

# UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND LOCAL PAGES

AREA LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

## Our Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

By Elder Michael Czesla

Area Authority, Germany



Elder  
Michael Czesla

Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and a personal connection to Him is of central importance in our life. In the fourth article of faith, we read that “faith in the Lord Jesus Christ” is one of the basic principles of the gospel.<sup>1</sup> We frequently talk of the short form “faith” as this basic principle. Indeed, faith does not stand in isolation here but is directed towards Jesus Christ and our personal testimony that He is for each of us our Savior and Redeemer. Faith in Christ gives us joy, hope and confidence as well as the “strength to sustain us in every important event in our lives.”<sup>2</sup> However, sometimes the faith of even the strongest disciple of the Lord is tested. We should not be surprised by that but should take it as an incentive.

We all know the incident with the Apostle Thomas. The disciples to whom the Lord appeared after His Resurrection told Thomas, “We have seen the Lord.” Thomas, who was not present, replied, “Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.” Eight days later, the Lord appeared again to the Apostles and said to Thomas, who was present this time, “Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.” Thomas was overwhelmed and could only say, “My Lord and my God”—whereupon Jesus spoke the

famous words, “Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”<sup>3</sup>

When we hear this story we perhaps wonder about Thomas and why his faith was assumed to be “small”. He was an Apostle and had accompanied Christ, seen many miracles and certainly had a firm testimony of the Lord’s teachings. But what Thomas experienced is not so far from the challenges each of us meets in a world in which, more and more, everything is being called into question.

Just like one young member who grew up in the Church, internalized the principles of the gospel from childhood and followed them but still, at some moment, reached the point where he was no longer sure of his own testimony. His experiences with the gospel rested—perhaps similarly to Thomas—primarily on an intellectual understanding of the teachings and principles or traditions he had grown to love and not on an abiding experience of the heart. When he then stumbled upon topics of teaching or history that he could not immediately understand, that shook his faith. The young member asked me in a personal interview, unsettled, how he could develop real faith in Christ. I want to answer this question for you as I answered it for this young member. There is a pattern here that the Lord revealed in the scriptures through his prophets.<sup>4</sup> This pattern

can be applied by each of us: by him who doubts or seeks, just as by him who is tested or simply wants to nourish his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in a lasting way.

The pattern is found, for example, in the wonderful story of Enos’s conversion. What steps did Enos take: (1) Enos heard the truths of the gospel from his father, tried to understand, and let that which his father had said penetrate “deep into [his] heart.”<sup>5</sup> (2) Enos obeyed God’s commands, which put him in a position to be receptive to the Holy Ghost. (3) Enos’s “soul hungered.”<sup>6</sup> He was filled with a desire to find out for himself whether what he had learned was true. (4) Enos went to the fount of all truth: “I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul; and all the day long did I cry unto him; yea, and when the night came I did still raise my voice high that it reached the heavens.”<sup>7</sup> It wasn’t easy for Enos. Enos describes his experience as a “wrestle . . . before God.”<sup>8</sup> But the effort was worth it—personal confirmation came to his heart.

Each of us must pursue this spiritual struggle on the path of discipleship to true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ—unfortunately, there is no shortcut. For many of us this path is bound up with severe personal crises or challenges. Many have special spiritual experiences in the temple, in sacrament meeting, in prayer or

in studying the holy scriptures—but each of us must actively seek these personal experiences. All of that takes time and is sometimes associated with a long period of thirst and is spiritually arduous. “But if ye will nourish the word, yea, nourish the tree as it beginneth to grow, by your faith with great diligence, and with patience, looking forward to the fruit thereof, it shall take root; and behold it shall be a tree springing up unto everlasting life.”<sup>9</sup>

True faith in the Lord Jesus Christ demands constant zeal and patience, a “broken heart and a contrite spirit”<sup>10</sup> and our own spiritual wrestle before God. But I can testify to you full of love that it is rewarding to tread this path. The joy and security that follow are wonderful and all-embracing. We gain security not through inexhaustible riches but through “unquenchable faith.”<sup>11</sup> If we ask full of faith to know that Jesus Christ is our Redeemer, an absolutely personal answer will come, “which is most precious, which is sweet above all that is sweet, and which is white above all that is white, yea, and pure above all that is pure; and ye shall feast upon this fruit even until ye are filled, that ye hunger not, neither shall ye thirst.”<sup>12</sup> These personal experiences of the heart are the unshakable source of enduring faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. ■

## NOTES

1. Articles of Faith 1:4.
2. Dallin H. Oaks, “Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ,” *Ensign*, May 1994, 100; see also Moroni 7:33.
3. See John 20:25–29.
4. See Romans 10:14–17; 2 Nephi 31:20; 3 Nephi 18:20; Moroni 10:3–5. See also Russell M. Nelson, “Revelation for the Church, Revelation for Our Lives,” *Ensign*, May 2018, 93.
5. Enos 1:3.
6. Enos 1:4.
7. Enos 1:4.
8. Enos 1:2.
9. Alma 32:41.
10. 2 Nephi 2:7.
11. See *Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball* (1982), ed. Edward L. Kimball, 72–73.
12. Alma 32:42.

## Henry’s UK Youth Parliament membership

By Nathan Dean

**T**welve year old Henry Dean was elected by his peers to serve as a Member of the UK Youth Parliament representing the Isles of Scilly. The UK Youth Parliament provides opportunities for 11–18 year olds to use their elected voice to bring about social change through meaningful representation and campaigning.

When asked why this membership was important, Henry said: “I wanted to give Young People a voice on the Isles of Scilly. I also wanted get involved in politics. This is something I am passionate about as I want to bring change to this country. I think families are central for a strong society.”

Henry attended the annual sitting of the Youth Parliament in the Commons Chamber within Westminster Palace where they debated matters chosen by their constituents. This was broadcast on BBC Parliament. Five debates were chaired by Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons covering topics of homelessness, knife crime, votes for 16-year olds, pay for young people and mental health.

Henry enjoyed the experience and observed that “the benches are surprisingly comfortable”. He found being in London very different surroundings compared to his daily life on the remote Island of St Mary’s.

Henry serves as 2nd counselor in the Deacons Quorum Presidency of the St Austell Ward, Plymouth Stake. Henry resides with his family on the Isles of Scilly. With transport links with the mainland expensive and often affected by weather conditions, most Sunday’s he worships at home with his family and frequently joins the ward Young Men classes via video link. ■



## Responding to King and Country

By James Perry

**T**he human cost of the Great War was staggering. Over 800,000 British soldiers died and a further 1.6 million were wounded.<sup>1</sup> Alongside their fellow countrymen, Latter-day Saints responded to the call to serve ‘King and Country’.

Many British Latter-day Saint men enlisted during the great recruitment. Later, as conscription was introduced,

the army also drafted Latter-day Saint members. In total, 2.4 million British men volunteered and 2.5 million were conscripted.<sup>2</sup>

It is difficult to determine how many Latter-day Saints were involved in the armed forces. Certainly, all of them were affected by the war itself. Niels Anderson was serving in the

Burnley Branch, Liverpool Conference, at the time of the declaration of war.

On August 5, 1914, he recorded how the members of the branch responded:

“It’s sure awful. Three of our men saints went today, Duckworth, Holgate, & Brierly; Kelly Jowett’s sure cried for her brother going out to war. Outside of that the rest are taking it very good”.<sup>3</sup>

In 1917, British Mission president George F. Richards stated: “Many of the local brethren – in one locality fifty per cent – were in the service of the country”.<sup>4</sup>

At the start of the war, newly enlisted soldier forty-two-year-old Private Jesse Edmund Simister was the Leeds Branch President.

He recalled his first experiences of being a Latter-day Saint in the army:

“Prior to my enlistment, I received little or no persecution, ridicule, etc. This made me think that my faith was unshakeable, and that I was so strong that whatever came in my way I could face; but as soon as I was detailed off to the regiment I was to join, I found out how weak I was, when the following conversation took place between myself and the clerks in the orderly room.

“Clerk:—‘What religion are you?’

“I answered:—‘A Latter-day Saint.’

“The clerk looked at me; then at the other clerks, in astonishment, and said, ‘What is a Latter-day Saint? I’ve never even heard of them before.’

“Another clerk said, ‘Oh! He is a Mormon.’ Then I was told I could not be a ‘Mormon,’ or a saint, in the army, but I could be a Roman Catholic, or Wesleyan, or join the Church of England. So I decided to be a Wesleyan, while in the army.”<sup>5</sup>

The war resulted in fewer missionaries serving in the British Isles. The mission and local congregations overcame the lack of foreign missionaries by calling male and female members to serve.

A large network of sisters supported the elders. For instance, on October 30, 1916, in the Nelson Branch, Liverpool Conference, seven sisters were called as ‘lady missionaries’ to “act under the direction of the conference president”.<sup>6</sup>

Overall, local leaders set apart 326 women in 1916 and 1917.<sup>7</sup> As part of a new ‘lady missionary system’, they went door to door, distributed literature, and fulfilled a necessary role in continuing missionary work.

These missionaries had a profound impact on the Church during the national crisis. Isabella Blake from the Glasgow Branch reported: “A few weeks ago President George A. Simkins set aside fourteen of the sisters as lady missionaries, and I am pleased to say that they have already done a good work. Thousands of tracts have been distributed, by means of which investigators have appeared at our meetings; doors have been opened to these dear girls, and tracts have been accepted by people hitherto out of the reach of the elders. They have been able to converse with the people and bear their testimonies, which seems to carry more conviction when it comes from a countrywoman. It is a splendid effort the missionaries are making, considering they are all employed in business in the daytime, the married ladies also having families to look after. They sacrifice their weekly half-holiday, and part of their Sundays to this work, which will surely have its reward.”<sup>8</sup>

Mission president Hyrum M. Smith served from 1913 to 1916, and his wife, Ida. B. Smith, directed the Relief Society program to support the war work and to strengthen the soldiers. On November 26, 1914, she asked members to donate books and magazines for soldiers on the front.<sup>9</sup> Within a week there were positive responses.<sup>10</sup> Efforts continued, and British relief committees thanked the sisters for their donations in

January 1915.<sup>11</sup> By June, the *Millennial Star* summarised that the British Relief Society had produced over 2,400 pieces of clothing for soldiers and distributed 488 books and magazines in hospitals and army camps.<sup>12</sup> A handbill, “The Truth about the ‘Mormons,’” advertised ways British Latter-day Saint members supported the war effort and reported the number of clothes and books. It also stated that ‘Mormon boys’ had joined the army and gone to the front.<sup>13</sup>

Local and national leaders sought to publicise the efforts of the Church to counter popular negative stereotypes.

In addition to national concerted efforts, branches across the country helped in their local areas. The Glasgow Branch sisters “visit[ed] the hospitals in which the wounded soldiers are treated, and we always go armed with a bundle of magazines, which we distribute. They are eagerly read by the ‘boys’”. The Gateshead Branch Relief Society (organised during the summer of 1916) also supported the war effort and the local branch members.<sup>14</sup>

On June 20, 1917, the Gateshead Branch women “entertained twenty-five wounded soldiers, and about one hundred and twenty-five persons enjoyed a successful social following the tea served to the men who have been to the front. A very large number of friends were in attendance”.<sup>15</sup> Other novel activities included an ‘egg’ Sunday, where the Sisters collected 103 eggs that they donated to the Norfolk War Hospital for wounded soldiers. In Glasgow, women sold their work and cleared £13 14s. 2d.<sup>16</sup> In October 1917, the Hyde and Stockport Branches in the Manchester Conference held a joint meeting and Harvest Festival: “A table extending across the front of the hall was loaded with fruit, vegetables, and flowers, tastefully arranged. The purpose was to use the money obtained from the sale of

these for Christmas parcels for soldiers at the front”.<sup>17</sup>

Harold McKnight, a Latter-day Saint soldier from Liverpool, demonstrated an unashamed resolve to stand up for the Church. Many other Latter-day Saint soldiers shared their experiences in the *Millennial Star*. McKnight explained: “I experienced my first march down here. And what a nightmare such efforts are, to be sure! With my pack on my back, straining on my shoulders, and the road burning hot, so that it could be felt through my boots, it was not at all pleasant. But there are plenty of things to make me forget these discomforts. The first is my thought about the great and glorious work which has been recommenced on the earth, through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, and turning from this thought, my mind goes to God’s handiwork here on this earth, and what a sight meets my eyes when I raise them to look on it!”<sup>18</sup>

Another soldier, G. E. Gent from Leicester, described his gratitude at surviving and being spared from a major offensive during his fifteen months away from home. “The hardships of active service have strengthened my testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and given me a stronger determination to fulfil my mission on earth”.<sup>19</sup> He served with a man who attacked the Latter-day Saint chapel in Sunderland before the war: “He made the remark that I was the first ‘Mormon’ he had met in the army, and, since our first conversation, he has read several Church publications, including the *Millennial Star*. We are now friends and comrades on active service somewhere in Russia. For the present, there is no fighting in our vicinity, but we are sharing the hardships on active service together. The Lord works in a mysterious way, and it is our duty to take advantage of all opportunities for preaching the gospel.”<sup>20</sup>

Although being Mormon in the army was a distinctly solitary and isolating experience, many members of the Church remained valiant to their testimonies. Private John Manton, a member of the Gainsborough Branch, Hull Conference, described his worship services: “During church parade, recently, when the men were ordered to ‘fall out’ and arrange themselves in groups, according to their church affiliations, Brother Manton stood alone. There were men belonging to the Catholic Church, the Church of England, and many other churches. When asked about his religion, Brother Manton, to the surprise of his comrades and officers, replied, ‘I am a Mormon’”.<sup>21</sup>

Private Harry Ashdown, a convert to the Church in 1917, felt the Church and the gospel strengthened him during the war. His testimony was published in the *Millennial Star* on April 4, 1918: “I desire to give my humble testimony to the readers of the *Star*, for I am thankful that I am a member of the Church. I was baptized last summer at Norwich, while home on leave, and I am happy in the knowledge I have of the gospel. I have enjoyed good health since I began keeping the Word of Wisdom. My prayers have been answered, and the protecting care of God has been over me when I have been in action, and I have been saved in places of danger, so far.”<sup>22</sup>

The same issue included Ashdown’s death notice. He died on March 12, 1918, and was survived by his wife, who was then serving as a lady missionary in the Norwich Conference.

Of course, we must understand that this war, although global, had its greatest influences at a local level. Our homes, schools, workplaces, and many other physical spaces were used or interacted with by the bygone generations. Alongside their compatriots, these Latter-day Saints, over sixty in all, gave their lives in the defence of their country and with their testimonies firm in Jesus Christ. ■

#### NOTES

1. *War Office Statistics of the Military Effort of the British Empire during the Great War, 1914–1920* (1922), 237.
2. David Stevenson, *1914–1918: The History of the First World War* (2005), 201–2.
3. Niels J. Anderson Journals (1914–1915), 177, Church History Library.
4. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 11 (1917), 175.
5. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 31 (1917), 485–86.
6. Nelson Branch Manuscript History and Historical Reports (1901–1982), Church History Library.
7. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 11 (1917), 175–76.
8. *Millennial Star*, vol. 78, no. 46 (1916), 654–55.
9. *Millennial Star*, vol. 76, no. 48 (1914), 763.
10. *Millennial Star*, vol. 76, no. 50 (1914), 796.
11. *Millennial Star*, vol. 77, no. 1 (1915), 12–14.
12. *Millennial Star*, vol. 77, no. 23 (1915), 360–61.
13. John Maynes, “The Truth About ‘Mormons’” (handbill, 1915), Church History Library.
14. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 21 (1917), 524–26.
15. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 27 (1917), 431.
16. *Millennial Star*, vol. 93, no. 11 (1931), 166.
17. *Millennial Star*, vol. 79, no. 44 (1917), 708.
18. *Millennial Star*, vol. 78, no. 21 (1916), 333–35.
19. *Millennial Star*, vol. 80, no. 5 (1918), 77–78.
20. *Millennial Star*, vol. 80, no. 51 (1918), 814–15.
21. *Millennial Star*, vol. 80, no. 16 (1918), 254.
22. *Millennial Star*, vol. 80, no. 4 (1918), 61.

## Members in the UK and Ireland Commemorate the Service of Those Involved with the War

By Chelsea Craven

In 2018 many of our Church units held a special Remembrance Day sacrament meeting or participated in their local

community’s wreath laying services, including at the National Cenotaph. Here is a small selection of events.

## The Church at the Cenotaph

For the first time, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was invited to participate in the National Service of Remembrance on 11 November 2018 at the Cenotaph in Westminster. The Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, has been the location for the Remembrance Service over the past nine decades.

Faith Minister Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth said: “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has a long link to Britain’s armed forces, and I am delighted that the National Service of Remembrance will now be truly reflective of the diverse faiths and beliefs which help to make Britain the great country that we are today.”

The monarch, religious leaders, politicians, representatives of state, and the armed and auxiliary forces were all there to pay respect to those who gave their lives defending others.

Jane Elvidge, accompanied by her husband Paul, felt honoured to be able to attend the service and represent the Church. Jane said: “We consider it a real privilege to have the opportunity to attend this event and to remember the sacrifice of all those who fought so hard for the freedoms we enjoy in Britain today.”

Jane and Paul serve as directors of public affairs for the London area.

## 11 Days of Remembrance

The 11 Days of Remembrance programme provided an opportunity for many people to serve their neighbours, families and friends. Other faiths promoted the 11 Days idea to their own congregations using our materials, which spread works of kindness even further.

It was suggested to research ancestors from World War I and take part in other family history related work. There were 11 suggestions for each day in November—leading up to

**November 1: Find Peace**  
 Just like the WOMEN OF ENGLAND who served in WWI  
 See [Lesson 1.1](#)  
 The women of England worked in munitions factories, but also about the efforts of peace initiatives.  
 How can you find peace?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Stop finding fault with a friend or neighbour.  
 • Resolve a disagreement.  
 • Post something positive on social media.

**November 2: Have Charity**  
 Like SGT JACK DORGAN - 7th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Jack showed charity for his dying friend, Bob.  
 How will you show charity today?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Use your time to serve someone in need.  
 • Offer a hand, meal or hygiene kit to a tough situation.  
 • Hear someone's story. Hold their hand.

**November 3: Love**  
 Like SGT STEFAN WESTMANN - 29th Division German Army  
 See [Lesson 1.1](#)  
 Stefan helped enemies could become friends.  
 How can you follow his example of love?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • When someone offends you, forgive them quickly.  
 • Get to know someone you'd usually ignore or try to avoid.

**November 4: Give Comfort**  
 Like MISS MARY HALL  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Mrs Hall and other women comforted wounded soldiers in their grief.  
 How can you give comfort to others?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Visit, look for, or read to someone who is grieving.  
 • Cheer up a friend who is having a tough time.

**November 5: Serve**  
 Like WILLIAM HACKETT - 254th Tunnelling Company The Royal Engineers  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 William gave his life to serve others.  
 What will you do today?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Donate blood, learn CPR, or sign on as an organ donor.  
 • Read, teach or serve at a local school, hospital, charity or foodbank.

**November 6: Share**  
 Like SGT RICHARD TOBIN - Hood Battalion, Royal Naval Division  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Richard used his meager rations to feed a sickly baby.  
 How can you share with others?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Donate items or time to a homeless shelter or women's refuge.  
 • Reunite someone with food or entertainment.

**November 7: Pray**  
 Like SGT BILL DANIELS - Royal Artillery  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Sergeant Daniels prayed in the trenches, but not alone.  
 How can you follow his example?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Stand up for your own beliefs, or another person's rights.  
 • Find a quiet place, bow your head, and pray for the faith of a friend.

**November 8: Find Hope**  
 Like MISS MARY SINCLAIR  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Mary volunteered at a shelter for wounded soldiers.  
 How do you give others hope?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Cheer up someone who needs a little extra love.  
 • Volunteer at a religious shelter or community center.  
 • Be someone's secret adviser, or encourage your appreciation to the elderly.

**November 9: Have Faith**  
 Like PVT NORMAN DE MUTH - 15th Battalion, Royal Regiment  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Norman had faith, even in his darkest hours.  
 How can you have faith?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Make a list of all the blessings in your life.  
 • Write down what lessons you are learning from your trials and challenges.  
 • Give thanks for all the experiences that have made your life unique.

**November 10: Be Kind**  
 Like STAMM JACK GEORGIN - Berwick Battalion, Royal Naval Division  
 See [Lesson 1.1.1](#)  
 Jack GeorGIN took care of frightened soldiers, and love.  
 How can you be kind today?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • Smile at a stranger.  
 • Sing, play or read to the children in your class.  
 • Say only positive things to others before you leave for the whole day.

**November 11: Remember Them**  
 See [Lesson 1.1](#)  
 How will you remember those who served?  
 Here are some ideas:  
 • This Remembrance Day, postcard the freedoms, share and arrange you enjoy today because others paid a price to protect them.  
 • Research your family tree and find an ancestor who lived through for ONE OF THE GREAT WARS.  
 • Print their photo, draw their picture or make a name to a new set of clothes.  
 • Make this to your town's Remembrance Day ceremony on Sunday morning and honor their memory.  
 • Read the words of "I vow to Thee, My Country" and ponder how it can apply to you.

11/11/2018—of service opportunities and ideas, using original letters, videos and scripture references for each day of the week. Many families and friends were invited to evenings where local wards or branches put on a devotional of music and the spoken word, with the option of staging a 60-minute production written for the occasion.

In addition, a performance from Hyde Park Chapel in London of ‘Voices of the Great War’ was streamed live on Facebook to mark the centennial anniversary of the end of WWI.

‘Voices of the Great War’—a timeless tale of family, faith, and duty—features some characters and events taken from the journals and letters of frontline soldiers and home-front supporters during the Great War of 1914–1918.

The Hyde Park performance was attended by a seated audience that gave two standing ovations. The broadcast of

Sunday’s performance gave a broader reach. The video was viewed over 16,000 times in just 48 hours.

The level of traffic is enough to show that it’s entered into many hearts. And some 600+ comments imply a massive impact the show had as it streamed into people’s homes.

The 11 Days team gives a big thank you to all involved and for their contributions.

## Chorley Tribute

By Marie Hunt

The Chorley stake welcomed members and neighbours from across the stake to the temple site to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the armistice.

Local school groups provided the artwork for the walls of the cultural hall and delighted the crowds with their singing of several wartime songs.



Brother Bob Watt used his carpentry skills to create a WWI trench, complete with gun placements, rifles, sandbags and a sound and light show to give a glimpse of the battles that were faced in the trenches. Numerous displays highlighted rationing, the role of women and the efforts of families in their support of the troops.

A large family history hub proved extremely popular as visitors sought out their own WWI ancestors and listened to inspirational speakers who taught from personal diaries of family members and gave great insight into many aspects of the conflict.

Several young men from across the stake dressed in WWI uniforms and provided 'pop up' vignettes which brought both humour and pathos as they were the same age as many of the soldiers they were portraying.

The day was brought to a poignant conclusion by an evening concert that told the story of local war heroes in their own words using their diaries and letters.

The congregation joined in the singing with great enthusiasm, ending with a thunderous rendition of 'Jerusalem'. Running through the whole event was the message of the saving power of the Saviour's Atonement and the sure and certain hope of reunion because of His ultimate sacrifice on behalf of us all.

### Loughborough Tribute

*By Julie Harrald*

On Sunday evening there was music and readings starting with a report from the local newspaper at the start of the war.

An exhibition was displayed throughout the local Church building. We had a VIP reception and tour of the exhibition in the hour before the service, and during that time the Primary children presented the Poppy Appeal local county and town organisers with jars of cash they had collected and saved.

Then we moved on to how the town remembered. The town has a big carillon tower in the park with bells from a world-famous bell foundry which is, and this is the town memorial.

It is a beautiful setting on every Remembrance Day as the copper green top of the tower is level with the tallest oldest trees in autumn splendour and during the silence we drop poppy petals from the tower, which rain down with the yellow leaves through the trees. We have several thousand people there each year.

The RBL standard bearers walk had an opening hymn ('I Vow to Thee My

Country') and then a closing hymn for which all stood, and then at the end after the closing prayer, we had a bugler play 'The Last Post'.

The evening closed with a two-minute silence, and then Reveille and the standard bearers led the way out. There were over 250 people present including children, and I have never ever been in such a reverent and reflective service.

There was complete silence, really complete, during the two minutes of silence.

People commented at how moving the service was, not just in parts, but throughout. Several of the VIP emailed to thank us. Nicky Morgan mentioned how touching the event was in her weekly newsletter that goes around the borough. One VIP said that the list of names we gave them prompted a good family conversation with her child when she arrived home.

One of the RBL visitors said it was the best remembrance event they have ever been to. It seems that the event did what we wanted it to—to be a respectful and thought-provoking start to the week leading up to Remembrance Day.

### Dundee Tribute

*By John Lutkin, director of public affairs, Dundee stake*

On Saturday 27 October 2018, the Stonehaven Chorus gave a concert in commemoration of the Great War 1914–18 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at



Bingham Terrace Chapel in Dundee.

The chorus consisted of 52 individuals, including choir members, instrumentalists and the musical director, Ralph Jamieson, a member of the Montrose Ward.

The programme consisted of Mozart's 'Requiem', followed by hymns, songs for the troops and several solos including 'You'll Never Walk Alone'.

Members of the audience reflected to me that the evening was exceptionally professional and emotive. I quote from one member:

"Just spent the evening in church listening to amazing choral music in memory of the sacrifices made in the First World War (and wars since then). Wonderful, uplifting evening. So grateful to all those who sacrificed so much."

A member of the chorus said, "I wish to thank the members of your congregation for welcoming us so warmly to the Dundee stake for the concert we gave on Saturday. We felt so well looked after and really appreciated being served refreshments between the rehearsal and the concert."

Although the concert was free, donations totalling £176 were made afterwards for the benefit of the "Erskine Organisation for Caring for Veterans."

### Leeds Tribute

By Francis Kendall

Nine members of the Leeds Second Ward in the Leeds England Stake and England Leeds Mission under



*Left to right – Sister Jacobs, Francis Kendall, Sister Simmons with the fund raising stall in the ASDA supermarket, Killingbeck, Leeds.*

the guidance of Francis and Brenda Kendall, both members of the Barwick and Scholes Branch of the Royal British Legion, volunteered to cover the first day of the fundraising stall set up at the ASDA superstore in Killingbeck, Leeds.

### Leeds Memorial Service

By Francis Kendall

Bishop Andrew Poulter, his counsellor and more than 20 members of the Leeds Second Ward attended the memorial service at St Philips, the Scholes Parish Church of England, on 11 November 2018. The Church was full to capacity with standing room only.

The British Legion Flag—along with local scout, cubs and guide flags—and the Union Jack of Great Britain were presented to the conducting minister, who laid them on the altar. Hymns were sung, the names of local residents who gave their lives in the conflict were read out and at the

same time the young boys and girls blew out lit candles one by one as a token of farewell. Scriptures were read by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant representing the Queen. There followed a remembrance talk by the minister, who concluded the service by returning the flags to their bearers.

The congregation then departed to follow the parade to the local war memorial where people laid wreaths and a one-minute silence was observed. ■

## Family Values Award

*"Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to this country and to mankind is to bring up a family."*<sup>21</sup>

Each year in the UK, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints honours members of the community in the public eye whose work and influence have a significant impact on family life within UK society.

As a Church, we strongly value the importance of the family and appreciate all responsible citizens and officers of government everywhere who promote those measures designed to maintain and strengthen the family as the fundamental unit of society.

This year the award has been given to Nola Leach, CARE Chief Executive and Christian CEO. She received the award in October 2018 in the Churchill Room at the House of Commons in Westminster, London.

Addressing invited guests, Nola Leach said, "In receiving this award, I want to make one plea: please join up the dots—please see that in this broken society, where relationships break down, how important it is to invest in family life and in marriage.



*Wreath laying at Scholes near Leeds.*

“The ‘gold standard’ of which we’d like to uphold is marriage. A child is now more likely to have a smart-phone than to have a father. We must never underestimate the power of a stable family.”

CARE (Christian Action Research and Education) is one of Europe’s leading Christian charities, seeking to uphold human dignity and to support the most vulnerable people in society, engaging with politicians in the UK Parliaments and Assemblies and promoting Christian community-based initiatives. It is a strong advocate of the right to freedom of religion or belief.

Clifford T. Herbertson, former Area Seventy, presented the Family Values Award on behalf of the Church and said, “Over decades, Nola Leach has demonstrated a remarkable strength and willingness to stand up to the influences and challenges that threaten to damage and negatively impact the family. Such as internet pornography, human trafficking, problem gamblers, the sanctity of life from its beginning to its natural end and freedom of religious belief.”

Elder Alan T. Phillips, Area Seventy, said, “We’re so grateful for organisations like CARE. In a few weeks we’ll commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The vision at that time, was that these fundamental rights would be universal. Yet, there are still those who are persecuted, afflicted, or displaced on grounds of religion, culture, gender, or belief. We thank you Nola and ask that this cause continue, until all benefit from these protections.”

The luncheon at the UK Parliament was hosted by Stephen Kerr MP and was attended by 60 community and civic leaders, including 13 Parliamentarians from across the political spectrum.



**Nola Leach with CARE's Executive Chairman Lyndon Bowring (L), Chairman of CARE's Trustees John O'Brien (R).**

**(L-R) Stephen Kerr MP, Mark Leach, Nola Leach, Elder Alan Phillips.**



**Nola Leach addresses distinguished guests at UK Parliament.**



**Nola Leach receives UK Family Values Award from Clifford Herbertson.**



Family Values Awards were first presented by the Church in the UK during 2003. Previous recipients have included government cabinet

ministers, people of influence in the third sector and faith leaders. ■

**NOTE**

1. Attributed to George Bernard Shaw.

## New *Ensign* Article Submission Website

By Chelsea Craven

We are introducing a new way to submit stories to be published in the *Ensign* UK inserts. This will make sharing your stories more fun and simple.

The website was created by Jason Watling after requests to make the process of submitting stories easier. On the home page towards the bottom are all the required forms that you need to download and then upload with your submission. This keeps everything in one place, and with one

click, you can send all attachments to the editing team in one go.

The *Ensign* UK inserts are for your stories shared in your own voice. Please use this tool to uplift each of our brothers and sisters in our faith within the UK.

We will post how-to videos to help you navigate through the website. The URL for the website is : <http://ensign-submissions.co.uk> If you have questions, contact us through the LDS UK Facebook page ([facebook.com/LDSUK](https://www.facebook.com/LDSUK)) or by email at [UKIEnsign@ldschurch.org](mailto:UKIEnsign@ldschurch.org). ■