

**Weekly update from the
Association Administrator,
Steph Tidy 01444-233431**

admin@seba-baptist.org.uk



"His love in times past forbids me to think
He'll leave me at last in trouble to sink.
And can he have taught me to rust in his name,
And thus far have brought me, to put me to
shame?"

John Newton

Prayer requests

Please remember in your prayers those, across the Association, who are unwell or in need:

- Ray Avenell (Treasurer at Strood Gospel Mission Church) - Pray for Ray as he deals with the side-effects of the chemotherapy (for cancer in the bowel, abdomen and chest).
- Revd David Parsons (Retired Minister) - please pray for David as he undertakes radiotherapy.
- Revd Seyan Tills (Minister at Walmer Baptist Church) – **update** – please pray for Seyan, he has an open wound on his bad leg (which they are trying to treat without antibiotics) and check up reviews, as his blood pressure was very high when he saw the consultant in

London, Please pray for all Seyan's ongoing health issues he battles with daily. Please continue to pray for the church at Walmer as they support Seyan.

(if you would like your name added to the prayer list, please email me

(admin@seba-baptist.org.uk)

(Please note, the prayer list is in alphabetical order, and any new requests or updates are highlighted)

Liz Adshead (Stuart Davison's PA)

For those of you who have not heard, Liz will be retiring from her role with the South Eastern Baptist Association soon; her final day with us will be Friday 27 April. Stuart has written a few words to mark the occasion, and extend our heart-felt thanks for all Liz has done

"In 1990 Margaret Thatcher resigned, Nelson Mandela was released from prison and I came to Burgess Hill to become the Missioner for the Sussex Baptist Association. In need of a PA, it was Elizabeth Adshead who stepped up to the plate. Her daughter became a favourite babysitter for our children and it was Liz who facilitated Gill and I having our first night away on our own since having children several years earlier.

Liz was the administration behind trips to Romania and SENT teams of young people coming with me to be discipled in mission in locations along the south coast as well as St Quentin in France.

Gill and I left in 1995 to go to Liverpool and didn't return until 2007, by which time SBA had joined KBA and Northdowns to become SEBA. Again I was in need of a PA and Liz was there. Both of us a little older, but still ready for the fray.

I am not sure that being my PA has been easy, but Liz has taken on our

biggest projects – the SEBA celebrations, training days, dealing with Settlement, and more recently working with Jerry on Small Churches days.

I want to publicly express my thanks to Liz, and the thanks of the rest of the team. A lot of thanks were expressed at Ashburnham and so this is just the next bit of that.

Thanks, because without Liz doing so much, often behind the scenes, the scenes themselves wouldn't have happened. We would have been, and will be, the poorer without her.

Doing the things you always wanted to do is not the real challenge of retirement. Remembering them is the real challenge.

So, with our thanks, every blessing for the next chapter." - Stuart

BU President Results

Please find below a message from Revd Ken Benjamin (Chichester Baptist Church), who had been elected President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain for 2019-20



'I am hugely grateful to all those in SEBA who have supported my nomination, and also to those who have voted and, most importantly, prayed for me. Please go on praying, even at this early stage. In helping to appoint me to this role you have given me a huge challenge. It is my intention to return the compliment and to both pray for and challenge you all too! I'm convinced that the times we live in require individuals and churches to think beyond existing patterns, programmes and even buildings in imaginative and creative ways.'

Feedback from SEBA Day of Prayer

A big thank you to all of those who joined us in prayer for SEBA and those in need across the Association last month.

Whilst we received a number of emails, letting us know that you were standing with us in prayer; it would also be lovely to hear back from anyone with words of encouragement, scripture verses or any feedback from that time of prayer.

Please email Steph admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

Seeking a new SEBA Treasurer

Would you like the opportunity to support and work with the 150+ Baptist Churches across the South East of England?

We are looking for someone who is a member of a SEBA church, and would be commended by their home church as having, not only financial (and possibly accounting) skills and expertise (preferably in the charity sector) but also the godly qualities of a mature disciple of Jesus, who is prepared to work closely in partnership with the existing SEBA Team and others.

The Treasurer is a part of the SEBA Executive, and a Director of the charity. The role is supported by a Finance Committee, and a part-time book-keeper—with administrative support from the SEBA administrator.

All expenses incurred whilst undertaking the role will be reimbursed by SEBA, but this is not a paid role.

Closing date for applications 30 April 2018

A poster has been circulated via Church Secretaries and Treasurers - please make sure you pass details of this opportunity along to your members.

Please click on this link to [go to the SEBA website to download the information pack and application form](#), or [email Steph](#) to request she send it to you.

SEBA Notices

Ministers and Leaders Conference 2019:

This is advance notice that the SEBA Conference, which is for Ministers, and Leaders of churches with no Minister, will be held at Ashburnham Place, 26-28 February 2019. We are delighted that Revd Professor Philip McCormack MBE will

be our guest speaker. Philip is the Principal of Spurgeon's College. If these dates are not already in your diary for next year, please note them now! Booking information will be available after the summer.

Last Chance to Book! - SEBA Disability Awareness Day - Saturday 21 April - Reigate Baptist Church:

There is just one week until the D.A.D. takes place at Reigate Baptist Church. This will be a very interesting and informative day with input from people whose specialities cover deafness, physical access and limitations, learning disability and sight loss. These are all Christian agencies/specialists who want to encourage full participation in church life for those who have a special need. Each person will give a short presentation in the morning and in the afternoon there will be the opportunity to speak to all the contributors, look at their material or resources or seek advice on a particular problem that you face in your church.

The cost is £10 per person. Please click [here for the publicity poster](#) and click [here for the booking form](#) for the above day (you can also find these links on the resources page of the SEBA website).

Alternatively please contact Liz Adshead on liz.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk or 01444 233926

South Eastern Baptist Women's Ministry:

Future Events:

Lord Give Me A Song - Encouragement Day on 12th May 2018. Hosted by Godalming Baptist Church (15 Queen Street, Godalming, GU7 1BA)

Contact Patsy at padunning4@gmail.com for more information.

SEBA Training

SEBA Communications Workshop:

Saturday 28 April 2018 10am-3pm

Horley Baptist Church (289 Court Lodge Road, HORLEY, RH16 8RG) - cost £5 per person (pay on the day)

Mike Lowe, Communications Enabler for Baptists Together will be running the workshop to help you to equip your church to communicate in the digital age.

The workshop will include:

- Linking your vision with your mission
- Church social media and websites
- Safely and effectively use digital communication
- Print based communication, building a relationship with the local press and what to do in a crises
- Take home resources

Click [here to download a poster](#) for more information.

To book your place, please email Paul's PA, Pam pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

Core Leaders training:

Saturdays 9 & 30 June 2018, 9-30am-12.30pm at Tunbridge Wells Baptist Church (Upper Grosvenor Road, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, TN1 2EP)

Our Core Leaders Training is open to any Baptist Pastor / Deacon / Elder / Church Leader.

The course covers 6 subjects (Spirituality - Trusteeship - Spiritual Life of the Core Team - Working Together - Decision Making - Mission/Pastoral Care). The course is over 2 sessions on separate dates, to complete the course you will need to attend both sessions.

Click [here for a poster](#).

Please book your places by emailing Pam Kerley at pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk giving your contact name & phone/email, name of your church and names of those attending.

Full £15 payment either before or on the first day (9th June).

(Cheques payable to "South Eastern Baptist Association" please)

Phone bookings and queries to Paul Kerley on 01580-766020 or Pam's email address as above.

Please book before 19th May 2018 (spaces limited)

Excellence in Safeguarding training:

Level 1 Excellence in Safeguarding

- (All Age service version [8 minutes])
A new Level 1 Excellence in Safeguarding film designed to be shown in all age services.
https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/513615/Level_1_Excellence.aspx
- (Church Meeting version [4 minutes])
A new Level 1 Excellence in Safeguarding film designed to be shown to your Church Meeting.
https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/514025/Level_1_Excellence.aspx
- (Materials for Children and Young People)
A new Level 1 Excellence in Safeguarding written material designed to be used with your children and young people.
https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/514026/Level_1_Excellence.aspx

Level 2 Excellence in Safeguarding (covering Children & Adults at Risk): [Level 2 is for the Minister, Trustees, Designated person for Safeguarding & all those who work with Adults at risk, Children & or young people.]

- Saturday 28 April 2018 /// Reigate Baptist Church – 9.30am - cost £10 per space.
- Saturday 19 May 2018 /// Battle Baptist Church - 9.30am - cost £10 per space
- Monday 4 June 2018 /// Cheriton Baptist Church – 6pm - cost £10 per space
- Saturday 30 June 2018 /// Redhill Baptist Church - 9.30am - cost £10 per space

- Saturday 14 July 2018 /// Borstal Baptist Church - 9.30am - cost £10 per space
- Saturday 15 September 2018 /// Farnham Baptist Church - 9.30am - cost £10 per space
- Saturday 6 October 2018 /// Ashford Baptist Church – 9.30am - cost £10 per space.
- Saturday 3 November 2018 /// Milford Baptist Church - 9.30am - cost £10 per space

Level 3 Excellence in Safeguarding (covering Children & Adults at Risk): [Level 3 is for Ministers, Trustees & the Designated person for Safeguarding and all who lead groups with Adults at risk, Children & or young people]

- Saturday 28 April 2018 /// Reigate Baptist Church – 1.30pm - cost £10 per space.
- Saturday 30 June 2018 /// Redhill Baptist Church - 1.30pm- cost £10 per space
- Saturday 14 July 2018 /// Borstal Baptist Church - 1.30pm- cost £10 per space
- Saturday 15 September 2018 /// Farnham Baptist Church - 1.30pm- cost £10 per space
- Saturday 6 October 2018/// Ashford Baptist Church – 1.30pam - cost £10 per space.
- Saturday 3 November 2018 /// Milford Baptist Church - 1.30pm- cost £10 per space

For more info or to book please click [here](#) to contact Maeve

* Please note, anyone attending both level 2 & 3 training, on the same day, will need to bring a packed lunch (unless otherwise stated).

There is a safeguarding introductory guide on the Baptists Together website, this guide would be good for anyone who is new into work with children, young people or adults at risk, and as a refresher for anyone who is planning to come to training. it can be found [here](#).

Events

Please note - with all events advertised below, whilst we are publicising them, the views and comments expressed are not necessarily approved by the Association - unless they have been organised specifically by the Association.

Adrian Plass (& Searchlights Theatre Company) 'Out of his head':

Friday 20 April 2018 7:15pm - 9pm

Auditorium, Guildford Baptist Church (Millmead, GUILDFORD, GU2 4BE)

For more information and to book online, go to: www.guildfordbaptist.org

Alternatively, contact the church office on 01483 575008.

SEBA Disabilities Awareness Day:

Saturday 21 April 2018 - Reigate Baptist Church

more details above.

Bright Black Forum Presents: Beyond the Dream? - Marking the 50th Anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr:

Tuesday 24 April 2018, 9.45am – 4.00pm

Highgate Baptist Church Centre (Conybere Street, Highgate, Birmingham, B12 0YL)

Cost: £20.00, includes lunch and refreshments.

Please [Click Here](#) for details

Please [Click Here](#) to book.

For more details, please email Kumar Rajagopalan on

siva_kumar.t21@btinternet.com

SEBA Communications Workshop:

Saturday 28 April 2018 - Horley Baptist Church - details in SEBA Notices, above.

'Living With Cancer':

Saturday 28th April 2018 (Coffee from 9.30am) 10.00am-12.00 noon

Godalming Baptist Church (Queen Street, Godalming, GU7 1BA)

Led by Dr Karen Jones GP at Binscombe Medical Centre.

To book a place please contact Sally Pollard pollard3@hotmail.co.uk 01483-428646 or Janet Fry janetfry1@gmail.com

Click [here to download a poster](#)

National New Housing Conference:

Saturday 28 April 2018, 10am-4pm

Finchampsted Baptist Church (FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead, Berkshire, RG40 4ES)

All welcome - It's a national conference open to all denominations and Christian traditions.

To book your place click on the link

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/514643/Housing_Hub_Conference.aspx

If you would like any further information, please contact Revd Penny Marsh (who is leading the event) penny@seba-baptist.org.uk

Re:Creation concert:

Saturday 5 May at 7.30pm

Guildford Baptist Church (The Millmead Centre)

The Oratorio by David Perkins & Derek Wensley re-tells the Bible story for the 21st Century in modern, dignified English with 5 soloists and a 30 voice Choir
Admission FREE – No tickets, No Advance Booking

Bring along neighbours, friends and family - anyone you know who loves choral music

Baptist Historical Society - 2018 AGM & Lectures:

Thursday 10 May 2018, AGM at 1.30pm and lectures from 2pm (anticipated close 4pm)

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church (Shaftesbury Avenue, LONDON, WC2H 8EP)

"Journeying to justice: Where do we go from here?"

These lectures are free

BHS members and non-members welcome

SEBWM Lord Give Me A Song encouragement day: 12 May 2018 - see SEBA

Notices above

Tricks & Laughs - 30th Anniversary Tour - starring Steve Legg:

Saturday 12 May 2018, doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start

Herne Bay Baptist Church (105 High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5LA)

Steve is back with a special selection of his very best tricks, along with some brand-new material for a night of laughs and hilarious moments to celebrate 30 years on the road.

The evening will include comedy and magic (fun for all ages).

There will be a ploughman's supper.

The ticket prices are £6 per adult, £4.50 per child and a family ticket for 4, (max 2 adults), for £20.

Tickets are available from Eve on 01227 368579 or 07887 366049

Click [here to download a poster](#)

Self-Acceptance - Taming our inner critical voice:

Friday 18 May 2018, from 10.15 am – 3.30 pm

Godalming Baptist Church (Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1BA)

led by Chris Ledger

Many of us struggle to believe that we can be truly accepted and loved just as we are, sometimes still striving to feel 'good enough' even when we know God loves us.

Understanding some of the obstacles to self-acceptance can bring about a breakthrough in our relationships with ourselves, others, and with God. The day will explore some of these obstacles, such as guilt, shame or perfectionism, help to identify and understand our 'inner critical voice', and discover how to positively embrace the person God created us to be. Drawing on case studies, and the personal and professional experience of the course leaders, this course will encourage those seeking to improve their own self-acceptance, or who are supporting others in their journey.

(Coffee available from 9.45-10.15 am, and drinks will be available throughout the day, but please bring your own lunch)

To reserve a place (£12) by Friday 4th May 2018 please contact Sally Pollard

pollard3@hotmail.co.uk, Janet Fry janetfry1@gmail.com, or the Church Office, 01483 422105 on Mon, Wed, or Fri mornings, office.gbc@btinternet.com

PLEASE NOTE: This course will be led from a Christian and Biblical perspective, but the principles and material covered are accessible and helpful to those with any or no faith

Click [here to download a poster](#)

Rural Ministries Annual Conference:

Friday 8- Saturday 9 June 2018

Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

The conference cost is just £90 per person including accommodation on the 8th June, all meals and delegate packs. Full details of the event and booking information can be found on our [website](#) or on [Facebook](#).

Click [here to download a flyer](#)

SEBA Core Leaders training:

Saturdays 9 & 30 June 2018 - Tunbridge Wells Baptist Church - details in SEBA Notices, above.

Re: JustOne - with J.John:

Saturday 9th June 2018, 1pm-5pm

at Priestfield Stadium, Gillingham

JustOne Day - Saturday 9th June 2018.

Over 11,000 people of all ages will gather at Priestfield Stadium.

JustOne Message - Thousands hearing how the Good News of Jesus can transform lives and bring purpose.

JustOne Invitation - JustOne will enable 6,000 people to invite 'just one' – a relative, friend, neighbour or colleague.

For more information go to the website <http://justonepriestfield.com/#>

Open Word Preaching Course 2018-19:

between 16 June 2018- 2 March 2019

Trafalgar Road Baptist Church (Trafalgar Road, HORSHAM, RH12 2QL)

“To preach is to open up the inspired text with such faithfulness and sensitivity that God’s voice is heard and God’s people obey him” John Stott

Once again we are running this course to help and support those, with or without formal training experience, who may already be preaching as well as those who are interested in exploring this avenue of service to the local church. Using largely a workshop approach we shall work together on texts to produce sermons that are clear, faithful to the text and relevant to the hearers.

This year it will be held over four Saturdays (see dates below) from 9.30am to 3.00pm at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church Horsham and be led by David McCahon, a Baptist pastor who has worked since retirement with Langham Preaching in West Africa (www.uk.langham.org).

To cover incidental costs there will be a course fee of £20.00 payable at the first session.

An application form and outline programme of the sessions are available from D. McCahon (mccahon@aol.com)

Dates of sessions:

Saturday 16 June 2018; Saturday 29 September 2018; Saturday 17 November 2018; Saturday 2 March 2019

The Life of Christ - Wintershall Estate

19-23 June 2018, 10am-3.30pm

(Wintershall, BRAMLEY, GU5 0LR)

Book now at www.wintershall-estate.com or by calling 01793-418299

Click [here to download the poster](#)

Celebrating, Surviving & Thriving - Women in Baptist Ministry:

Thursday 28 & Friday 29 June 2018

IMC, Birmingham

A 24-hour conference for Baptist women ministers, non-ordained women in a qualifying office, MiTs (Minister In Training) and those exploring a call to ministry. With Pat Took, Gale Richards, Helen Roberts and Dion White (Worship: Amie Buhari)

Cost: £100 residential (bursaries available) / £75 non-residential)

Click [here for more information](#)

To reserve your place, please email Mary Taylor (mary.taylor@yba.org.uk)

SEBA Pastors' Study Trip - Israel:

4-11 October 2018 - more details in SEBA Notices above

SEBA Make A Difference (MAD) Mission:

20-25 October 2018 - Headcorn

Do you want to do something worth while this year? Do you want to make a difference, share your faith, help with a mission, grow in your Christian life, learn new skills, return to your church a changed person? Then joining a 'MAD' team is for you.

For more information, check out the SEBA website - [click here](#).

Click [here for a booking form](#).

SEBA Ministers & Leaders Conference: *26-28 February 2019 - Ashburnham*

Place - book the date in your diary!

Advice, Resources & Information

Baptist Union news:

Baptist Union Prayer Diary for week beginning beginning 15 April: Please pray for the Central Baptist Association as they seek to journey together in ministry and mission. The Association is made up of 156 churches in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire.

www.centralba.org.uk

The results of our latest President election are in - we had two fantastic candidates and are delighted to announce that Ken Benjamin of Chichester Baptist Church will be our President for 2019-2020. Read more here:

<http://ow.ly/syxx30jnUwp>

We are sorry to learn of the death of Margaret Jarman, who in 1987 became the first female Baptist minister to be our President. It was one of several notable firsts - read about her remarkable life in this obituary, for which we are grateful to Keith Jones <http://ow.ly/McQn30jIRfn>

Read why Martin Luther King continues to guide and inspire Baptists. A selection of links to resources, events and reflections marking the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King <http://ow.ly/76iQ30jdRfZ>

'It provides a home and a safe space for some very vulnerable young people... it's chaotic, but great fun'. Find out why Baptists in Essex are volunteering at a safe house in Calais – and how you can support it <http://ow.ly/owf130j9J3T>

We've just celebrated Easter - but how do we understand the cross? Probably the short answer is we don't - but here are several responses to help us try <http://ow.ly/Oko430jaZnG>

Baptists Together - Transform:

The latest edition of Transform is available to download from the Baptist Union website, containing useful information for Ministers and Church Officers and Workers

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/519430/Transform_49_Summer.aspx?redirected=1

Survey on Rest - open to all:

Revd Andy Percey, minister at Manvers Street Baptist Church in Bath, who some of you may remember when he was Assistant Minister at Haywards Heath Baptist

Church, is undertaking his sabbatical study and writing a book on the subject of 'rest'.

He has asked for anyone who is able (this is not just restricted to those in ministry) to complete a short, 7 question survey to aid him in his research - please click on the link to participate <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6MLVLKV>

Thank you in advance to all those who contribute

Jobs

Fleet Baptist Church opportunities:

Children & Families Worker - Full-time:

Fleet Baptist Church is a lively, spirit-filled community of faith who believe in the transforming power of God.

We are looking for an experienced leader to develop the work of the church in enabling all children and families to find and follow Jesus within the challenges of 21st Century life.

Salary: £22,500-£26,000 dependent on experience/qualifications

For a full job description and application form, email claire@fleetbaptist.org.uk or visit www.fleetbaptist.org.uk/jobs

Closing date: 25th May 2018

Operations Manager - Part-time:

Fleet Baptist Church is a lively, spirit-filled community of faith who believe in the transforming power of God.

We are looking for someone, as a senior member of staff, to lead on the efficient

and effective delivery of the organisational and professional arrangements of the church and its interface with the community in line with the agreed strategy and goals.

Salary: £12,000-£15,000 dependent on experience/qualifications

Hours: 20 per week

For a full job description and application form, email claire@fleetbaptist.org.uk or visit www.fleetbaptist.org.uk/jobs

Closing date: 25th May 2018

Yorkshire Baptist Association - Regional Minister:

We're seeking a new Regional Minister with specialist skills in transitional/transformational mission.

Following on from the news circulated last month by Executive Chair Liz Allen, we are excited to share further details of our search for a third Regional Minister to work with the churches of the Association and be an integral part of the team.

The successful candidate will preferably be based in South Yorkshire and work closely with an area group of around 40 churches, supporting and inspiring them and their ministers and leaders in mission focussed ministry and service. They will also bring specialist skills in transitional/transformational mission, to serve all the churches of the Association as we encourage and embrace new ways of making connections with the communities we are called to serve.

Applicants will have experience in transitioning a church/s from decline to growth and a clear understanding and ability to communicate the challenges and opportunities that exist in our rapidly changing culture.

Central to our Baptist understanding of church life is communal discernment. Before completing an application, we encourage potential applicants to share their interest in the role with a few close friends, spiritual director and/or mentor, and

seek their wisdom and guidance as together we follow the prompting of the Spirit in exploring an applicant's suitability for the role.

The closing date for applications is Thursday, 18th April 2018.

Further details including role description and person specification, can be found on the YBA website on this link

<http://www.yba.org.uk/content/pages/documents/1521638437.pdf>.

After reading the role details on the YBA website, if you would like more information or would like to speak further, please contact Graham Ensor on graham.ensor@yba.org.uk or telephone 07515 704023.

Application forms and an overview of the terms and conditions are available by e-mail from Debbie Gamble, YBA Administrator, at debbie.gamble@yba.org.uk

Please join with us in prayer as together we seek God's guidance for this appointment.

Vacancy for schoolworkers - Fleet & Crookham Churches Together in Schools (FACCTS):

FACCTS has the opportunity to develop our work in local schools in Fleet. We are looking for the right person or people to join our existing team in full- or part-time roles. Please visit <http://www.faccts.org.uk/jobs.html> or contact Sue Fisher (suefisher@ntlworld.com) to find out more.

Closing date for applications 30 April 2018

If you would like to add a church-based, or Christian charity vacancy to the weekly emailing, please let me know admin@sebabaptist.org.uk

Please note, we cannot post vacancies for Church Minister positions, as these should go through Revd Stuart Davison, and the Settlement system.



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