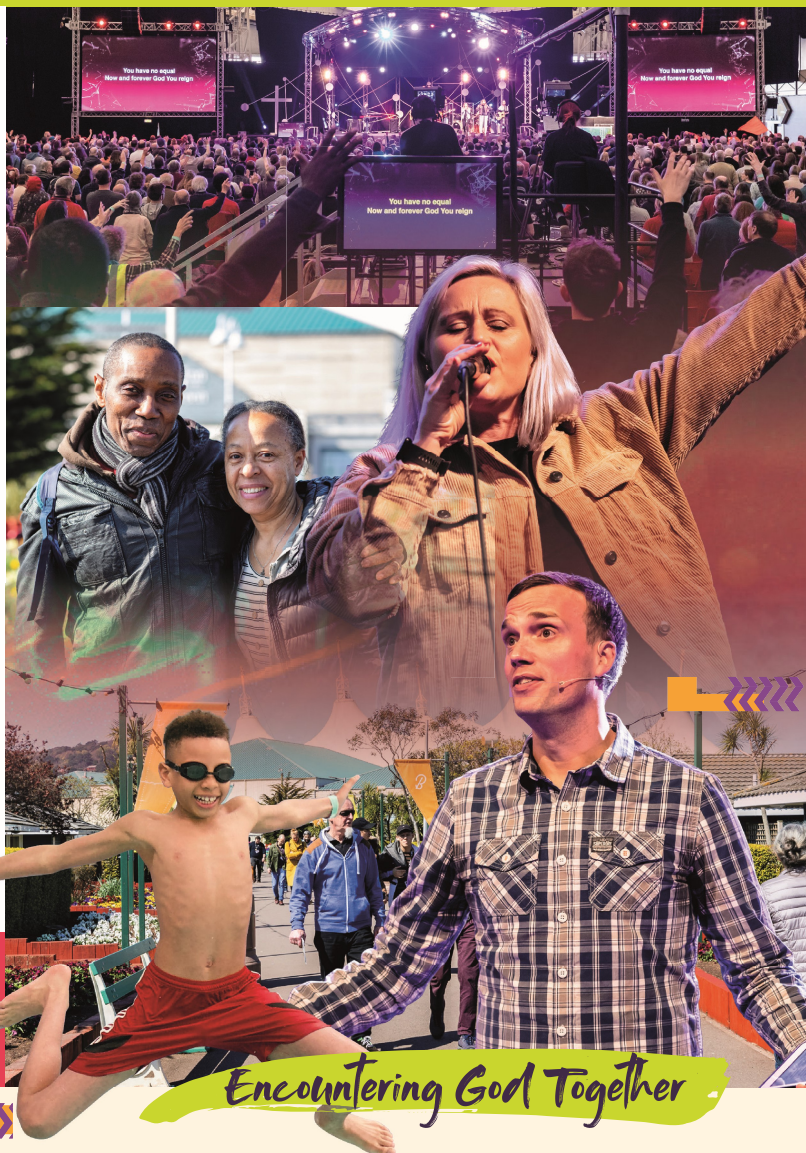
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Find out more at springharvest.org

Minehead One	4-9 April
Minehead Two	13-17 April
Skegness	13-17 April
Harrogate	14-18 April

#SH2020

"Thank you... I came back feeling more refreshed, enthusiastic and inspired than I have for years."

SUSSEX EVENTS

Let's Celebrate Israel!

— AN EVENING TOGETHER —
For greater understanding between Christian and Jewish communities

Ralli Hall
Denmark Villas, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 3TH

Saturday, 22 February 2020

Doors open 6:30pm

Ticket only event £19.50

Special guest speakers with Israeli style meal...



Jonathan Farrell
StandWithUs, UK



Shadi Khalloul
ICAA, Israel

Join us to celebrate the
uniqueness of Israel

... Exhibition, Silent Auction, Israeli folk music

Contact: Margaret Dunman on: **07879 264780**
email: margaretdunman@hotmail.co.uk

Event sponsored by Christian Friends of Israel UK

Prayer and Share

with

George Verwer

Come and hear George Verwer, founder of Operation Mobilisation, share on mission, with faith-stirring testimonies of what God has done and is doing now.

Thursday 12th March
7 - 8:30 pm (Doors open 6:30)

Arundel Town Hall
Maltravers Street, Arundel
West Sussex BN18 9AP

ENQUIRIES
livingwordmlw@gmail.com

No refreshments, but time for corporate prayer

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR LEADERS CONFERENCE 2020

Tuesday 28th – Thursday 30th April

Keeping Going – lessons from Paul

Ashburnham Place, East Sussex

A 3 day mini-break for Christian leaders and spouses.
Come away for a time to rest, relax and be refreshed.
£90 per person full board.

Hosted by **One Challenge International UK**, www.onechallenge.org.uk

Full details and Booking form from

Roger Purdom: rogerpurdom@onechallenge.org.uk 07947 660859

Churches Together in Southwick

World Day of Prayer

Southwick Christian Community Church

2pm Friday 6 March 2020

All are welcome



This year the service is arranged by the women of Zimbabwe, a country of wonder and woes. The speaker will be **Rev Lynda Hulcoop** who is director of a training school in Zimbabwe.

Southwick Christian Community Church, 1-5 Roman Crescent, Southwick, West Sussex, BN42 4TY

For more information:

info@southwickchurch.org.uk / 01273 870103

CCF Tapes

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We invite you to a
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& **Dr Bill Cooper**

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West Sussex Contact: 07542 182226
East Sussex Contact: 07808 590210

Saturday 7th March 2020 Diocesan Healing Conference **'FREEDOM'**

'If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed'

Victoria Baptist Church
Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE
9.30am-4pm (Register 9am) - Cost £10.00
Keynote Speaker – Rev Steve Gendall
Senior Chaplain –
Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre



Booking & Tickets
www.chichester.anglican.org/events
or E-Mail:
FreedomintheSon2020@gmail.com

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for print-ready adverts is

12 March 2020

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COUNTIES TAKING HEART IN JANUARY 2020	CHURCHES PER COUNTY	COUNTIES TAKING HEART IN JANUARY 2020	CHURCHES PER COUNTY
Aberdeenshire	1	Leicestershire	4
Bedfordshire	3	London	122
Berkshire	13	Merseyside	2
Bridgend	1	Middlesex	18
Bristol	3	Monmouthshire	2
Buckinghamshire	15	Norfolk	3
Cambridgeshire	1	Northants	18
Cheshire	8	North Yorkshire	3
Conwy	2	Nottinghamshire	1
Cornwall	51	Oxfordshire	5
County Antrim	1	Shetland Islands	1
County Durham	1	Shropshire	2
Deeside	1	Somerset	9
Derbyshire	2	South Yorkshire	2
Devon	20	Staffordshire	2
Dorset	4	Suffolk	4
East Sussex	154	Surrey	120
Essex	16	Tayside	1
Glamorganshire	1	Tyne and Wear	2
Gloucestershire	2	Warwickshire	23
Gwent	1	West Midlands	8
Hampshire	21	West Sussex	178
Hertfordshire	41	West Yorkshire	3
Jersey	1	Wiltshire	8
Kent	205	Worcestershire	1
Lancashire	3	51 Counties	1,114 Churches

Now for the GOOD news!

Charles Gardner shares some touching stories



A rainbow of hope hovers over a remote Welsh chapel

WELSH CHAPELS TO RE-OPEN: A retired chartered surveyor has invested £200,000 of his own savings in re-opening a dozen disused chapels in the South Wales valleys where a great revival broke out in 1904. Rev Robert Stivey aims to bring the Gospel back to the towns and villages where crime came to a virtual halt through the revival.

He says: "I am intent on attracting new fellowships... and using these chapels, not as museum pieces, but centres of worship."

"LIVELY" PRISON SERVICES: As inmates around the country discover the Gospel and flock to Bible studies and services, one prison chaplain comes back to work on his day off to attend the worship service there, as it's the "best and liveliest one in town".

C OF E CALLS FOR HOLOCAUST REPENTANCE: A Church of England report admits the substantial role played by mistaken Christian theology in the centuries-old persecution of Jewish people. One example is attributing Jewish suffering as punishment for crucifying Christ, when the Bible clearly states that it was God's will for Jesus to suffer (Isaiah 53:10).

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3 Newhouse Business Centre, Old Crawley Road,
Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4RU

The report was welcomed with reservation by the UK's Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis.

'CATS' MUSICAL IS CHRISTIAN ALLEGORY: The hugely successful musical 'Cats' – now a movie and based on T S Eliot's poems about crazy cats – is actually an allegory of the Christian faith, according to the evangelistic magazine 'Hope'.

HAIR AND PRAYER: A new hair salon in Mexborough, Doncaster is offering prayer as well as haircuts. The salon includes a prayer room; now founder Chris Green is looking for more ways the building can serve the local community.

Where is the lion? Isa 11:6 used to say: "The lion shall lie down with the lamb." It's changed to "wolf" in all versions! Also, Mt 9:17 (KJV) now doesn't make sense: "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles." Find out about the Mandela effect! <https://thewatchmanfellowship.weebly.com>

BE A FRIEND OF HEART



Invitation from the founding editor:

HEART was started in 2007 in obedience to a vision for a Christian newspaper which would unite believers and give them a voice.

HEART is run completely by faith with a very small, dedicated team of editor, part-time administrator, editorial intern and freelance designer. It is funded by Christians who take out advertisements and donate because they believe in this paper.

Printing and postage cost thousands, and we need to be able to respond to requests for the paper in other areas, so would you pray about becoming a Friend of HEART?

Melanie Symonds

Partner with HEART's ministry by becoming a Friend of HEART. Friends donate £5 or more each month by standing order and receive a personal copy of HEART in the post each time it comes out.

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February / March 2020

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK

Celebrating our Christian Heritage

Commencing annually from the second weekend in June

Britain is a Christian state and this fact was celebrated at the coronation of our monarch.

Christianity has been present in our nation since the 1st century and we owe much to that heritage.



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For more information - www.nchweek.wordpress.com

