

# UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

## AREA LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

### Hastening the Work of Salvation through the Use of Technology

By Elder Robert A. Dryden, Great Britain

Area Seventy

Some years ago a priesthood leader in my home stake made the following statement: “We spend all our time seeking for investigators, when we should be using technology to help them come to us.” I now appreciate the value of his comment as I hear apostles and prophets encouraging us to use the Internet to share the gospel. In June of 2013, President Monson said, “Now is the time for members and missionaries to come together . . . [and] labor in the Lord’s vineyard to bring souls unto Him. He has prepared the means for us to share the gospel in a multitude of ways, and He will assist us in our labors if we will act in faith to fulfill His work” (“Faith in the Work of Salvation,” [hasteningthework.lds.org](http://hasteningthework.lds.org)).

In the April 2014 general conference, Brother Ridd of the Young Men general presidency encouraged us to use the tools of technology. He said: “The divine purpose of technology is to hasten the work of salvation. . . . The Lord expects you to use these

great tools to take His work to the next level, to share the gospel in ways that are beyond my generation’s wildest imagination. Where generations past influenced their neighbors and their town, you have the power through the Internet and social media to reach beyond borders and influence the whole world” (“The Choice Generation,” *Ensign*, May 2014, 58).

Throughout Europe we see members using technology to help hasten the work. For example, the England Canterbury Stake high council sent the Church video “Because of Him” to 180 nonmember friends with an invitation to share the video with others.

Naomi, in Switzerland, used social media to send a personal invitation to her nonmember friends and family to attend her mission farewell. Over 80 people she invited attended; 40 of them came to church for the first time!

Many members are also using social media to invite their nonmember friends and family to mission farewells and

homecomings, baptisms, ward parties, baby blessings, general conference and other Church events in a natural and loving way.

These examples are only the beginning.

Each and every effort we make to proclaim the gospel fortifies testimony and strengthens the Church. What can you do today to be a part of sharing the gospel online? It is easier and much more enjoyable than you might think. Here are a few ideas.

On Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and YouTube, you can “like” and follow several of the official Church sites, such as the Church Facebook page, the Mormon Channel, Mormon.org, Mormon Messages, LDS Youth, etc.

On social media, share a quote, picture or video from one of these official Church sites that touched your heart, with a comment about why it touched you. In all interactions online, be honest and be yourself. As Elder Ballard said, “Talk honestly and sincerely about the impact the gospel has had in your life, about how it has helped you overcome weaknesses or challenges and helped define your values” (“Sharing the Gospel



**Elder Robert A. Dryden**

Using the Internet,” *Ensign*, July 2008, 63).

Go to [Mormon.org](http://Mormon.org) and create your own profile page at [www.mormon.org/create](http://www.mormon.org/create) and then share it with your friends, put a link to it on your email signature, post it on social media, etc.

In preparation for the month of invitation in December, notice which of your nonmember friends “like” and comment positively when you post something spiritual or family oriented on social media. Pray to know which of these friends you could invite to come to church with you.

You can find many more ideas on [LDS.org](http://LDS.org) by typing “sharing the gospel online” in the search bar. Ask any of the youth or young single adults in your ward if you need help with these ideas.

The gospel and the knowledge of our Saviour bring such peace and joy into the lives of those that embrace them; they are something that should be shared with the whole world.

Sister Dryden and I recently engaged a wonderful man in a gospel conversation. It was sobering that he had never heard of any of the names by which the Church is known. Truly technology is a tool we must use more effectively in obedience to the Lord’s command to bring His Church “out of obscurity and out of darkness” (D&C 1:30). May God bless us in reaching out with our hearts and our hands to share His gospel. ■

## Wandsworth Young Women Receive Young Womanhood Recognition Award

By Sylvia Anderson

Josephine Aidoo-Brown and Holy Anthony, both 18 years, of the Peckham Ward, Wandsworth, London, were recently presented with the Young Womanhood Recognition award. This is an award that is given to young women of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who have completed the Personal Progress goal-setting programme. All young women aged 12–18 are encouraged to participate in this programme, which involves undertaking a wide range of activities. These include regular scripture study, service projects, attendance for religious instruction, sacrament meeting attendance, keeping a personal journal and various other 10-hour projects.

Josephine comments, “I achieved the Young Womanhood

award by completing Personal Progress activities around the 8 values of the Young Women programme, which are faith, divine nature, individual worth, knowledge, choice and accountability, good works, integrity and virtue. It was a really good experience for me to learn more about the gospel and why the gospel is what I need every day in my life. This programme has helped me to be more appreciative of being a member and strengthened my testimony massively.”

Holy Anthony comments, “Doing Personal Progress had to be one of the most challenging things I’ve done in a while. When I finally decided to start the award I realised that most of the 10-hour projects had already been completed during church attendance and other activities



SYLVIA ANDERSON

**From L to R:**  
Holy Anthony,  
Josephine  
Aidoo-Brown  
receiving  
the Young  
Womanhood  
Recognition  
award

I had done outside of church on my own, such as volunteering with local charity shops and joining the stake choir.

“After I received my medallion I’ve noticed more missionary experiences in my life. People ask me what the medallion means, as it has a picture of the Salt Lake Temple on it, and it gives me the chance to tell them all about the Church, the Book Mormon and the wonderful and amazing things the gospel can do for them.”

Holy plans on serving a full-time mission for the Church for 18 months in the future.

President Ezra Taft Benson, a former President of the Church, stated: “Give me a young woman who loves home and family, who reads and ponders the scriptures daily, who has a burning testimony of the Book of Mormon. Give me a young woman who faithfully attends her church meetings, who is a seminary graduate, who has earned her Young Womanhood Recognition Award and wears it with pride! Give me a young woman who is virtuous and who has maintained her personal purity, who will not settle for less than a temple marriage, and I will give you a young woman who will perform miracles for the Lord now and throughout eternity” (“To the Young Women of the Church,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1986, 84). ■

## Carol Rigby Invited to Parliament

By Debbie Singh-Bhatti



COURTESY OF CAROL RIGBY

Carol Rigby, a member of the Eastwood Ward in the Nottingham Stake, certainly knows the meaning of the term “endure to the end.” Over thirty years ago, when her children were still small, she started campaigning for safety measures to be installed outside the infant school they attended. Now, more than three decades later, precautions have finally been put in place, and it is Carol’s grandchildren and their playmates who are benefitting from them.

A resident of Westwood, a small village to the northwest of Nottingham, Carol discovered early on in her campaign that funding for small village schools with just 60 pupils was hard to come by. Nottingham County

Council informed her that they would take no action to improve conditions unless a serious or fatal accident occurred. Though not happy with this policy, for a time Carol resigned herself to living with it, until last year when a turn in events meant she could remain quiet no longer.

“There was a row of twelve pensioner bungalows on the same road as the infant school, just 200 yards away,” she explains. “Cars parked on the road in front of them kept getting damaged, so the council decided to build four small car parks to keep the cars safe. It cost thousands of pounds—all to keep four cars from getting damaged! Putting cars before children is what fuelled my final

**Carol, pictured on the extreme R, with Ed Miliband, centre, Leader of the Opposition**

campaign and I decided I wasn't going to stop until the council took some action!"

Take action she did and within a year, following a series of emails and newspaper articles, Carol, with the help of local MP Gloria De Piero, succeeded in getting traffic-calming measures in place outside Westwood Infant and Nursery School.

In recognition of Carol's untiring efforts on behalf of the children and parents of Westwood, she was invited to attend a reception at Westminster, hosted by Opposition Leader Ed Miliband.

"It was the same day as the Queen's Speech," Carol explains, "and both the House of Commons and House of Lords were in session, so we weren't able to go inside the chambers. However, before we left the event, Gloria arranged for me to go into the public gallery and I listened to several MPs speak and also saw most of the room."

Carol's visit to Parliament was, perhaps, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and though it was thrilling for her, the real reward for this ex-lollipop lady comes in knowing that the pupils and parents of Westwood can visit their school in safety. "Now my grandchildren do not have to face the same danger that their parents did every day," she says.

Carol is living proof that every one of us can make a difference if we just don't give up trying! ■

## British Members Perform the British Pageant in Nauvoo

By Jonathan Mace

The swelling from the 30,000 people that saw the Nauvoo Pageant last year to the 50,000 estimated attendance for both the British and Nauvoo Pageants this year is a clear demonstration of the excitement that has swept the United States and Nauvoo in particular this summer. Whilst the Nauvoo Pageant is now in its tenth year and well known, the British Pageant brought a new dynamic to Nauvoo this summer. For a period of 4 weeks the Nauvoo Pageant was performed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, alternating with the British Pageant being performed on Wednesdays and Fridays. The British Pageant necessitated new set pieces, new staging

ideas and a vast amount of new costumes that needed to be created by a small army of volunteers, including many that have worked the entire year to be ready for the production.

Whilst there have been British Saints that have previously participated in the Nauvoo Pageant, this year over 20 British Saints were able to participate as part of the cast and team who previously performed in Chorley. Ann Cannon remarks in the British Pageant that "whatever you offer to [Christ], He will give back tenfold". This has certainly been the experience of the British participants in the pageants this year. Some gave up jobs to participate, whilst others that are mothers chose to be

*Members of the British Pageant rehearsing in Nauvoo for performances in July and August 2014*



COURTESY OF JONATHAN MACE

parted from their husbands and children for the duration of the rehearsals and performances, feeling a strong spiritual impression that they needed to be part of the work.

Darren Hill, a member of the core cast from Blackpool (currently residing in Chicago), stated, "Being involved with the Nauvoo Pageant since 2009, I was delighted and intrigued to see how the British Pageant would be received. The reaction has been beyond our expectations. The American audience realise that this is their story. Many people watching had ancestors that came from the UK and wept to hear the stories of the early Saints. It has been a wonderful privilege to be a part of this celebration and with that comes great responsibility to continue to share their stories."

Rachael Pratt, from Chester, who is also part of the core cast, added, "The British Pageant ends with Saints on the boat, and the Nauvoo Pageant starts with new Saints arriving. They literally go hand in hand. Many audience members have expressed gratitude for the reformers and for their ancestors that left behind the beautiful isle across the big pond."

This summer saw two pageants and two cultures coming together, but one gospel being taught. The two pageants beautifully teach the message of

the restored gospel and show the process of applying it into our lives, from the conversion experiences of the Saints in the British Isles all the way to the building of the temple in Nauvoo. For many American Latter-day Saints, the British Pageant tells of their ancestors who joined the Church in the British Isles and then emigrated from Britain. There was a special resonance with audiences in Nauvoo which engendered a feeling of deep unity between the two nations. Above all, the pageants allowed members from both countries to testify of the Lord Jesus Christ and invite others to come unto Him. From that perspective, the sacrifices made to participate seemed relatively few.

Other British cast members involved included (core cast) Lucinda Bishop (Poole), Dillon Pratt (Chester), Ben Hunter (Scotland), Peter Johns (Jersey), Robin Dick (Newbury), Loren and Charly Jones (London).

Family cast: Nigel and Jen Poulton family; Talitha, Natalie and Felicity Furbank (Poole); Ben and Rachael Pratt family (Chester); Mike and Carol Beasley Family (Leicester).

The British Pageant was directed by Alexandra Johns from Jersey, with assistance from Jonathan Mace as assistant stage manager/choreographer (Lichfield). ■

## Church Members Volunteer at Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games

By Assistant Editor

The Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, 'the friendly games', were successfully held over 11 days from July 23rd to August 3rd and received 50,000 applications for volunteers, with half that number interviewed and 15,000 chosen to welcome competitors, officials and spectators to the city of Glasgow. The assistant editor chatted with some of the Church members involved, who donated their time and sacrificed to better the communities in which they live.

Anna Hicks, a member of the Beith Branch in Paisley Stake, was nominated and given the honour of being chosen as a baton bearer for the baton relay in Glasgow. She comments, "I was the 3rd bearer of 5 carrying it thru Dalry and into the town centre to the cheers and support of a lot of the town." Anna was also a Clyde-sider at the opening ceremony and at Hampden Park for the athletics. Anna is the single adult representative for her stake and has been a member for most of her life.

Karen Turnbull has been active in the Church since 1969 and served in many ward and stake positions over the last 45 years. She commented, "Seven years ago when Glasgow was awarded the 2014 Commonwealth Games in 2007, I immediately went online to volunteer to help at the event. I was interviewed and then had several anxious months waiting on the outcome, and in January I was delighted to get the confirmation email to say I had been selected to be a Clyde-sider, the name chosen for the games volunteers."

Karen, from Glasgow, served in the transport division, based at the SECC precinct, which was the largest of the games venues and played host to

seven of the seventeen sports being competed in the games. Working eight-hour shifts, starting at 6.30 am until 3.30pm or 3pm to 11.45pm, Karen states, "I love my city and am very proud to be chosen."

Christiane Redhead from Poole commented on her experience: "I had a brilliant time being a Clyde-sider volunteer at the Barry Buddon Shooting Centre for Glasgow 2014. I had 6 shifts and I was in a team of about 20 looking after the press."

Christiane has been a member of the Church since she was 6 months old and attends the Poole Ward in the Poole Stake. Christiane is married to Paul, and their youngest son, Karl, is on a mission in the Pennsylvania Philadelphia Mission, USA.

"As a Church member we are used to giving our time and talents to help others, so volunteering for the games was an easy choice as I love being in Scotland and find every excuse to visit." Christiane's previous experience of volunteering included being a safety marshall for the Fire Fighters Charity for the 'Three Peaks Challenge', where she helps out for one week a year.

Jonathan Edosomwan, from the Airdrie Ward, Glasgow Stake, was chosen as a Spectator Services Coordinator at Strathclyde Country Park and Cathkin Braes.

Another volunteer, Carol Goodwin, joined the Church in 2006, having been introduced by a friend in the USA, where she was baptized but later confirmed in her own ward in Glasgow, Scotland. "I had a number of reasons for wanting to volunteer. Probably the strongest is that my dad, who died of cancer a little under 2 years ago, would have been very proud to see me getting involved with the games. He had a huge enthusiasm for life and getting involved and encouraged me to put my name forward when we first knew the games were coming to Glasgow." Carol received an offer to audition for cast, and was selected to perform in the closing ceremony.

All these members agreed it was an amazing experience to help make these the "best games ever". ■



*Photos of Karen, Anna, Christiane, Carol and Jonathan volunteering at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow 2014*



## Ted Porter

By Valerie Howard and Joanna Horne

The oldest member of the Glenfield Ward of the Leicester England Stake has a long history in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Albert Edward Porter and his wife, Margaret, were baptised on 25 March 1950 in the swimming baths in Leicester town centre. They were baptised by Elder Ralph Crystal and confirmed by Elder Ludene Campbell. At the time George Albert Smith was the President of the Church.

Ted and Marge were sealed on 30 May 1959 in the newly dedicated London temple along with their four children Valerie, Susan, Brian and Paul. Ted served as the branch president of Western Park, Leicester, and as a high councillor three

times. In 1962 he was called as bishop of the Leicester Ward. This led him to Salt Lake City to attend general conference in April 1962. There he was taken care of by the Bowen family.

Ted and Marge served a stake reactivation mission for two years. Among their successes during this time, they reactivated a couple who were later sealed in the London temple. Ted's next calling was as ward mission leader and then as a teacher in the high priests group. He has had this calling since 1998 and is still going strong at the age of 92, teaching two lessons each month.

Peter Alan Nutting began investigating the Church early this year. On 27 February 2014 Alan celebrated his 90th birthday. Two days later he was baptised by Ted, and became the second oldest member of the Glenfield Ward. In the font that evening there was a combined age of 201 years. They were joined by one of the full-time missionaries, Elder Ashcraft, who helped with lifting Alan up out of the water. It was a wonderful evening, and Ted was thrilled to be asked to perform the baptism at the age of 92 years. Every week he fellowships Alan, never failing to spend time talking to him. ■



*From left to right: Ted Porter, aged 92, prior to baptising Peter Nutting, aged 90*

## The Continuing Joy of Missionary Work

By Lesley Williams, Leeds 3rd Ward

In July 1971 on returning from a holiday in Majorca, I discovered that one of my younger sisters was being taught the gospel and was scheduled to be baptised. I soon learnt that in fact my parents had joined the Church when I was 5 but had not stayed active. I was invited to attend the baptism, and after the service a missionary asked me if I had enjoyed the baptism. "It was alright," was my response. He then asked if I would like to be baptised next Friday. "I don't know anything about your church," came my reply. "Well, if you give up some of your time, we will give up some of ours to come and teach you," was his answer. This impressed me, so arrangements were made for them to come and teach me. I went to church on Sunday and I also attended a music recital at Hyde Park chapel. I was taught the 6 discussions in 3 days, and indeed I was baptised the next Friday. Three years later I was called to serve a mission to the England Leeds Mission.

A few months after returning from my mission, I married and raised seven children. A few years later, whilst on holiday in Utah, I was able to contact the missionary who baptised me and

we have stayed in contact ever since. He felt that he hadn't had a very successful mission because other than me no one he had taught had ever contacted him. As part of a teaching assignment, I created a "Mission Genealogy" chart which contained the following information: My three sons each served missions: one to France Paris, one to France Toulouse and one to the Swiss German Mission. Three girls I took part in teaching each served a mission. The son of one of those girls served a mission, with two sons of another serving a mission. The last person I helped teach went on to serve in many capacities and then to have two sons, each of whom has served a mission. Therefore, including myself, that is at least twelve who served full-time missions.

I sent a copy of the "Mission Genealogy" form and reminded David Glade that his mission had been successful and most certainly worthwhile. As we serve the Lord in whatever capacity we are called and especially in our role as either full-time or member missionaries, we may never fully realise the impact and effect we may have on the lives of others.

In May 2013 we moved from Lancashire to Leeds, and my



*Lesley with David Glade, the missionary who baptised her*

husband and I were set apart to serve as member, leadership, support (MLS) missionaries in the Scotland/Ireland Mission—how excited we are. How special it

was to be set apart as missionaries by the son of the last person I taught on my mission thirty-eight years ago, President John Stewart. ■

**TRYING TO BE LIKE JESUS**

## Adam: Age 10, Blackpool Ward

“I feel my Saviour’s love when I know my brother is being looked after on his mission. I also feel it when I spend time with my family.” ■



JANICE PEERS?

*Adam, 10 years, from the Blackpool Ward*

## Is Your Son/Daughter Going Off to University?

**By Elder and Sister Jones, YSA Couple, Canterbury Stake**

If the answer is yes to this question, don’t worry. Help is at hand! Perhaps you are worried about the local ward/branch getting in contact. What about accommodation, or attending institute? Will your child make new friends and will they be looked after? So many things to consider and decisions to be made.

Well, help is here, for the Lord has called young single adult (YSA) couples, including missionaries, to be available to offer assistance, give advice, watch over, and care for your precious son or daughter.

What do you do? Firstly, ensure your ward clerk sends your son or daughter’s details to the Church unit nearest to their university. Secondly, find the name of the bishop/branch president and his phone number and give him a call with all the details, and he will notify the YSA couples, who can then act accordingly. To access this information, go to LDS.org, click on ‘Resources,’ and then click on ‘Locations and Schedules’.

Please help us to help you. We know sending your son/daughter off to university can be challenging, but help is available. They need not be alone, because the Lord has provided loving YSA couples to assist them along this part of their journey in life. ■

### Editor’s Note

The editors, Jason Watling and Debbie Twigger, invite all news stories, articles and photographs to be sent to [ukiensign@ldschurch.org](mailto:ukiensign@ldschurch.org). Stories should be in Microsoft Word, 350–500 words, with photographs in jpg format, around 3–4mb in size. Please submit stories for the News section as close to the event as possible.

The signed written permission of all participants in the photograph, as well as the photographer, is required for the Church to use the article.

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