

# **Honorary Secretary's Report**

We desire to praise God for upholding the Gospel Advocate Relief Fund for 129 years. Many changes have taken place since Pastor A J Baxter began a fund to help needy Gospel ministers but we are encouraged Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

If you have not heard of us we invite you to visit our website <u>www.garf.org.uk</u> or ask myself or our treasurer for a copy of the leaflet Introducing GARF. (Contact details are on the back page).

# **Deputation Meetings 2006**

Pastor Tony Bickley spent a week in September in Northern Ireland where he addressed several meetings. His visit was greatly appreciated by William Leonard, the Pastor at Beragh Evangelical Church. We thank him and everyone who invites us to promote the work of GARF because this gives Tony the opportunity to preach Gods Word.

Two events were held in Erith last year. The first being a deputation meeting and the second an evangelistic event aimed at reaching out to people in the community affected by drugs and alcohol. Bob Morgan and Tony pastor churches in Erith and Brighton respectively where these problems are widespread. The Lords presence was most evident; Tony was very much helped in speaking and answering some moving questions. Please pray for Bob as he seeks to continue to guide two men in particular and that others in similar circumstances may be constrained to enter Gods House and hear of the way of salvation.

### Meetings arranged 2007

We are looking forward to our AGM and Thanksgiving Service at Crowborough on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 7.30p.m. Tony Bickley is engaged to preach.

A Deacon at Leighton Road Evangelical Church in Ipswich read about GARF in the Grace Magazine, subsequently the fellowship have invited us to hold a meeting on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 3p.m. This is possibly GARFs first meeting ever held in Suffolk.

May the Lord be pleased to bless these arrangements.

# AGM 2006

We enjoyed fellowship with Pastor Howard Sayers Church in Hailsham last June. Stan Evers, the Pastor at Potton preached a helpful and relevant semon about the word poor found in the Book of Proverbs 35 times. He also informed us the word poverty occurs 14 times. He related his message to The Poor Pastor and dealt with three questions:

Why are some poor? How should we treat the poor? What should we pray when we consider the plight of the poor?

Tapes of this sermon are available.



## Editorials

We are grateful to the editors of The Gospel Magazine, English Churchman and Evangelicals Now who all published GARF items of interest in 2006.

# **URGENT New Committee Members**

For several years we have been seeking Gods will in regard to replacing four members. We are delighted Tony Bickley was appointed Deputation Speaker three years ago and thank him for the valuable contribution he is making. However, the need for more committee members is now pressing, particularly as we have been asked to consider possibly expanding the work of GARF. Please pray about this matter and if you, or you know of anyone whom you feel could be suitable do please contact me.

Brethren, pray for us. Nehemiah 4:6. Phillipians 4:19

Thank you.

David Cottington Honorary Secretary

### **Extracts from Beneficiaries Letters:**

these gifts over the many years has made it possible for us to continue in the work

my family would probably not have been able to afford a holiday were it not for the generosity of GARF over the past year

without GARF I would struggle to keep my car on the road;

we are so grateful to God for the help we	Ног
receive from GARF, this encourages us in	Chri
my ministry at .	77 F

# Hon. Treasurer

Chris David 77 Hunters Way Uckfield East Sussex TN22 2BB

# Members of the Committee

as at March 2006

John Cornwell (Lewes) David Cottington (Halland) Chris David (Halland) Ken Starnes (Ringmer) Phil Starnes (Halland)

Reg. Charity No. 209606

☎01825 760223 Email: treasurer@garf.org.uk Hon. Secretary

David Cottington 10 Ryefield Close Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 2XJ

1323 507168
Email:
secretary@garf.org.uk



# Trustees

Ben Elford Reg Payne Phil Starnes David Wyld

# **Deputation Speaker:**

£3,800

Tony Bickley Pastor, Brighton Grace Baptist Chapel

# **Treasurer's Report**

This year's Treasurer's Report will concentrate on some facts and figures about the work of GARF:



# During the last 8 years (1998/99 to 2005/06) encouragements include:

- GARF has received:
  - 2 substantial legacies
  - Donations from 35 Individual Supporters
  - Gifts from 12 Churches

£15,000 (2000) & £105,500 (2003) £6,000

- Grants have been paid to 19 ministers & widows
- Since 2003, an average of 4 new grants have been approved per year
- Total annual grants have increased from £4,000 to £18,520
- Deputation meetings have been held at many churches in the UK and Northern Ireland

# However, not all has been good news...

- The fund was almost wound up in 2000 due to a lack of income & no capital
- 89% of our total income during this 8 year period has arisen as a result of the 2 legacies:
  - Legacies
  - Interest on Legacies (8%)
  - Individual Support (8%)
  - Church Support (3%)
- GARF has few regular (i.e. annual) supporters <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of gifts are one-offs

(81%)

- Despite the above legacies, the net surplus is still LESS than the total expenditure
- If income & grants remain at their current levels, the fund's future will need to be reconsidered again in the next few years.

The GARF committee are very grateful to God and to all the churches & individuals who continue to support the work of the fund.

You may have read articles in the Christian Press about GARF receiving a substantial legacy a couple of years ago; we thank God for this unexpected provision, **but we have also distributed over £50,000 of this money since the legacy was received**.

Please pray for and help support this important work in order that GARF can continue to support gospel ministers, their widows & dependents in the future.

Chris David Honorary Treasurer

Reg. Charity No. 209606

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Income & Expenditure as at 31st March, 2006			Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2006		
INCOME	2006 £	2005 £	ASSETS	2006 £	2005 £
	915	1,495	Giro Bank Current A/c Portman Deposit A/c Cash To Be Banked / Unpresented Cheques	1,973 72,541 -1,250	1881 82112 -1325
Old Baptist Chapel, Bradford on Avon (Dep) 100 Providence Baptist Chapel, Bedford (Dep) 263 Halland Chapel 250			Total	73,264	82668
apel, Brighton lical Church	1,928	441			
Legacy Income	3,531	0	REPRESENTED BY		90100
Interest on Investments	3,428 0	3,683 <u>-</u> 0	balance at beginning or year Add Surplus / Less Deficit	62,000 -9,404	93420 -10758
Income Tax Recovery on Gift Ald, Investments & Subscriptions	D	7	Total	73,264	82668
Totals	9,802	5,691			
EXPENDITURE					
Grants Advertising & Promotion	18,520 636	15,450 849			
		150			
Totals	19,206	16,449			
 Surplus/Deficit	-9,404	-10,758			

Reg. Charity No. 209606

# Web Site: www.garf.org.uk