



## **A VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

### **ACA- APRIL 2014 E-BULLETIN**

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*Dearly beloved,*

Praise the Lord! Welcome to the latest edition of the **ACA e-bulletin**, I pray that it is well with you and the church family at a time such as this. I trust you will enjoy the bulletin and please do feel free to forward it on to others.

A lot has happened in our country and world since the start of the year: some good things and some bad things. Summer seems to have arrived early this year so let us take the opportunity and do the work of an evangelist.

Sadly, we have lost to death, the secretary to the **ACA**, Sister Vilma Jarett-Harvey, but while she is absent from us she is now present with the Lord. On behalf of all who knew her, we offer our sincere condolences especially to her family for their loss.

Believe me when I write, it is the best of times to do the work of the Lord for we are still living in the age of the **“open door”**. So we can have small scale gospel outreach services, we can plant as many churches as the Lord inspires us to do and we can use modern technology to communicate with the world. The early church succeeded despite tremendous hostility from religious and secular powers and turned the world the right side up because they were bold and full of faith and full of the Holy Spirit.

What began as a *“handful of corn in the earth upon top of the mountains”* would multiply and become the most powerful agent of change in the history of the world. Within less than 400 years Europe was Christian along with large swathes of the Middle East and Africa. There then followed the *“great falling away”* and the long period of **“darkness”** when Christianity was corrupted through the leaven Papal Rome. The Reformation was the beginning of the *“years of restoration,”* which through the Holy Spirit, has brought about the restoration of many truths to the church which have impacted the world.

Through the Holy Spirit the church began to preach once again that salvation is by grace through faith. The importance of holiness through sanctification of the Spirit, full immersion in water as one of the restored rites in the church, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and that Jesus is the same Yesterday, Today and Forever.

Let us pray, **“Thy Kingdom come, and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”**. It is the Lord’s will that none perish and that all come to repentance. Jesus came not to condemn but to seek and the save the lost. Let us go and do likewise for time is it hand.

*The Lord’s servant*  
*Apostle Lloyd Denny*

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## ACA NEWS

**21<sup>st</sup> March 2014** – Home going service for Sister Vilma Jarrett- Harvey

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014** – 85<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of Bishop Joshua Brooks. On this day a large gathering came together to give thanks and celebrate the 85<sup>th</sup> year of our brother in Christ. Many more years and prosperity, Bishop Brooks.

**14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April**, Beulah Apostolic Church National Youth Congress. Theme for 2014 is “**ELEVATION**”. The conference is being held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU. For information on the conference, please contact Minister Andrew Smith, National Youth President: [thepresident100k@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thepresident100k@yahoo.co.uk) or Tel: 020 8451 1065 or **Mob**: 07958 622093

**18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April** – Restoration Revival Fellowship, Annual Youth Convocation. Theme for 2014 is “**YES to FREEDOM**”. The convocation is being held at: 50 Church Road, Harlesden, London, NW10 9PY. For more information, please visit: [www.rrfchurch.com](http://www.rrfchurch.com).

**18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April** – Hackney Pentecostal Apostolic Church, Thanksgiving meeting is being held at: 27 Middleton Road, Hackney, London E8 4BN. For more information, please visit: [www.hackneyapostolic.org](http://www.hackneyapostolic.org).

**5th May** – ACA social event, hosted by Pastor Troutt. The event is being held in Shepherds Bush, London W12. The social is an opportunity for ministers and churches to get to know each other in an informal setting. Good food, good company and fellowship will be available. For more information, please contact Pastor Troutt at: [love@jesusonly.co.uk](mailto:love@jesusonly.co.uk)

**24th May** – RRF Bedford and Beulah Apostolic joint Youth meeting. Venue and details to follow.

## NEWS FEATURE



Bishop Joshua E Brooks was born on Palm Sunday 24 March 1929 in the Bogwalk district of St Catharine Jamaica. He is the third son of Francella and Alfred Brooks who was a farmer. His parents were members of the Baptist church and he was a frequent visitor as a child. In Jamaica he was very industrious and reared animals and even owned a race horse, before leaving for England he worked for the Public Works department on the highways. Like many of his generation in 1956 he decided to travel to England as an economic migrant.

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## Jesus Christ is Lord

He arrived in Dudley in the west Midlands shortly followed by his wife to be and subsequently travelled to Stafford to take up employment at the engineering company English Electric (GEC) and later Goodyear tyres working on the production line. He was an active member of the new Jamaican community in Stafford and was one of the first to buy his own house and welcome others from Jamaica, until they could do the same.

At the age of 36 he was witnessed to by the now Bishop Brown from Wolverhampton, although he agreed to give his life to the Lord his love of sport became the reason for his double mindedness. As a keen cricketer he played for Staffordshire Caribbean and the English Electric cricket team. On one occasion when he was avoiding going to church Deacon Powell (now Overseer Powell of Wolverhampton) knocked on his door one early weak day morning, and asked him the question, "although cricket is not a sin; if you were playing it when Jesus returned what would happen to your soul?" the rest is history Joshua quickly committed his life to the Lord in water baptism in the name Lord Jesus Christ by Bishop Brown from Wolverhampton. Although based in Stafford he was a frequent visitor to churches in Wolverhampton and Bishop Dunn at Gibson Road Birmingham. At this time he was a young father working shifts often back to back, but he was committed to the call of God on his life; he and his family would never be the same again. When he decided to give his life to the Lord his friends took bets on how long he would take before returning back to the world but thanks-be to God at 85 years old he is still going slower but stronger in the Lord.

It is ironic that Bishop Browns` son who today is one of the leadership team at his father`s church testified Pastor Brooks was influential in him giving his life back to the Lord after many years away from the Church.

His ministry has included membership within several UK and American organisations before establishing the Mount Peniel Apostolic Church and Charity in 1986. Today he is the Presiding Bishop with Churches in the Midlands, London and Jamaica. Through the Holy Spirit he has laid hands on the dead and they have recovered, the sick and they have been healed the bound and they have been set free. His children testify to the fact; when his right hand gets hot `healing and miracles` are on their way. Considering his relatively late conversion to Christianity he has been very influential in the expansion of the Apostolic Gospel in the UK. From his conversion, to this present day his passion for evangelism and the equipping of the believer, preparing for ministry has not been diminished. Today you will still find him behind the wheel of a mini-van taking people to church.

He has several children in the ministry notably Bishop Melvin Brooks (the Presiding Bishop of Jabula Europe and Asia) and Pastor Neville Brooks of Jubilee Ministries in Pittsburgh USA. Several of his other children and grandchildren are actively involved in Faith based social Action initiatives including Christian media, education and industrial mission. In March this year he celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday amongst family and friends at a local hotel, but his real birthday present was presiding over the baptism of four new souls the day after.

He has been married to his wife affectionately addressed as Mother Brooks for 57 years and they have 10 children.

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### Evangelist Vilma Jarrett-Harvey, gone but will not be forgotten.

A large crowd came together on a surprisingly sunny but welcomed, 21<sup>st</sup> day in March in Wolverhampton to mourn and celebrate the life of our beloved Sister Vilma. There were tributes from close family members, the saints and members of the community. We heard that as well as being an evangelist, Sister Vilma was a mother, grandmother and good friends to many. She was a Magistrate for more than 14 years, excellent administrator and a very faithful Christian. Overseer Keith Linton spoke on behalf of the ACA where she served as secretary from its inception. Overseer Linton spoke eloquently of her service to the ACA in the development of policies, procedures and in making sure everything was done in a timely and professional manner.

## ACA DATABASE

Apologies to the churches whose services and events are not in this edition of the **e-bulletin**, this is because we don't have contact details and information on all churches. Do forward this e-bulletin to other churches you think might be interested in being associated with the ACA. Furthermore, if you are not currently on the email list and want to be then simply send Apostle Denny an email with the contact details of the church leadership and church. The intention is to produce an **e-bulletin** at the beginning of each month.

## FUTURE PLANS

### The plans for the future include the following:-

At the end of last year the Steering Group met to agree priorities for 2014, the following priorities were agreed:-

- Refresh and update our key policies – this is nearing completion;
- Write a three year Business Plan – draft has been written;
- Establish Regional Coordinators – Overseer Keith Linton has agreed to coordinate activities in the Midlands and North of England;
- To host a number of events in 2014 to deepen relationship and widen our reach;
- To develop a communications strategy to deliver our key priorities and mission;

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As well as the above, to continue with the following:-

**Development of ACA- Local groups.** Instead of having a superstructure at the top the model what has been agreed is to organise at the local level so that we are able to pool our resources but also get to know one another and give support as required. This will also enable the church to be a clearer and stronger voice as well as being more influential in the area.

**To be a prophetic voice in the UK** – this will include communicating truth to power in an organised and purposeful manner.

**Development of the ACA website** – to ensure this modern facility is utilised to the maximum. A new website has been developed but requires much more work.

**Finances** – to establish the ACA on a sound financial footing that will enable it to fulfil the vision for the UK.

**To grow the WORD in the UK** – to encourage more writing and reading; the promotion of authorship; greater engagement with the wider community in a return to the Bible; Encouragement of larger scale gospel meetings in the areas where the ACA are represented; to work for the salvation of many in the UK.

**ACA and young people** – to work to develop a youth arm of the ACA that will ensure that going forward, as we await the coming of the Lord; that our young people make the transition and are able to walk in the apostolic anointing.

## THE CHURCH IN ENGLAND

### Preacher arrested for quoting from the Bible is awarded £13,000:

A Christian street preacher was wrongly arrested and held in a police cell for almost 19 hours after quoting verses from the Bible. John Craven, 57, recited from Revelation after two gay teenagers asked about his views on homosexuality. But after he read from chapter 21, verse eight – which says sinners will burn in a lake of fire and sulphur – police arrested him on suspicion of committing a public order offence.

He was taken to a police cell where he claims he was denied food, water and access to medication for his rheumatoid arthritis. He was fingerprinted, had to give a sample of his DNA and told he was being investigated for allegedly using insulting words with the intention of causing harassment, alarm or distress – which could have led to a six-month jail sentence.

Two days later, however, police told him there would be no charges and no further action. On 31<sup>st</sup> March he was awarded £13,000 in compensation after a three-year legal battle against Greater Manchester Police which is estimated to have cost the public purse £50,000.

Mr Craven said: 'I never intended to cause anyone harassment, alarm or distress. I preach the gospel, which means good news and the love of God for all. 'At the end of the day God

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loves everybody, but homosexuality is a sin and I am not going to contradict the word of God.' He added: 'The actions of the police have left me feeling nervous and anxious. 'I was in a cell on my own. I was fingerprinted, swabbed and had my photo taken. They took my shoelaces from me. They said I would not be interviewed until the next day and then they left me.'

Incident: Mr Craven said he was on his usual spot in Market Street in the centre of Manchester, when the men approached him to ask his opinion on homosexuality and claims the two men then kissed in front of him before calling for his arrest.

The incident happened in 2011 when Mr Craven, who has been street preaching for 14 years, was at his regular twice-weekly pitch in Manchester city centre. Mr Craven, who is married, said: 'Two young lads asked me what God thinks of homosexuals. I told them whilst God hates sin, he loves the sinner and that according to the word of God homosexuality is an abomination. That is not my opinion, it is the word of God. 'I quoted them Revelation chapter 21, verse eight, "But for the cowardly, unbelieving, sinners, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their part is in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death". 'This made them upset and they started to do obscene gestures to me. They were trying to provoke me.'

Mr Craven won damages under the Human Rights Act using his entitlement to enjoy the freedom to manifest his religion and freedom of expression, including the freedom to impart ideas without interference by a public authority.

Colin Hart, director of The Christian Institute which funded Mr Craven's case, said: 'In terms of the infringement of religious liberty, it was one of the worst cases we have ever dealt with.' A spokesman for Greater Manchester Police said: 'We acknowledge that we did make mistakes and, in particular, kept the claimant in custody for too long.'

### Article courtesy of Mail Online

**Prayer Initiative** – Pastor Carlton Troutt has been encouraging the body of Christ to be instant in prayer through the use of modern telecommunications. The initiative is to phone someone whom the Lord has laid on your heart and pray with him or her there and then over the telephone. Once you have prayed for the person invite him or her to pray for you, it's as simple as that. The benefit of being instant in prayer includes: developing sensitivity to the Spirit, obedience and strengthening one another. Since sharing this initiative with churches here in the UK Pastor has been greatly encouraged by the positive response from everyone. Prayers have been timely and have revived the prayer life of church members.

Pastor Troutt recently returned from a trip to the USA and Jamaica where he shared this initiative which met with universal approval.

**GOOD NEWS TV** – the planned launch will be this summer. Presently, there is a click and play schedule of more than 50 DVD's available to enjoy. The list of recordings includes: Bishop Paul Morton, Israel Houghton, Donnie Mc Clurkin, Fred Hammond, Hillsong to name

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but a few. There are also a number of preaching DVD's by Bishop Norman L Wagner and Pastor G Craig Lewis of Ex Ministries. Click on the link to access GOOD NEWS TV.



<http://www.tropicalfm.com/goodnewstv.php>

If you would like to broadcast through this new and exciting medium then contact the station for more information.

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### PUBLICATION

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Any comments or suggestions on the content of this bulletin or if you have an article or feature you wish to contribute then please do so. **Please note**, not all suggestions will automatically be accepted or articles featured at the time it is made this will depend on space and editorial judgement. Articles and suggestions for the e-bulletin must reach us by the last Friday of each month.

**“Where there is no vision the people perish”**

*God bless!*

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