



E-NEWS



The General Conference of the New Church **News**

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Rise and Shine Radio Show

Rev'd Jack Dunion, broadcasts his own online radio show every Sunday at 9am on River Radio (formerly Leven Radio):

<https://riverradio.uk/>

The link below now gives access to all backdated Rise & Shine programs:

<https://www.mixcloud.com/RevJack/>

Meet the New Council

Gemma McLean writes:

Some of the new Council members may not necessarily be that familiar to all E-News readers, so please find a personal statement from three of them below:

Margaret Cowie

I am aged 66, with a grown-up son who lives in Edinburgh. I was born into, and brought up, in the New Church in Glasgow, where my mother (the



late Rachel Carroll) served on the church committee for many years. My uncle Revd Archibald Bain was a Conference Minister, serving in Paisley, Chester, and latterly the churches of the Fylde coast in Lancashire. I remained a member of the Glasgow church until 1976 when we merged with the Paisley congregation. Since then I have been actively involved in the life and work of the Paisley church. My service there has included many years as Sunday School Superintendent and I am currently the President of the Society. My wider interests include membership of the Association of

Speakers, where I have developed my skills in public speaking and have also grown in confidence. As a result of this new found confidence I have been able to take on the role of chairman in my local association and have developed many of the skills necessary for the proper discharge of that office.

I feel that my lifelong commitment to the New Church, together with my more recent experiences in the Association of Speakers, have prepared me for the new role that I am taking on. I do not for a moment think that it will be easy and I am very aware of the many challenges which are facing the Conference at this time. However, I think we all know that our church will only survive the present crisis if each of us responds to the challenge and offers what skills and help we can. I believe that I can step up to the role of Chairman of the Council, but I know that I will only be able to discharge its responsibilities adequately with the help of the Lord and the support of the committed team around me.

Muriel Morgan

In True Christian Religion, Swedenborg states: "The only source of anyone's true happiness is doing something useful through his or her work." When I first came to England 30 years ago, I went to College to further my education and did a Post Graduate course in Bilingual Business Administration as well as office skills. This led to a temporary job for Peugeot as a Bilingual Secretary. When the temporary contract ended, the agency sent me to Coventry University as a Clerical Assistant. They were so happy about my work that they employed me on a permanent basis and upgraded me to Senior Clerical Assistant for quite a few years. I then



transferred to AGCO (Massey Ferguson) where I first worked in accounts for the French Dealers (this was in the daytime and I taught HTML and web design at Rugby College in

the evening. As I went into labour with Clara, I went on maternity leave and only returned to work on the day job). I then transferred to another office within AGCO (and closer to home) working as a Returns Administrator for the UK market. I worked for them quite a few years, survived 2 waves of redundancies in the 2008 crash, but eventually lost my job. Paul and I then started up Truthjuice in Leicester, where we organised talks on varying subjects (we ran this for a good 5 years but when Emilie was born, I had to stop as it was always in the evenings and I needed to be home with a newborn baby). I am now self employed, contracting for the Church, working as a designer - over the years, I have designed leaflets, posters, invitations, the Spiritual Wisdom website, hymn videos etc. On a personal front, when I met Paul, he was 21 and I was 18; he was a single father of 2 kids (aged 3 and 18 months old). We brought them up and eventually we had Clara (20) and later on Emilie (9). I absolutely love cooking but I think that my grandfather being a pastry chef and baker must have passed on some genes to me as I do have a soft spot for baking! I enjoy knitting and crocheting when I get a few minutes. So, this is me, in a small nutshell. I could tell you how much the Church means to me, but I think we all have that in common. What I can however assure you all, I will use all the gifts our Lord gave me and apply this to my role as Trustee, along with care and integrity.

Rob Taylor

"I'm 31 years old and currently living with my fiancée Sam in Edinburgh. I attended Derby New Church for many years with my mum (June Taylor) until I moved away to University in Sheffield where I studied Computer Science. (For those who like to connect the dots, my Grandma was Doreen Merrall who attended the Kearsley Church for many years). I recently became a member of Conference in order to join the Council.



In my working life, after placing on two different graduate schemes I ended up working at HSBC in London where I have been for the last 7 years. Throughout my time at the company I have worked in many different areas of the technology department in different roles. These range from website and application design/delivery to managing the infrastructure and server estate.

In my spare time I like exploring and doing anything outdoors, and I'm particularly enjoying what Scotland has to offer in this regard since I moved 2 years ago.

For the last couple of years I have worked as one of the administrators of the Wellspring House website, working alongside Helen Brown to make sure students and tutors could login and access the website and its materials.

I have been attending Purley Chase ever since I was young, perhaps 6 years old. I will never forget the first night we arrived for the Derby Church weekend on a cold, dark and rainy night only to be welcomed into the most magical place. For the last 25 years I've been attending various events, many of them the Summer Camps. After I became a bit too old to attend as a "young person", Andy Leather invited me back as a leader, helping to run various games, activities and sessions. When Andy decided to step back from running the Summer Camp in 2017 I assumed his role as organiser-in-chief, and have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside some amazing people to make sure the week is always the best it can be. The weeks I spent at Purley Chase have been some of the best of my life, and I love providing more young people with the opportunities that I had; to learn about God and our church in a safe, fun environment and make friends that will last a lifetime."

Harvest Festivals

Bournemouth

Revd Gillian Gordon writes:



There was a buzz of excitement in Bournemouth church at the harvest festival service with a congregation larger than usual attending. Before the service, led by our Minister, people were walking around the church looking at the harvest decorations on the theme

of 'food comes from all over the world.' One person exclaimed the church looked "stunning" - it was certainly different with large dolls in national costumes and an example of that country's products and a bowl of flowers with their national flag decorating each windowsill. The lectern and front of church looked splendid with food donations and greenery both artistic and seasonal.

After the service and refreshments everyone helped to collect up the donations to be sent to the Bournemouth's Women's Refuge and a couple of local care homes. An uplifting service and team effort enjoyed by all.

Paisley

Winnie Laing writes:

The Harvest table at Paisley Society's service at King Street Hall, Paisley on Sunday 26th September (photos below). Food donations from members were given to local food bank.





New Christian Bible Study Latest News

Gemma McLean writes:

Steve David of the New Christian Bible Study Project team has shared the latest news bulletin. You can view / download the bulletin here:

www.generalconference.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ncbs.pdf