



# BES

bible educational services

*"Supporting Postal Bible Schools  
around the world."*

*"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,  
His power, and the wonder He has done." Psalm 78: 4*

## Editor's Desk

Stephen Gillham

"And how can they hear without..." All of us are aware of the vast spiritual needs of children and young people throughout the world today, so it is encouraging to read of the effective outreach in the Stoke-on-Trent area, and also of the enthusiastic recruitment in the North East Northern Ireland PBS. In Canada the 10th birthday of PBS has been celebrated and numbers continue to grow. There is a developing work in India, both in English and Malayalam, and an increasing interest in Romania and several countries in Africa. It is clear that, potentially, thousands



The BES Trustees at the last meeting (David Tucker was unable to be present)

more children could be receiving Postal Bible School lessons in their native languages. BES Trustees have had to make the policy that, generally speaking, we are unable to fund translation, design, printing, and distribution in other countries. However there are situations where we believe that work could be started with some help from the UK, and that later local believers might take on financial responsibility. To

help with this we are introducing a SPONSORSHIP SCHEME where individuals could donate a certain amount each month. (if possible-Gift Aided) The Trustees, at their discretion, would use these gifts as Seed Funding in new areas, or to help with costs in countries where the work is being hampered by financial constraints. Full details of the Sponsorship Scheme are on the card enclosed with the BES News.

AUTUMN  
2009

## Around the UK

### The annual BBQ

Derrett Watts - Living Word PBS

This was held Saturday 11 July at the Severn Trent Tittesworth Reservoir near Leek on the Staffordshire and Derbyshire border - a site with stunning scenery and first rate facilities convenient to stage the event. Around 120 turned up (six counties in fact represented) and despite a discouraging weather forecast, the Lord granted fair weather. The occasion gave opportunity for conversation with scholars, parents and friends - including a group recently commenced in Melton Mowbray and also a considerable number from the 'lunchtime drop-in'



David Purchase at the Tittesworth BBQ

operating in the St Saviour Primary School in the Kidsgrove area. Some hearty singing attracted attention from passers by and there was good attention as a Gospel message was given. The afternoon concluded with a games session for young and old in which there was enthusiastic participation.

**A South of England Mother writes** - "My son, 4, has been learning about the Word of God and the life

of Jesus through the Postal Bible School for around 5 months. The lessons have provided me with a structured way of teaching him about Christianity. I am a single parent and raising a boy by myself sure has its challenges. Since we have been spending time in God's Word together and taking knowledge from it, I have seen a dramatic difference in my son's behaviour and his understanding of making good choices.

news

# Around the UK

## The Stafford Show

Derrett Watts

**The Living Word Postal Bible School based in Stoke-on-Trent was represented at the Staffordshire and Birmingham Agricultural Show -27/28 May.** The exhibition had panels illustrating the material available, the process involved and the opportunity available to

## Recruitment in North East Ireland PBS

Ivan McClean

**One of the most re-occurring questions asked is 'How do you get new pupils?'** Well it's very easy to sit back and say there is a good number on the register it will keep up so we'll not worry. A few years ago in the North East area we were content to do just that. Then we noticed that it was becoming top heavy; there were a lot of Level 3, fewer

young people. A team of fourteen workers were present on each day. Emmaus Courses were also included – to cater for an older age group. An Emmaus representative from the Eastham Headquarters joined us for the witness – using an Emmaus catalogue with the PBS logo and Living Word P.B.S. featured on the cover.

A simple competition was offered to young people passing the stall and approximately 80 children were contacted in this way on each of the days. On completion they went away with a 'goody bag' with a number of

Level 2, and not so many Level 1's. We realized that if nothing was done to enroll younger ones we would soon have no one to move up from Levels 1 & 2.

We decided to visit local primary schools. We didn't ask the school to use the lesson as part of the school studies, but simply asked would they distribute a leaflet to the children in the school. All the schools were happy to do so. So on a strategic approach, a colourful, stiff leaflet was produced with a reply coupon and the schools acted as a 'postbox'. There were also opportunities to speak to the whole school and explain what PBS was all about. Through this simple means quite a number of children enrolled and then in turn encouraged their friends to do the same.

Another idea was to go to the local agricultural shows with a display stand. Some interactive activities such as 'spot the difference' competitions etc, meant that there was an opportunity to speak to the parents/guardians while the children were doing the quizzes etc. This idea also put PBS in the local spotlight and by being known, others became interested.

An opportunity to talk about PBS was given by a local charity radio, and for approximately half an hour there was a question and answer session on how PBS operates. Each area is different in its approach to recruitment BUT if you had to write this article how would you answer the question 'How do you get new pupils?' Now there's something to think about!!

items – including the ALL IMPORTANT APPLICATION FORM.

Opportunity was taken to chat with the parents as the children were completing the competition. Other passers-by were offered a Gospel Tract and also the monthly daily reading publication of the United Christian Broadcasters. There were some who declined - but many others were happy to receive the literature. We were encouraged by the prompt return of a number of PBS application forms soon after the weekend.



Local Agricultural Show



PBS Leaflet

## Bes Recruitment Ideas

Why not encourage:-

- Personal recommendation from existing students.
- Children linked with Church members. E.g. grandchildren
- Christian Camp contacts.
- Door to door leaflet drop.
- Schools/After School Clubs.
- Local Churches/Sunday School /Youth Groups.
- Leaflets in local libraries etc.
- Shows and Carnivals
- Local PBS websites
- Links with other evangelistic activities
- PBS events
- Other initiatives which suit an area and its activities.

# Around the World

## PBS Canada celebrates its 10th Anniversary!

Peter Smith

**We had never held an event like this before, so on the morning of July 4th we were a little anxious and uncertain how things would go,** as the weather was showery in the morning, but thankfully it didn't rain from

1:30-6:30 pm and then the heavens truly opened up! We believe the Lord wonderfully answered our prayers and it was a great success. About 125 children, parents and teachers gathered in the afternoon. After a fun game of 'crocker' outside, an hour's children's meeting was held in the Gospel Tent, followed by a barbecue supper. Several parents expressed their appreciation and hoped that it would be repeated! Over 200 family invitations had gone out across our home province of Manitoba, including to all the Hutterite children who are enrolled. The highlight was to see 15 Hutterites attend from a colony where

we have had the privilege in the past to share the Gospel. It's hard to believe it's 10 years since the first student enrolled in July 1999, and we thank the Lord for His goodness and faithfulness over these years.



Happy Birthday PBS Canada!

# Around the World.

## Africa 2009

Sam Balmer

**It was a rewarding and challenging experience to travel to three countries in the continent of Africa during the month of August.**

**ZAMBIA** was first on my itinerary and there I had the privilege of attending the PABCM (Pan African Brethren Conference on Mission) in Kabwe. Along with meeting some wonderful believers, I had the responsibility of carrying out two workshops on childrens work, one in Portuguese and another in English. Many of the pastors, elders and full time workers from various African countries would love to use the Bibletime lessons but printing is the main problem. Prayer is valued for a solution to this need.

During the conference I visited the Emmaus stand set up by Marlon Govender (Emmaus Regional Director for South Africa) On introducing myself he could not believe that I was a representative from BES! Marlon and his wife had heard about BES and had downloaded and read all the information relevant to commencing a Postal Bible School in South Africa. They had been praying for a month about the material, and then we met! I had wonderful fellowship and they are willing to help coordinate the work in South Africa. Pray for them.

Previous to this Chris and Simone Wilkins commenced using the lessons in the Port-Sheptone area and have recently sent to us the following:- *"We have had an addition of 5 Bibletime Level 3 students to the 23 that are currently enjoying the lesson, thus a total of 28 regular, reliable souls we can account for."* Pray! Kelvin Samwata has approached a school who are considering using lessons that we sent in a container recently. We have forwarded copies of the PDF's of Bibletime lessons to the Emmaus trust of Zambia who are intending to print the lessons and use them with the children they have contact with.



Moses and his family



African kids!



Children singing at PABCM venue.

**KENYA** was a two and a half hour flight from Lusaka. I was met by Lazarus and had a wonderful time with his family and local church. I was staying at the Emmaus Centre in Nairobi. They do a fantastic work in a slum area of Nairobi and seek to help the children physically and spiritually. I also met a brother Moses, his wife and family, he and his team of volunteers are in contact with 30,000+ teenagers per month, and need follow up consecutive bible study material. Moses felt the Bibletime lessons would be ideal. PLEASE pray that the Lord will provide so that this would come to fruition.

**TANZANIA** and Kilimanjaro was next on the itinerary and NO I wasn't for climbing it! I travelled eight hours to Moshi and spent some time there, visiting some of the missionaries, Berea Bible College, local schools and local churches. The need is great and there is an open door in the education system to teach RE in English.

Three of us, my father, David Mmile (my translator) and myself, travelled from Moshi

to Morogoro to the TELM (Tanzania Evangelical Literature Ministry) AGM, an eight - nine hour bus journey. It was wonderful to meet many believers from various backgrounds seeking to reach and teach the people of Tanzania with literature. I had the opportunity to share about BES and the resources we have in English. David was so encouraging as he had done his homework before hand, and was very proficient in answering their questions. As a result of this trip, David and three fellow students are commencing to translate the Bibletime lessons into Swahili. Please PRAY for this team as this is a major task.

Many of you prayed as I had requested for, "GOD APPOINTMENTS" as I travelled and met various believers. YOU PRAYED and GOD ANSWERED, so please praise Him for what is commencing in the vast continent of Africa through the ministry of BES. It was good to be back in Ireland, 38 hours on buses and 28 hours on planes, and I thank the Lord for health and safety in travel.

## Around the World

### Good News for Children Ministries - India

[www.g4c.in](http://www.g4c.in)

"Thank you for the confirmation of sending the lessons. If possible please send the A1-A12 English lessons of each level in the same quantity. So far we have distributed in Malayalam - level 1 - 400, level 2- 600, level 3 - 600. We are getting more requests these days. It will take some time for the people to understand the value of these lessons. Some of the Christian

leaders would like to get it freely. We are planning to print 500 each of A1 - A12 of all levels. We believe that the demand will increase in the coming months and years."

*Rejoy Thudian*

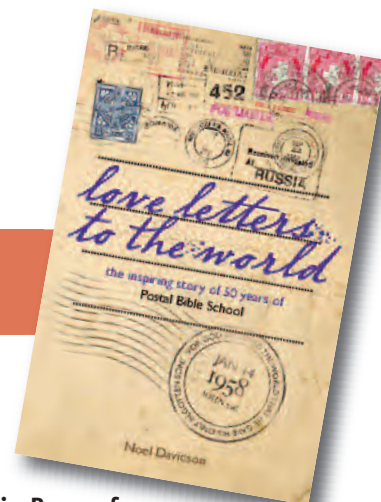
### France

A lady called Annick has started translation and would value prayer. BES are seeking to form a team to help in this if you are interested contact [sam@besweb.org](mailto:sam@besweb.org).

We are in contact and actively working with potential partners in at least 20 countries. For more information visit [www.besweb.org](http://www.besweb.org)



Sam with Annick



"Love letters to the world", the inspiring story of 50 years of Postal Bible School is available from Samuel Balmer, Stephen Gillham or Bert Gray at the very special price of £10 including post.

## You prayed ...God answered.

### YOU prayed for

Further development in translation

### GOD is answering

New translations are in progress.  
e.g Swahali, Armenian, French

### YOU prayed for

More students in Romania

### GOD is answering

2,189 new students this year to date

### YOU prayed for

More awareness in the UK

### GOD is answering

More students are joining in many of the UK centres

### Please Continue in Prayer for:

- Further growth in the UK & Ireland centres
- Mihaelas Vlas' Health (Romania)
- More translators and designers for French lessons
- Development of PBS in South Africa
- God to open doors for English lessons in Africa
- The printing & distribution issues that the indigenous centres face in developing countries
- Need for web masters in other languages
- The need for funding in various areas

Please encourage any children you know who want to do Bibletime lessons to join a Postal Bible School Centre. Full details of all Postal Bible School Centres are on the website [www.besweb.org](http://www.besweb.org). If you know one or two children who are interested why not consider starting your own Postal Bible School Centre. Full details of how to do this are on the website.

#### BES TRUSTEES & CONTACTS

**UK BES Trustees:** Sam Balmer, Glyn Davies, Bert Gray, Stephen Gillham, David Purchase, David Tucker, Stephen Walls

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Some Trustees are available to give reports and encourage prayer for this worldwide ministry.  
BES is a registered charity (1096157)

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