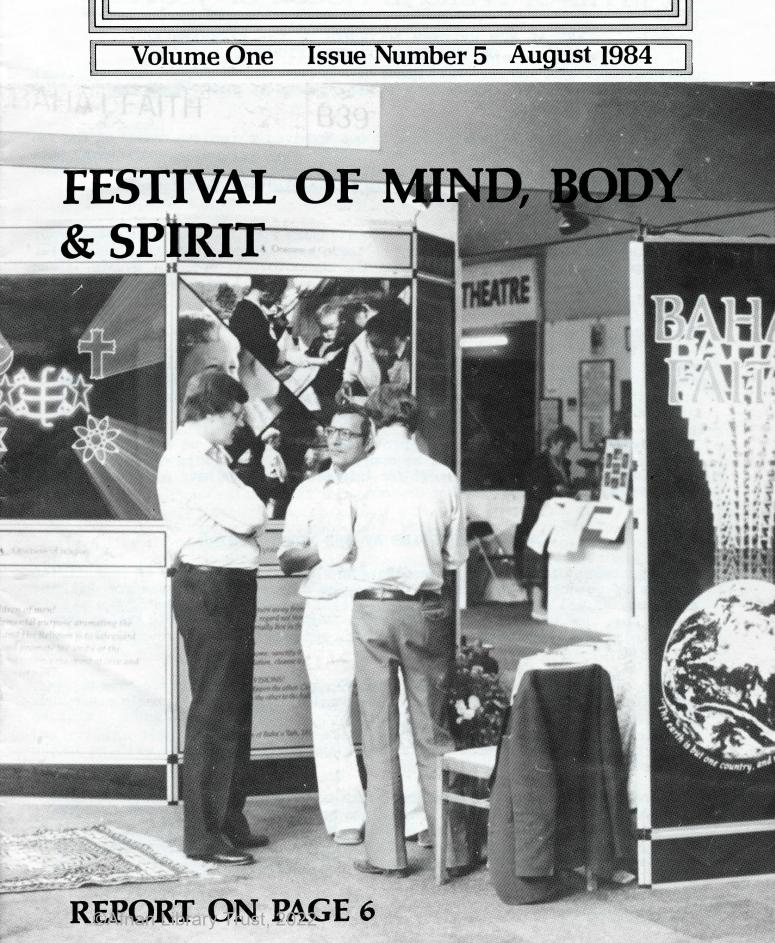
# Bahá'í Journal





# APPEAL FOR WRITTEN ACCOUNTS OF THE EXPERIENCES OF TEN YEAR CRUSADE PIONEERS

On 14 November 1963 the Universal House of Justice wrote to all National Spiritual Assemblies soliciting records of the experiences of pioneers in the Ten Year Crusade.

"It is important that we have on file in our archives a complete record of the Ten Year Crusade just ended. The experiences of the many valiant pioneers whose work and sacrifice made possible the important victories which resulted in the triumphant conclusion of this phase of the Divine Plan must inevitably constitute a most important part of this record.

"We are therefore calling upon all National Assemblies to request pioneers under their jurisdiction to write a summary of their experiences during the Crusade. Far more important than a mere recountingof the chronological order of events, these stories should portray living experiences which will be a source of inspiration to succeeding generations of Baha'i pioneers....."

The House has not relaxed its interest in obtaining these reports. The accounts of the Knights of Baha'u'llah are of particular, but not exclusive interest, as reports by all pioneers would be welcome. Biographical information, a photograph and a sketch of services in the years since the Ten Year Crusade would also be appreciated. The material should be sent to the World Centre and, if desired, a copy could be sent to the pioneer's original community.

If the pioneers have not already provided the House with an account of their pioneering experiences it will be appreciated if they would do so now. It is recognised that the original request for information may not have reached all those who played a part in the Ten Year Crusade.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT THE WORLD CENTRE

The Department of Organisation and Personnel is in the process of identifying Baha'is as potential candidates for service at the World Centre for filling existing, as well as future openings. Listed below (I) are some of the skills needed from time to time. Anyone interested in service at the World Centre should send biographical information about himself. Information to be provided is listed below (II).

In some respects service at the World Centre may be compared to life as a pioneer, but without the privilege of teaching. The Fund provides for all basic needs, but no salaries are paid. In serving at the World Centre the friend's aim is to efficiently carry out their assigned duties to the best of their ability and capacity. Life in a diverse community at the World Centre, as well as in the Middle East, is in many ways demanding.

The length of service ranges from short term to definite term (usually 2 + years) and indefinite, according to the need of the positions. Couples who are independent and are each able to fill needed positions should feel especially encouraged to apply. Not all positions are immediately available. A basic need for most positions is a good proficiency in english apart from other qualifications.

MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN: To carry out the operation and surveillance of engine room equipment under general supervision; to maintain and repair mechanical equipment.

GARDEN HELPERS: Friends with experience in gardening are welcome to offer help in the gardens for six month terms; extensions are possible for those with professional background; due to the nature of the work and local customs, only men should apply (except for work in the greenhouse)

BUILDING TRADES: Professional cabinet maker, painters (urgent need), plumber, mechanic/driver (urgent need), iron worker, stone mason (urgent need), electrician and janitors; for most positions, solid training and several years of experience are preferred.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: With experience in purchasing, as well as general secretarial skills and office proceedures.

BOOKKEEPING: Training in general bookkeeping and accounting proceedures is essential; good typing skills and experience with data processing equipment would be helpful.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNER: Experience in elaboration and processing of town planning schemes and related work such as preparation of applications for building permits and updating property records; relevant experience in surveying would be helpful.

SECURITY STAFF: The function requires shift work, physical fitness and the ability to learn some Hebrew; only single friends should apply; 18 - 30 month terms of service (urgent need)

ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST/MODERN RECORDS: To assist the Archivist in drawing up a records management programme; full archival qualifications and two years experience in modern records management are necessary.

LIBRARIAN: Responsible for the efficient organisation of the Library and its staff; Masters degree in library science, knowledge of English and at least two other languages, experience in

classification systems desirable, familiarity with Library of Congress classification and AACR2, and at least 4 years of library experience, part of which should be in an administrative capacity.

INDEXER: To review a variety of documents and record selected data, using video terminal; work includes analysis of subjects, writing summaries and teaching work proceedures. The work requires good analytical and writing skills, basic typing and knowledge of the Faith; a Bachelor's degree or adequate general education is required; library and/or informastion science degrees, library technician certificate or experience in these named professions is desirable.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: To compose and draft letters and reports, conduct research, organise and maintain files, at least 5 years experience in high-level secretarial or administrative assistant positions, as well as in the Baha'i Administrative Order; accuracy, and good English are necessary; shorthand, knowledge of more than one language and familiarity with word-processing equipment are desirable but not essential.

SECRETARY/RESEARCH ASSISTANT: To extract information and prepare reports, to compose and draft letters, conduct research, organise and maintain files, enter data and use the word-processor; the work requires good analytical, writing and typing skills; knowledge of Baha'i administration; Bachelor's degree or adequate general education is required. Interest in geography, languages and familiarity with word-processing are preferable.

GENERAL OFFICE: There are a variety of positions at the World Centre which require clerical skills, fast and accurate typing, good spelling ability, and office experience. Some experience using word-processing equipment is desirable.

(II)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: The following information is required to evaluate candidates for service at the Baha'i World Centre. Please include a recent photograph of yourself.

FULL NAME: (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

HOME ADDRESS: For past 5 years, beginning

with present address.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: Where the applicant can be reached (Home and work)

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH AND NATIONALITY PASSPORT NUMBER, PLACE OF ISSUE AND PERIOD OF VALIDITY

MARITAL STATUS: Single, married, widowed, divorced, separated (with dates)

NAME OF SPOUSE: (If applicable)

Is he/she a Baha'i?

DEPENDENTS: Number and ages of children; other actual or possible dependents

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Including debts and payments due

HEALTH: Height, weight, general health condition; please give brief description of any disabilities, physical limitations or allergies, or chronic health problems. What illnesses have you had over the past two years.

BAHA'I EXPERIENCE: Date and community of

enrollment; description of experience as a Baha'i, including localities where you have lived, service on committees and assemblies, pioneering posts and travel teaching projects, approximate date of pilgrimmage to the Holy Land if applicable.

EDUCATION: List post-secondary education, location and duration of study, degrees or certificates earned, major subjects studied, trade schools.

SKILLS: List machines you operate, typin/shorthand speeds, languages you read/write/speak and proficiency in each, etc. (as applicable)

WORK EXPERIENCE: Beginning with present or most recent employment, list dates, name and address of employer, title or position, nature of work and duties, reasons for leaving.

If a couple is applying, separate information on each should be submitted.

# Shiraz Project

Last issue the Journal devoted a page to the forthcoming Shiraz Project in which Daryoush Mazloum and his three children were to cycle to the Welsh summer school. Many of the friends will have heard however of the tragic accident in which five-year-old Gabrielle was killed.

In a letter to the Journal Daryoush says:
"...It will take even more than the devastation of our mind and bodies by this mortal world, to stop us from carrying on with what we intended to do for the sake of Baha'u'llah and His Cause. Therefore the Shiraz Project will go onas planned, even though fewer will cycle, and let us hope that little Gabrielle's innocent soul will be with us and that your prayers will help us along the way."

The project will take place between 12 to 25 August. A car will follow the cyclists as a back-up should the going get too hard. Further information on this project can be obtained from Daryoush on 0904 37609.

A memorial for Gabrielle will be held on Saturday 4 august at 2pm. It will be held at the Lowther St Community Centre, York. Details may be obtained from York 641905 or 35352.

# Serve the Faith I

There is a vacancy for an experienced secretary at the National Office. The job entails replying to letters, dealing with telephone enquiries and other general office duties.

Applicants should have good typing skills and an excellent command of English. They should be knowledgeable in the Faith and be able to work under pressure, meeting short deadlines. Experience with word-processing equipment is desirable but not essential. Applications, in writing with full C.V. detailing Baha'i as well as secretarial experience should be sent to the National Office as soon as possible.



# Please Note

Roger White, who works at the World Centre is writing a brief tribute to Rosey E. Pool who passed away in this country in the mid-sixties. He would like to hear from anyone who has biographical information, letters photographs or reminiscences of this believer. His address is: Roger White, PO Box 155, 31001 Haifa, Israel.



# From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Thank you for continuing support and criticism. There are one or two matters where you can help us to help you. First of all we have plenty of community news coming in but it is not always in a usable form. Friends submitting material should try to keep the length down to about 200 words and concentrate on one veryinteresting success, attempt or idea. We cannot cope with annual reports! May we also ask that these reports are written in the third person (The community did this) and not in the first person (We did this) as this helps the readability of the Journal. Secondly the Journal staff do not, indeed cannot, deal with problems relating to incorrect addresses etc. These matters should be referred to the Department of Records, c/o 27 Rutland Gate.

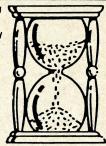
Thirdly, the three young male editors are now down to two. We give our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Forouzan Golshani for all his work on the Baha'i News Service and his valuable assistance in setting up the Baha'i Journal. We wish him, and his new wife all the best in their new life together. This now leaves us with a yawning gap. All offers for the post of Persian Editor for the Journal will be gratefully received. Applicants, preferably, should be in their late 20s - early 30s and be fluent in reading and writing both English and Persian. Easy access to the National Office is essential and working hours should take up two evenings a week. It would be nice to have a lady to provide a balance, but please do not be put off by that.

By the way, one of the editors will be out of the country for the next six weeks so can you please ensure that material is submitted extra early for the next issue.

Finally we are grateful for the letters in support of clear poly-wrappers, but we are still investigating opaque alternatives.

The Editor

# DEADLINE AUGUST 10



No material received after this date can be considered for inclusion in the next issue.

Mrs Anna Grossman, the widow of the Hand of the Cause, passed away in Finland on 12 June.

Following the wishes of the Universal House of Justice a memorial service will be held at the House of Worship in Frankfurt on Sunday 9 September at 3pm.

A group of Baha'is are cycling around the whole of Ireland to raise money for the Baha'i fund. They will be contacting the local Baha'is en route in order to publicise their trip and give firesides. The trip starts on August 20 at Belfast and should take two weeks. Should you wish to sponsor them (or even join them) contact Alan Cox on 0662 44454.

The Baha'i Journal is published monthly by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United Kingdom, and printed by Headley Brothers Ltd, Invicta Press, Queens Rd, Ashford, Kent.

Copies are distributed free of charge to all Baha'i homes in the United Kingdom.

The Baha'i Journal is for circulation amongst Baha'is only.

All material should be sent, before the deadline, to the Editor, Baha'i Journal, 27 Rutland Gate, London SW7 lPD.

The editorial board wish to draw to the attention of the friends the following points:

DEADLINES In order to increase standards of presentation and efficiency the Baha'i Journal is being printed by an outside printer. This means that our deadlines for receipt of material for inclusion must be strictly adhered to. If material is late for whatever reason it may be considered for the following

issue.

CONTENT It would be appreciated if material submitted was either typed or neatly written and that the matter of the dignity of the Faith was kept in mind.

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY The Editor reserves the right to reject, cut or alter any contribution submitted for publication in the interests of deadlines, topicality, appropriateness, standards or dignity.

# Festival of Mind, Body & Spirit

For the second time the Faith had a stall at this prestigious event, held each year at Olympia, London.

Even though the overall attendance at the festival was down on previous years the Baha'i stand was much busier than last year. If the measure of success is the number of people who are willing to give their addresses in order to receive details of Baha'i activities in their area, then the festival was an undoubted success. In the first two days alone, more addresses were taken than during the entire 9 days last year. More than 300 cards with the address of the National Centre were taken in two days also. It is estimated that more than 900 took literature of some sort. Nearly 150 addresses were taken from all parts of the globe, from Scotland to Devon, from Australia to Jugoslavia. During the week more than 50 Baha'is helped to man the stand.

One of the most effective adverts for the stand were the Baha'i balloons which were given away to children. At times they could be seen everywhere and were certainly eyecatching. The Baha'i stand was right next to the exhibition entrance and could not be missed by anyone entering or leaving the festival.

The festival itself is an odd mixture of spiritual healers, astrologers, palm and tarot card readers and other such mediums. There are stalls dealing with

The Baha'i stand (left) and the main entrance to the exhibition. Above the stand is a banner which was visible from all over the exhibition.

alternative medicine, health foods and religious organisations. Indeed the more cynical among us might well call the festival "The ideal God show!" and it certainly seemed that way. There are Gods to suit all tastes from indian gurus to fundamental Christians from the "release your spirit and know that you are God" type to the "flying saucers have landed" groups. But the Baha'i stall stood out in two ways - it was the only stall that did not sell anything and, as we know as Baha'is it answers both the physical, intellectual and the spiritual needs of mankind. These were two points which seemed to register with many of those who came to the stand. Around the stand were various groups claiming that we are all God and that we just have to realise and learn this during our many lives on this planet. Now this may be all very well and good but not one group seemed to have an answer to the problems that face mankind as a race, such things as pollution, government, poverty and starvation. There was much agreement with the Baha'i principles and teachings, much more so than last year it seemed. It was a great encouragement those manning the stand to hear so many positive reactions. Again, like last year so many people had heard of the persecutions in Iran (thanks in great measure to the local publicity achieved by the communities throughout the country), and so many had come across the Faith in Israel. During the festival a concert was given on the activities stage, which has a variety of shows and demonstrations such as aerobic dancing and human flower arranging throughout the week, by a group of Baha'is from the north of England. Whilst they did not feel it was their best performance many people came to the stand having been enthused by the music. One of the lectures during the weekend was given by Prof. Bushrui. The talk, which was at an inconvenient time, attracted 20 people who were presented with a book asthey entered.

All in all it was a tremendous success, and the reaction shown by most of the people who came to the stand was so favourable that it bodes well for the future of the Faith - it proves that people are out there waiting to hear of the Faith and it is up to the Baha'is to go and meet them.

# Community News

### CRAIGAVON

The following report was received from the Secretary of Craigavon.

On May 26, we gathered together to assemble our very first Baha'i Float. We were all very excited. It took two weeks of very hard work by just three people, and what do you think happens? It starts to rain. Well, says we to Baha'u'llah, "What's going on? Bring on the sunshine or we are going straight home. We've done our bit and we are ready. It does not matter if the forecast is for rain, we know our history. It's been done before. Please, Baha'u'llah, bring on the sun".

We proceeded inside to put the kettle on. Well, there's no point standing on the back of the float like a dishcloth, now is there? Well, we waited, and sure enough, after 15 minutes (a bit slow), the sun came and we all climbed aboard. Fantastic.

When we reached the town centre there were thousands of people lining the streets and there were twenty other floats taking part. Our float is very simple and very, very beautiful with a lovely array of colour. We did not win a prize, but then we were not there to win prizes, we were there to give them away. Spiritual ones, that is. As we apprached the Lord Mayor's stand, which seats thirty Councillors as well, they all applauded and some even stood up. You see, the motto of Craigavon is "Together we Progress", and when they saw in front of them "The Earth is but one Country and Mankind its Citizens" they were really taken aback. Honestly, their mouths dropped, and their eyes widened, and when I saw this, so did mine. This only happened as our float passed (naturally). The feeling was fantastic and in some places I was genuinely moved to tears.

Going through my mind was the thought that we were striking a well-aimed blow for the friends in Iran. Indeed I felt that some of the Martyrs were there with us, as the float weaved its way slowly through the multitudes, where undoubtedly there were some souls who will in the future embrace this Cause.

We did a U turn and back up the town again. And may I add that friends (who I thought would be indifferent to the occasion) in the crowd went out of their way to cheer us and wish us well. On that day it did not matter that we were so few in number (there were only six on the float and this was all the support we had). Oh, no. It only takes one soul to set on fire a whole town. Passing the Lord Mayor's stand again, the same thing happened. Very inspiring indeed. When we got back to base to take the float down, guess what happened. No prizes for this. It started to rain. O.K. says we to Baha'u'llah. The vegetable kingdom needs water. Bring it on. We are finished for now. But please don't forget us again next year. We will certainly be back. Ya Baha'u'l-Abha.



A Baha'i stall in Llanelli market, South Wales. A somewhat slow start to the event from a Baha'i point of view enabled the Baha'is to teach very receptive felow stallholders. Much literature was given out and some good contacts were made. This is despite some quite bitter anti-Baha'i articles which have appeared in the local papers earlier this year.

# ROMFORD

During the past year, increased teaching activities, as well as revitalising the comunity, has resulted in two declarations in the havering community and one in the goal town of Barking, which allowed the formation of the Assembly before Ridvan. At the same time, regular advertisements in two local papers produced a number of enquiries.

As a result of letters sent to local

women's groups and churches about the persecutions in Iran, a good contact has been established and the representative of one church has appealed to the local M.P. on behalf of the Baha'is. This has also lead to an invitation to give a talk to a religious group. Also, offers of books were accepted by a number of local schools and the Baha'is were invited to speak at morning Assembly by one group.

### BALLYMENA

A two week long exhibition was held in the Ballymena Leisure Centre (Seven Towers). Hundreds of pamphlets were taken and many people viewed the display. The report of the public meeting during the first week and the display itself appeared in local papers as follows:

# Bahai's exhibition in Ballymena

Due to successful reception, the display on the Baha'i Faith in Seven Towers Leisure Centre was extended for another week to end this Saturday (23rd).

The exhibition portrays the nature, principles and the goal of the Baha'i Faith. There is also a bookstall containing some Baha'i Scriptures. It is open to public daily from 10 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

A public meeting was held in the same venue last week. Miss Grace Swann chaired the meeting and introduced Dr. Seman Khosravi, who gave an ntroductory talk on the Faith. During the course of the talk he explained how in every age God makes a new Covenant with Man through His Messengers like Abraham, Buddha, Moses, Christ, Mohammad and now Baha'u'llah; that God has revealed His Truth to man progressively through the ages, according to man's spiritual

capacity and the social needs of the time.

He drew the following analogy for the relationship of man's earthly life and the life beyond: "Our life on this planet is like the roots of a tree; a separate world on its own, in darkness, working incessantly and supplying food for the growth of the stems, branches and the leaves of the tree.

The tree itself symbolises our soul. As the roots are responsible for the growth of the tree, likewise we are responsible for the development of our soul. To achieve this goal, our task is to accept the Divine Gardener — Manifestation of God — and to put His teachings into practice in order to witness the flowering and fruition of the tree of our being."

tree of our being."
Miss Swann brought the meeting to an end and refreshments were served.

## HULL

On Monday 25 June 1984, the Baha'is of Hull acted as host to the Rev. Merfyn Temple, the Methodist minister making a cycling Pilgrimage for Peace round England and Wales. He was met on the city boundary by the Chairman of the Local Assembly, Ron Remy, and together they cycled into town. They arrived at the Friends' Meeting House at 11.45 a.m. where the Rev. Temple was welcomed by the Lord Mayor of Hull, and between 40 and 50 members of the public. After a short speech by the Lord Mayor, prayers were

read by a Methodist, a Jewish Rabbi (in Hebrew), a Quaker, and the Baha'is, which included a prayer in Spanish, ARabic and Persian. The Rev. Temple said that this gathering had been one of the biggest on his tour so far. In the evening he attended a social at the home of a Baha'i where there were several non-Baha'i quests. The Rev. Temple stayed the night at the Chairman's house. As a result of this event a short interview was given by a Baha'i on Radio Humberside and a short article appeared in the Hull Daily Mail, previewing the event. Afterwards Viking Radio reported on the meeting in the following week. The event has gained much publicity for the Faith in Hull with several more contacts.

### CAMBRIDGE

On Saturday 7 July the Cambridge Baha'i community participated in the Cooperatives Peace Festival. The Baha'i stall was a centre of activity with Baha'is of 7 nationalities represented. As part of the Baha'i contribution, a children's art competition was held on the theme of Peace, and forty children participated for the eleven peace prizes offered. The Faith was well proclaimed. 200 leaflets on Peace were taken and the organisers made repeated reference to the Baha'i stall.

### TAMESIDE

In Tameside one of the local Junior School R.E. teachers asked if the Baha'is could provide a speaker to tell a class of ten year olds about the Faith. In the somewhat limited time of an afternoon lesson, on a very hot afternoon, the children could have been excused if they had been restless and eager to escape into the sunshine, but they were quite attentive. A brief outline was given as to the precepts and teachings of the Faith, with the accent on the unification of all God-fearing religions and the oneness of their Messengers. The talk was followed by the playing of a tape of Baha'i children singing and saying prayers "Bring Us Together", the displaying of Baha'i children's class literature, and some examples of their efforts at drawing and writing of favourite prayers, and finally the telling of a Baha'i poem, "Dost Think?"

### SLOUGH

On 22 June, the members of the Local Spiritual Assembly met with local M.P. Mr John Watts, at the home of the community Secretary. The meeting started with two prayers, one in Farsi, and one in English, to which the M.P. listened attentively. In a relaxed atmosphere, he conveyed his deepest sympathy towards the Baha'is, and read several recent written parliamentary questions. He asked the Assembly to keep him informed of any developments, and promised help in continually bringing the plight of the friends to the attention of his colleagues, so that it would not be forgotten, in addition to acting on any positive suggestions.

The Assembly discussed the principles of the Faith with Mr Watts, particularly the Baha'i views on strikes, arms, and a world government. Before a more social part of the vening, the Assemblyasked how the Baha'i community could contribute to the welfare of Slough. Mr Watts thought that the rehabilitation of mentally ill patients in Slough would benefit from The evening closed help by the Baha'is. with the Assembly presenting him with some flowers for Mrs Watts, and Mr Watts accepting the Assembly's invitation to meet with them at regular intervals socially with their families.

### SOUTH WIGHT

Recently the Baha'is organised an introductory talk, supported by the "Hainsworth and Fox" filmstrip and music, at one of the major public centres on the island. Using this same filmstrip on an earlier occasion, one of the community was invited to a Middle School to talk to the 4th year pupils and their respective teachers. Pens engraved with "The Baha'i Faith, Uniting the World, One Heart at a Time" were given as presents to the pupils, and books were inscribed for the Headmaster and the school library. The pupils were very happy and attracted, and the speaker was invited back by the Head to participate in a special school occasion, and also to assist in giving two R.E. classes. A visiting Baha'i from Canterbury gave a talk on "The Challenge of Youth". For a local mother and daughter, this was the third public event they had attended, and they continue to

ask many deep and stimulating questions, to read, and listen to tapes of Baha'i speakers, which are in turn shared with other friends! One entire family is even seriously planning to spend their summer holidays attending the Welsh Summer School!

The Baha'is also belong to a Community Association, and for only £3 a year have the opportunity to use a prestigious centre for their events, to contribute to the annual magazine and newsletters, also to give talks to other Association members, representing a variety of clubs and groups, and to put up a dignified static display, with leaflets, during a Spring Festival, which was visited by over 2,500 people. The display is now in a local library and will be moved into another library shortly. Baha'is from Fareham, New Forest, Havant, Portsmouth and Brighton have assisted with the teaching work. One of the community has become a welcome member of the local "Women's Group" which holds meetings on many varied topics fortnightly. seem to be pleased and very respectful listeners to a new voice in their midst.

At Naw-Ruz there were two declarations, and a third at Ridvan. The entire community says the prayer "Open Thou the Door" every day, and as a community, are more than determined not to lose the wonderful spiritual momentum of the 90 Day Campaign.

# GEDLING AND NOTTINGHAM

Two meetings were held, one in Gedling and one in Nottingham, which have met considerable success. On 24 February a member of Gedling community had an interview on BBC Radio Nottingham's Freddie Gaunt programme. The interview was one of many "phone ins". After some preliminary chat an opportunity was given to announce the public meeting in Gedling to be held that night on the topic of "Beyond Disarmament", and the International Gala Evening organised by Nottingham and Broxtowe for the following Sunday. Mention of the Faith was immediately picked up by Freddie Gaunt and opportunity given to explain several points about the Faith, especially the teachings of the oneness of God, religion and mankind, and the principle of the independent search for truth.

Advertisements for both events also appeared in the press.

At Gedling, one non-Baha'i couple (a beautiful mixed marriage) who formerly lived in Mauritius, had been searching the papers for Baha'i advertisements and were overjoyed to hear of the meeting as they desperately wanted to contact the Baha'is now they were in England. At the Gala evening, one lady came purely as a result of the radio broadcast, attended firesides, and has recently declared! A neighbour of a Baha'i in Broxtow came rushing round banging on the door to say she had heard about the Faith on the radio and the name "Baha'u'llah" had been mentioned. She too attends firesides.

As a result of the National Exhibition being shown in Nottingham, one enquirer has shown such interest that he has been involved in many of the local meetings, helping set up displays and washing the dishes, as he feels "so much at home" with the Baha'is.



On 28 February the Baha'is of S. Kesteven organised a stall in the market town of Grantham. It was prominently situated. An exhibition of free books and a placard giving brief details of the Faith attracted many individuals, some of whom had visited Haifa or Wilmette. The owner of the next stall had not done much trade. During the afternoon he came over and requested copies of "Baha'u'llah and the New Era" and the Ward Lock book, and promised to read them!

Newark Agricultural Show, 4-5 May is the major agricultural show of the East Midlands. Nottingham community had organsed for the first time a marquee 20 feet square with an exhibition, a model



of the first Baha'i Radio station in Ecuador, together with a taped 'mock' radio programme, presented in the form of a newsreel, outlining some of the more important international Baha'i activities. Free books and leaflets were given to enquirers. A cordial invitation, consisting of a handwritten prayer and the 'twin doves' design card was given to members of other religions also participating in the Show.

On 13 May, a member of Gedling community presented a lecture at the Teversal Women's Institute. The subject was "Food and Health, a World View", accompanied by While dealing broadly with slides. problems of famine, nutrition, alcohol consumption, clean water and related topics, it also provided a very gentle introduction to the Baha'i Faith and a summary of the Baha'i International Community involvement at the United Nations. The presentation was very well received and it transpired that the Institute had raised a considerable amount of money which was donated to a clean water project in Africa, making the subject more relevant. The Chairperson subsequently suggested that as many local groups had similar projects it would be a good idea to offer the lecture to some other W.I. groups. There were about 50 women present on this occasion.

Earlier this month Mrs Doreen Frost, a relative of one of the Gedling families, who was responsible for the inclusion of the Faith in the N.A.S.O. 1983 Handbok, gave a talk in Higham Ferrers on the Faith. About 30 members were present - a totally non-Baha'i audience.

# For New Believers

Last Month and this month we have printed accounts of two individuals became Baha'is. We feel that these are important and illustrate just two of the many different avenues of approach to the acceptance of the Faith.

Next month we shall be looking at some of the problems of being a Baha'i - a member of a minority group with standards radically different to those of the vast majority of our fellow citizens.

# **SEARCH**

(by John Dickinson)

The seed was sown in childhood, of that I am sure. It all began along with the teaching of the ideals of Esperanto in the school I attended in Denton, Manchester. It was a Secondary Modern School, but no ordinary school because it had as its headmaster a man who I think was far in advance of his time. His name is Norman Williams which is a name well known in the Esperanto Movement. He is a man with extremely high ideals. We were taught in school about the man who created Esperanto and his ideals. This man was Dr Zamenhof. Later on in life when he had studied the various religions he tried to form a religions which would embrace all religions and welcome people from any race or creed in the knowledge that we all pray to the same God. His religion, unlike his language, never got off the ground and must have lacked divine inspiration. His religion he called Homaranismo and my search was for a religion like it. By reading Marjorie Boulton's book "Zamenhof", I was introduced first to Homaranismo and then the Baha'i Faith. Because in this book there was a brief mention of Lidja Zamenhof becoming a Baha'i, this made me think I must look into this Faith.

As a child I had attended a Unitarian Chapel and this also must have had some influence on my thoughts over the years. One of the things I appreciated about the Unitarians is that they lack creeds and dogmas and encourage individuals to search for the truth themselves. Over

the years, because of various events in my life plus events in the world in general, I had lost faith in a Creator. Therefore for quite a number of years I had considered myself an agnostic and had successfully convinced my wife to be the same. So my three children were brought up with a lack of religion in the home. This does not mean that they lacked moral standards to live by.

However some years ago my youngest child had an accident, he fell downstairs in our home. I asked my wife and other two children to join me in a prayer for him. Needless to say this brought a reaction from my wife which I had fully expected. She informed me that I had encouraged in the past a lack of a belief in God. Nevertheless we did pray and our child recovered with no after-effects. Whether this was as a result of prayer, who is to say, but from that day on my belief in a Creator began to return and I prayed often after that occasion and I am sure prayers work and they are answered. Maybe we don't always understand how they are answered but I am sure they are. So I became a member of the National Unitarian Fellowship which was formed to keep isolated Unitarians in contact with each other. Whilst a member of the Unitarian Fellowship, I still read quite a lot about other religions and considered myself to be a searcher after the truth.

In my everyday life I had also become very much involved with the trade union and was a shop steward and safety representative for the engineering department in which I worked at a local sweet factory. The major problem I saw for the ordinary working man was that most industry is being controlled by multi-national corporations and that all governments are tied with their economic policies to these multi-nationals. began to wonder how ordinary working men could co-operate at an international level to combat these multi-nationals and try to beat them at their own game. Thinking about it reminded me of the international language Esperanto, and how it is much easier to learn than any other language. Whilst all this was going on in my mind, the company for whom I worked, and which was owned by a multi-

national, was taken over by an even bigger one. During the negotiations I found great difficulty in sleeping at night and I used to get up and write down all the thoughts that came into my mind. One night after writing for quite some time, I started to read over what I had written and amongst my writing I had written that: "Every man has a soul and a conscience". When I came across this I began to wonder why I had written it with such firm conviction, because in the past I had always doubted that man had a soul. As I began to think about this, I could feel something entering into my body, and it was such a wonderful, fantastic feeling. I felt so marvellous it is just impossible to describe, and I wanted to shout and tell the world about it. This I began to do at about 2.30 a.m. in the morning, and not only woke my wife and son, who thought I had gone mad, but also my neighbours on either side. I had no control over the things I was shouting, and I believe the first thing I shouted was that I was going to do the Lord's work through the T.U.C. I shouted many other things before I eventually calmed down and gained control of myself again. My only explanation of what entered or possessed me is what the Bible calls: "The Holy Spirit". My wife encouraged me to go back to bed and I have behaved, to the best of my knowledge perfectly normally since. (Others may think differently!)

After this, and still during the period I was negotiating the redundancies in work (I was amongst the ones who had to go), an advertisement appeared in the evening paper I used to read. It was advertising a Diploma Course in Industrial Relations, and was for mature students who had been active in the trade union movement, and it was organised by the T.U.C. there and then that I must apply and that I would have no problems in getting on the course. Sure enough I got a place on the course and for the next twelve months studied political economy, political history, industrial relations and sociology.

I had decided to study Esperanto at the completion of the Industrial Relations course and during my year in college I joined the T.U.C.E.G., (Trade Union and Co-operative Esperanto Group). This is a pressure group which seeks active support for Esperanto within the Labour Movement

and holds its meetings in the House of Commons. I attended some of these meetings and became the co-ordinator between the T.U.C.E.G., and the trade union movement. I had also joined S.A.T.E.B., which is a workers' Esperanto organisation. Everything seemed to be working out as if it had been planned. also became a local community councillor and joined our local twinning committee which was just on the verge of twinning with a town in Southern Brittany. wife and I attended the official twinning ceremony in Missillac where I gave a speech in Esperanto which was translated into French by an Esperantist from St Nazaire. So the two years since I became redundant have been full of activity and very exciting. All these organisations I was a member of have something in common, they appeal to an individual's better nature. It did not take very long, though, to realise that the majority of people involved believe that man can solve the world's problems without the aid of a Creator.

One day, whilst reading a book loaned to me by another Esperantist, I came across the Baha'i Faith again and an address in the U.S.A., so I decided to write to them for more information. Having received this information and an address in London to contact, I just put it in the letter rack and forgot about it, until my wife was sorting the rack out and asked me if I intended to reply to it. To this I replied that if London was the nearest contact it was too far for me to become involved. However this was not meant to be, because a few days later, whilst visiting the college I had attended in Newport, one of the lecturers asked if I would care to teach some people, who belonged to a religious sect, Esperanto. He gave me a phone number to ring that evening, which I did and was not surprised to find myself speaking to a Baha'i, as I had half expected it. So I was very pleased to be able to inform them about Esperanto and in return learn something about their Faith. loaned plenty to read about the Baha'is. Not long before meeting them, I had arranged to go on an Esperanto course in Bulgaria. I returned from Bulgaria qualified to teach beginners, and am now also a Baha'i. So all that now remains is for me to encourage more Baha'is to be Esperantists and more people to be Baha'is, or at least receive the Message.

# Bahá'í Youth

# BAHA'I BOOKS 5

The Baha'i Administrative system is unique. It is God-given and, if used properly, a perfect instrument for the organisation of Baha'i affairs. We must grow to know it and love it - it is one of the most important things that distinguishes us from other religions. To help you know and love our precious Administrative Order a few books are listed below.

## General:

1. Principles of Baha'i Administration

This is a compilation of essential advice for individuals, Assemblies, and Convention, from Shoghi Effendi.

2. The Dispensation of Baha'u'llah

The fourth section of this book is entitled "The Administrative Order". It is an overview of Baha'i Administration by Shoghi Effendi to be read carefully and meditated upon.

3. Seeking the Light of the Kingdom (UHJ Compilation 8).

This is a collection of quotations on the Nineteen Day Feast and Baha'i Meetings.

4. Trustees of the Merciful

This charming little book by Counsellor Adib Taherzadeh explains the working of Divine Institutions in clear and simple terms, complete with diagrams.

# Local Spiritual Assemblies:

5. <u>Local Spiritual Assemblies</u> (UHJ Compilation 1).

This is a compilation of basic quotations on the establishment, membership, functions and procedures of the Local Assembly and as such should be to hand on everyone's bookshelf.

# National Spiritual Assembly:

6. <u>National Spiritual Assembly</u> (UHJ Compilation 5).

Although only a few of us are ever called to serve on the National Assembly, we are all in need of learning to appreciate the station, nature and responsibilities of this vital institution.

# The Universal House of Justice

7. The Constitution of the Universal House of Justice

This booklet explains the powers, duties and procedures of our most august body, and might help us gain a clearer picture of it.

### Counsellors:

8. <u>Continental Boards of Counsellors</u> (UHJ Compilation 2).

This compilation explains the functions of the appointed wing of our Administrative System.

Dayspring is a magazine for children produced in this country by the National Consolidation Committee. If your children are not receiving this excellent magazine please contact Martin Newman, 2 Aydon Castle Cottages, Corbridge, Northumberland. This magazine is (as is the Journal) in need of assistance from writers and artists.

The Manchester Baha'is recently wrote to the Taxi Owners Association in that city, informing them of the location of the Baha'i Centre. The location was duly publicised in the Taxi Owners' monthly bulletin. This is a god idea for those towns where Baha'i Centres exist. A few years ago, the number of Baha'is requesting tour guides to take them to the Guardian's Grave was sufficient to lead the tour guides to contact the National Office for information and directions.

# Travel Teaching in Scotland

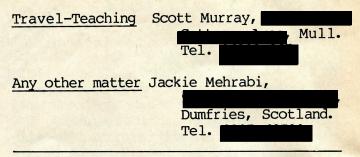
A warm welcome to all our visitors this summer, and especially to all those who have come the long distance from the World Centre, bringing with them the fragrance of the Holy Land.

Most of our travel teachers arrange their itineraries through the Scottish Department, which does help to utilise the talents and capacities of both visitors and local communities. Apart from visits from personal invitations, we would be grateful if all intending travel teachers could observe the following procedure so that so undue burden is laid upon the friends:

- 1. That the Scottish Department be informed beforehand.
- 2. That the communities to be visited are first asked if they would like a visit (not a letter or phone call saying "we are coming!") and with enough time for them to meet and agree or otherwise to such a visit.
- free hospitality unless this is voluntarily offered. If such teachers need financing they should ask the N.T.C. or the Department. If funds are not available they should not arrive at some tenderhearted friend's house penniless! They are probably hard up too.
- 4. That they should never ask to use the telephone if there is a phone box available. The hosts probably want to say "no" but cannot without embarrassment.
- 5. Get up early. Don't go to bed too late. Keep busy. And please don't sit around someone's house for most of the day.

It is obviously always best to work through the right channels and we believe that if the above procedure is faithfully followed by all the friends then resentments won't arise and we will all begin to understand and welcome travel teachers. The result of the majority of travel teachers who go through the Department is very great: the result of those who don't is often unhappiness (usually voiced only to us!)

For Scotland please contact the following:



# The Western Isles

Lochboisdale just before six o'clock on a cold, wet and windy Friday morning was not the most inviting of places. But, nevertheless, I had arrived on South Uist and that's what really mattered. first problem was to find accommodation a modest bed and breakfast would be perfect - but finding such a place at such an awkward time of the day and in such adverse conditions (a thick veil of mist loomed ominously in front of me) was going to be difficult. However well one prepares oneself there's always room for the unexpected. I reassured myself and made off towards the first sign of life anyway there were always the sheep to keep me company.

Eventually after a long and tiring search I was made welcome by a very warm and charming couple who began to seek after my every need. A moment's silence and then the questions. Who was I? Where was I from? Why had I arrived at such a time of the year? Was I visiting To that I replied "Baha'i friends? "But there are no Baha'is in friends". South Uist, though there are some in Stornoway". The struggle of the past two hours had seemed worth it, but as we began discussing the Faith it became apparent that my need for sleep was greater. Several bouts of yawning and mumbling quickly followed and clearly apologies were in order - but it wasn't to just them that I should have been apologising. Progressive Revelation had to wait for I was soon fast asleep.

South Uist, although barren and quite desolate, has a charm and beauty of its own. The hills in the distance impose their majesty gently; the atmosphere is one of timeless understanding. Initial stares soon become friendly smiles as the stranger is gradually welcomed into the fold and the full story is revealed.

Their curiosities have been satisfied. The word "Baha'i" seems to crop up in every conversation: some want to know more, a few don't, and others just nod politely. Everyone on the islands has heard about the Faith: it is the principles and the teachings that they remain unaware of.

On Sunday, I had the great privilege of attending Morning Service with the couple with whom I was staying. The service, conducted entirely in Gaelic, was very inspiring. The traditional hymn singing (a feature unique to the Catholic Uist service), congregational prayer, and a stirring sermon were the ingredients of an unforgettable experience.

From Lochboisdale I set off on the next stage of my visit to Stornoway (via Benbecula) on the Isle of Lewis and the chance, at last, of meeting some of the Baha'i friends! Benbecula airport provided another wonderful opportunity for meeting with many of the locals during their lunch break and consequently of talking about the Faith. In a place where people are continually coming and going, the obvious one-liner "Are you off to vist friends?" produces the equally obvious, and by now much perfected, response.

Stornoway was busier than I somehow expected, a hive of activity unlike any other place on the islands, but yet still possessing that distinct island flavour so refreshing to a product of suburbia like myself. Tuesday night was the night of the Feast of Baha, and certainly one of the highlights of my visit. It is rare that all five Baha'is on Lewis are able to attend the Feast, but fortunately tonight was to be a glorious exception. It was Naw-Ruz, and great anticipation and excitement awaited the launching of the Gaelic translation of the "Hidden Words" - "Na Briathran Falaichte", as this is only the second publication of Baha'i Writings to appear in one of Europe's oldest languages. There had already been extensive publicity in all the local newspapers (including "The Oban Times"), the success of which I was very fortunate to encounter during the remainder of my trip. The Western Isles remain the last major stronghold of the Gaelic language and it is hoped that the translation will not only serve as an important contribution to the Writings in

Gaelic, but also add to the quality of the Gaelic language itself.

Later on that week, I was able to see much of the beautiful coastline of East Lewis, and to visit North Tolsta and Portnaguran in the Point area where one of the Baha'is, Harold Lane, lives. We spent three and a half very absorbing hours sharing thoughts and ideas on teaching the Faith in the islands, and especially how Baha'is from the mainland should approach this vitally important task. After such very uplifting experiences, I sadly took my leave of Lewis, and journeyed down to Benbecula.

I was now the weekend guest of Graham Barnes and his family in the main town of Balivanich, where Graham and Peter Bird run a very successful and popular youth club. The picture of island life was now complete. We were able to discuss the many ways and means that Baha'i travel teachers could be of use and benefit to the local community, especially during busy periods such as the summer holidays (anyone coming up can at least be assured of a free haircut!)

Since everyone on the islands knows the business of everyone else, the activities of the Baha'i visitors would never go unnoticed. A team of gallant believers participating in activities ranging from peat cutting to simple farmwork would soon become the centre of much attention and, more important, admiration, especially if those participants were young. By these means, the good name of the Faith would be preserved, and long lasting contacts and friendships could be established and hopefully maintained throughout the following years. Only curious minds can be attracted to the Faith, and attention, in whatever form it manifests itself, is one way of arousing such curiosity. The privilege of helping an island community is simply a gift of love, a gift that will go a long way to unlocking their precious and warm hearts, and help create that special relationship with the islanders that may indeed be one of the keys to success - a success assured by the Guardian.

The friends on the islands will warmly welcome any pioneers, travel teachers, or just visitors, to share in an experience that, sadly, so few have been part of.

(Kishan F. Manocha)

# International News

### AUSTRALIA

In the small Kentish community of Tasmania (pop. 4,300) the challenge of bringing the Faith to a farming area was met when the Baha'is of Kentish developed "Alternative Weekends". A successful 1983 venture had brought together 700 people the rural area to about agricultural alternatives. The Baha'is of Kentish resolved to do the same thing in 1984, "bigger and better and with greater emphasis on the Faith." On a February weekend they did so. The Kentish Assembly's report to their National Assembly begins: "1,000 people, perfect summer weather, unbelievably beautiful scenery, a constant stream of enquiries about the Faith, declarations, many new contacts, people relaxed and smiling, cooperation and friendship.... this was Alternatives II, at the Benson's Luvaduk Farm, Erriba in the Kentish Municipality of Tasmania."

Planning for the popular event had taken six monthsand had involved innumerable contacts with organisations, crafts people, commercial outlets, public officials, speakers, exhibitors, Tasmanian Baha'i communities press and radio and even the Church of England Guild whichwas delighted to be askedto participate by being asked to man the food stall. By the time of the weekend, there had been 14 good articles in six newspapers, repeated announcements on the radio, and even paid advertising by some of the exhibitors in their own newspaper ads. The ABC regional news mentioned the weekend and the rural programme entusiastically touted the event.

The committees analysis of the people served by the Alternatives II Weekend shows that it held appeal for diverse people. "People came in camper vans and with tents. Some people arrived the day before. Some were tourists who had rearranged their itinerary to attend...about 70 camped over (in facilities provided by the Baha'is)...The crowds were different on each day.

### INDIA

Amazing news of massive enrolments in the Bhind area of Madhya Pradesh brought joy to the World Centre on 24 May and 6 June as cables arrived from the National Spiritual Assembly of India. They told of 40,000, then an additional 24,000 new followers of Baha'u'llah brought into the Cause through intensive activity of the "Muhajir Project", a teaching plan of the State Committee of Uttar Pradesh. The deepening of 64,000 new believers presents a strong challenge to the eager Baha'i teachers of India.

A State Women's Conference brought large numbers of women from the villages of Karnataka to Tumkur on 14-15 April. The Conference was opened by Mrs Chandra Prabha Urs, Minister for Social Welfare of Karnataka Government. Village women sang Baha'i songs with melodious voices. 25 women from one village had learned the short Obligatory Prayer and other prayers by memory, and one by one they chanted them for the Conference.

Auxiliary Board Member Wilma Habibi spoke of women assuming their proper role, and of the introduction of social and economic reforms into the lives of vollagers, especially women, because of this recent emphasis by the Universal House of Justice. She said the application of recent directives of that body will "galvanize the Baha'i life in India". Counsellor Dipchand Khianra followed Mrs Habibi, speaking of the important part women must play in bringing peace to a war-scourged world. He said, "Let the reins come into feminine hands and the world will witness peace, progress and plenty".

Songs presented by villagers, one-act plays with moral lessons on unity and child education, and narrations of the experiences in field work by Baha'i teachers of women enlivened the programme. Talks that were given in English were translated into the State language, Kannada.

## REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

A new approach to public meetings has been adopted by the Local Spiritual Assembly of Waterford which ahs designed a series of talks on subjects of interest and value to the people of the town, as a public service. John O'Mohoney spoke on "Health and Healing" and drew thoughtful and interesting questions from the audience. He mentioned the Faith several times during his address. A second talk on "Sexual Equality, Myth or Reality?" by Sabina Nagle greatly impressed the nine non-Baha'i women guests who attended. "The meetings are gaining considerable respect for the Baha'i Faith in Waterford", it was reported.

### UNITED STATES

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

An outstanding example of what can be achieved by a Baha'i pioneer family in terms of contributing to the social development of their chosen goal community is found in the following excerpts from a letter written by Jim and Jackie Hagan:

"Now we are pioneers to the Turks and Caicos Islands, having been on the island of N. Caicos since November of 1983. Our environment is a 35 square mile island of mostly bush, cacti and mudflats... Total population of the island is about 1,000 with 600 living in Bottle Creek where we live and work.

"We would like to outline our work here since it corresponds to the call of the Universal House of Justice for grass-roots impact on the social and economic development of society. Bear in mind that all these projects are small scale since the population here is self-limiting.

- "1. We have a community pre-school with about 10 children ages 2 to 4 who attend regularly and others who drop in occasionally. We try to incorporate the principles of the Faith wherever we can when working with these young souls.
- "2. A small scale after-school tutorial programme for older children needing extra help. Presently about 7 boys, aged 11-14, attend, exchanging Saturday odd-jobs for their nominal tuition of \$2.00 per week.
- "3. An English class for the dozen or so Haitians who live in Bottle Creek, using the Lauback Literacy series which we had

studied in the United States. This class was started at their request.

- "4. Assistance with the Junior High School agriculture class one hour a week with each of 4 levels and a Friday afternoon garden club. Many of the youth have assisted with and watched with growing interest the transformation of our rocky yard into beds which are now producing some fruits of the labours. (In fairness it must be mentioned that more died than survived!)
- "5. A lending library for children is operated out of our living room with books donated or obtained at library sales and garage sales in the United States. There is no community library so this is a new service it is promoting reading and giving us wonderful opportunities to serve the children.
- "6. A weekly 3 hour 'family game night' open to all ages when games, toys and some educational materials are made available to anyone who stops by. Other than church services, this is the onlyregular community activity on the island!
- "7. A newly-begun after-school programme of educational TV shows for children to watch for 30 minutes on their way home from school.
- "8. Miscellaneous community projects such as organising athletic teams; providing transportation to the beaches for swimming and recreation; loaning and teaching the use of hand tools to local youth; assisting and encouraging trash pick-ups by taking trailer loads of trash to the dump as needed; encouraging home gardens; and a host of other small services as needed.

"People know we are Baha'is but no-one has asked us about it yet. We occasionally attend the local churches to show that we believe in God and Christ. It is always interesting when asked if we are 'saved'. Our reply is 'Yes, but not in the same way you believe'. It suffices".

The Hagans were grateful for the assistance of Susan Higgins Tower, a visitor from the United States who "helped organise the house and break the ice with the local people". When she

# BELGIUM

More than 300,000 people attended the International Book Fair held in Brussels from 10 - 18 March where an attractive and well-stocked Baha'i booth displayed a wide range of Baha'i literature including publications of Maison d'Editions Baha'ies. Free literature was made available to enquirers and Baha'is were on hand to answer questions, and a video tape about the Faith was played at low volume attracting attention to the stand. The Baha'is were able to renew acquaintance with sympathisers with whom friendships had been formed in earlier years and arrangements were made for interviews with the media. Christine Samandari-Hakim attended on one occasion to autograph copiesof her book "Les Baha'is ou Victoire sur la Violence" (The Baha'is or Victory over Violence).

"The booth was a magnificent testimony to the assistance we attract while involved unitedly in the teaching work," one participant remarked.

### NEW ZEALAND

A Triennial Law Conference held in April in Rotorua provided the National Assembly an opportunity to proclaim the Faith to nearly 2,000 conference participants from commonwealth countries. A room was engaged by the Baha'is at the conference site and an excellent display was mounted. Three New Zealand Baha'is attended the conference, in their professional capacities as lawyers and spoke with many of the participants about the Faith.

The Baha'i display, consisting of freestanding panels, attractively presented the Faith, its current world status, the structure of its administrative order and highlighted principles of particular concern to members of the legal profession: obedience to law, justice, elimination of prejudice, equality of men and women and world peace upheld by world government. One panel displayed world media response to the persecutions. Two videos, "Unity in diversity" and "20/20" were on view and books and pamphlets were displayed.

During the law conference the Attorney-General of Australia made reference to religious intolerance and the plight of the Baha'isin Iran. A lawyer from India also drew attention to the Faith on the National Radio. An awareness and concern for human rights and religious intolerance never before seen at such conferences was noted by the Baha'is.

"When we teach and proclaim the Faith, miracles take place," the National Assembly reported. "A lawyer who had heard about our display but was unsure of its location asked two pressreporters, and then proceeded to give them a detailed account of the persecutions. The staff at the conference site were helpful beyond the bounds of duty and expressed sympaty for the cause.... A breakthrough in proclaiming to the judiciary was achieved, not only for New Zealand, but also for Australia, India and England."

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

On June 7 New Hanover was opened when 8 new believers were enroled. This small island (460 square miles) in the Bismark Archipelago was one of the last remaining goals of the Seven Year Plan in PNG.

# Serve the Faith II

Applications are invited for the post of clerical and book-keeping assistant to take charge of order processing and customer accounts at the Baha'i Publishing Trust in OAKHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE. Typing skills and commercial experience would be an advantage but training will be given to a suitable candidate. A good general education and command of English is required but knowledge of Farsi would be This is a wonderful opportunity for someone to combine a life of service to the Faith with an interesting career in the expanding field of Baha'i publishing.

APPLICATIONS enclosing details of age, qualifications and experience should be made in writing to THE MANAGER, THE BAHA'I PUBLISHING TRUST, 6 MOUNT PLEASANT, OAKHAM, LEICS. LE15 6HU, to arrive as son as possible. (Age 20-45) Salary, conditions, according to qualifications and experience. For further information ring 0572 2780.

# Children's Page



Dear Children,
Are you enjoying the summer
holidays? Perhaps you're planning to go to one of the Summer
Schools ~ if you are I hope you
will make plenty of new friends!
Love to you all, Carolyn.

# from the bookshelf

At home we have two copies of a book called "The Horse of the Moonlight" - I think one must have been a present! This book is written by Irene Taafaki and tells a story about a boy called Tim who meets The Horse of the Moonlight and is taken for a magical ride on his back.

When they reach some stables Tim sees three quite old, but beautiful horses standing there. They are very special horses and each one tells Tim a wonderful story.

To find out what the stories are though, you must read the book! It's a lovely book with very good illustrations in it which are drawn by Jeff Wakeford, and it is especially good as a bedtime story. It is available from the Bahá'í Publishing Trust.

# Living the Baha'i Life

"Let your heart burn with loving - kindness for all who may cross your path" 'Abdu'l-Bahá

# 140 years ago . . .

in the afternoon of May 22nd, 1844, Mulla Husayn stood outside the gates of the city of Shiraz in Persia. He had travelled hundreds of miles, across the sea and over mountains, to look for the 'Promised One' or 'The Lord of the Age'. He was tired and weary but when he entered the city a kind young man invited him to His house. Who was that youg man? The Báb, 'The Promised One', the very person that Mulla Husayn had been seeking!

Do you know the rest of this story? Perhaps you could ask an adult to tell you - it's very exciting.



# "Devotion"

Throughout the whole of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's life, even when He was a little boy, He loved Bahá'u'lláh in a deep and wonderful way. He loved Him because He was His Father but He also loved Him because He was God's Messenger to Mankind.

Every moment of His life 'Abdu'l-Bahá was full of longing to help and serve His wonderful Father, Bahá'u'lláh. This sort of love is called DEVOTION, and it filled the heart of 'Abdu'l-Bahá so much that it could be seen in everything He did. When we read stories about 'Abdu'l-Bahá we see that His life was very beautiful, because it was filled with kindness, understanding and love! In fact, He lived the life of a TRUE BAHÁ'Í and has shown us how beautiful Bahá'u'lláh's Teachings are when they are **practiced**.

This is why 'Abdu'l-Bahá is called our Exemplar, for He is the perfect example of what we ALL should be. Sometimes it is very hard for us to do all the right things and this makes us want to stop trying. But when someone asked 'Abdu'l-Bahá how we could ever become really loving, kind and helpful people, He answered by saying, "Little by little. Day by day." This is very comforting isn't it? For we just have to try, every day, to love other people and to be as kind as we can, and then we will learn to live that beautiful life which was the purpose of Baha'u'lláh's Coming!

(Written by Lou Turner)

# Bahá'í Honoured

Mr John Long, a long serving member of the National Spiritual Assembly and for many years its chairman, has been honoured with a special award for his services to education and in particular education in the clothing and footwear industries.

Mr Long was presented with the Holden Medal by the president of the Clothing and Footwear Institute, Mr Susmann, who commented on Mr Long's exceptional contribution and dedicated service to the industry and education in general. This prestigious award has been given on only four previous occasions and Mr Long is only the second British person to receive the award. It is a special honour reserved for those individuals of outstanding and exceptional merit, and is especially struck on each occasion.

Mr Long worked in the clothing and footwear industries and, after retiring from his post as Dean of Leicester Polytechnic, devoted much of his time to the development of the Baha'i Publishing Trust.

Banff and Buchan community are looking for any community with a spare samovar that they can have.

They write: "We have a community of 10 adults, 14 youth and one youth plus so many enquirers that we find making tea for them all quite a task. We at present have to borrow or hire a tea urn for any social event we have and although we've enquired about buying one our limited budget just does not stretch to it."

If anyone can help please telephone Lonmay

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# PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER!

All orders, enquiries and payments should now be sent to: THE AUDIO VISUAL CENTRE, ARFON BAHA'I CENTRE, 42 COLLEGE ROAD, BANGOR, GWYNEDD, NORTH WALES.

(Please do not use the address or phone number at 223 Penrhos Rd., Bangor, any more as Chris & Carolyn Gibbs are moving out shortly and the new occupiers will be unable to answer your queries!)

# You Write....

To the friends in the UK - especially Wales:

Dear friends,

During a recent visit to India I met for the first time my husband's cousin's wife, who was very intrigued that no less than 4 of her relatives have married Baha'is. (One married and became a Jehovah's Witness). The family are Hindus. One of her nephews, a medical doctor, married a Welsh girl, and later went to America. Does anyone know who this would be? The cousin is currently the Indian Ambassador to Syria but would have been elswhere in those days. His name is RAY. His wife's name is likely to have been Sen, Dasgupta, or even Neogi.

If anyone recalls a wedding between a British Baha'i and a Bengali doctor and can help us trace them, I'd be very grateful!

Warm Baha'i greetings, Carolyn Neogi,

To the Editor:

Dear Sir,

We were rather amused by the letter from the Editor in last month's Journal, regarding use of the new clear polywrapper in delivering the Journal.

Are we alone in our views? We thought that someone had deliberately decided on this new method of delivery as a subtle way of proclaiming the Faith to the Post Office workers! Who can fail but to see the headings and photographs through the clear plastic film? What a splendid idea, we thought.

However it appears that others disagree... diversity of thought, you see. It seems that you can't please all of the Baha'is all of the time!

With loving greetings, Jan and Bryn Fussell, Llanelli. Dearest Friend,

I was recently given a copy of the quotation below. Although there is no reference to where this statement of 'Abdu'l-Baha is recorded, it is so inspiring and could give much comfort and strength to the friends, that in my humble opinion, it is worthy of publication. Perhaps you know the source of the quote? Nina Gordon, an American travel teacher to the U.K., recently gave it to us.

Take care, Clive Tully.

"YA BAHA'U'L-ABHA! In that cry are all the cries of the universe and of the chord of divine reality struck. The shout 'Ya Baha'u'l-Abha!' in this day of its birth is more profit unto thee than all knowledge of the sciences and all the wealth of the earth. It is the rhythm of progress, the cord of creation, the melody of eternity, and the password to the Kingdom of God. Therefore use it to establish thyself in the realm of divine trust. Speak it in thy solitude, cry it in thy joy, murmur it in thy grief and chant it in thy weakest moments, and it will give thee strength. It is that crytaht brings the Supreme Concourse to the door of thy life and stations the love of Abha above thy soul of trust. It opens the heavens of mysteries, colours and riddles of life. It absorbs all, encircles all, includes all. The words of that phrase of 'Glory to God' is to sing in harmonyto the Supreme Concourse of songs and to harmonise with the holy I AM in His court of divine omnipotent truth.

"It holds all there is of substance and all there is in the world of creative thought. The Greatest Name carries the highest vibration; the vibration produces a spiritual word; the vibration of utterance, either mental or oral, produces a spiritual result, regardless of the thought". ('Abdu'l-Baha)

Dear Baha'i friends,

I am a sociologist and Baha'i historian with a particular interest in Western Baha'i history. I write to you to propose a European Baha'i History Project, with the following objectives:

1. To compile and circulate a list of publications and archive materials relating to European Baha'i history.

2. To arrange a conference for Summer 1985 at which all those interested in European Baha'i history might meet and at which relevant papers might be presented.

3. To prepare a book of essays on European Baha'i history.

I would be grateful if you could inform me of any Baha'is (or non-Baha'is) who would be interested in this project, and also of any individuals who might be preared to write about the history of your Baha'i community.

Thank you for your help.

Dr Peter Smith, University of Lancaster, Dept. of Sociology, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YL

Two Baha'i scholars are planning to organise two seminars, one on Baha'i history and one on Baha'i doctrine, belief and practice. It is hoped that these seminars will encourage original research on various aspects of the Baha'i Faith. Whilst it is intended that these seminars should be of a high academic standard it is stressed that everyone who is seriously interested in Baha'i scholarship is welcome, indeed encouraged to attend. Anyone who would like to contribute a paper to either of these seminars is invited to contact one of the organisers listed below. Papers on some aspect of British Baha'ihistory would be particularly welcomed. Further details of the seminars will be announced later. Contact Dr Moojan Momen, Whixamtree, Sand Lane, Northill, Beds. or Dr Peter Smith, Sheep fold, Borwick, Carnforth, Lancs.

# From the International Goals Committee

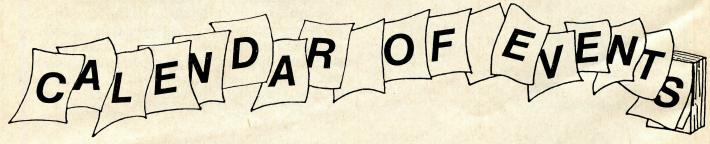
Following the successful teavel teaching project in the spring to Belgium, the International Goals Committee is planning a similar project in September to the Netherlands. The proposed departure date is 1 September returning in time for the North Sea Border Conference on the 7th. The number of participants is limited to 10 and it is hoped that a wide age range will take part. For further details contact Taraneh Majidi, IGC, 27 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PD.

The United Kingdom has 14 specific pioneering goals in this final phase of the Seven Year Plan, apart from any world goals we may fill. They are: Cyprus 4, The Gambia 2, Ghana 2, Sierra Leone 2, Seychelles 1, St Vincent 2, British Virgin Islands 1, Sri Lanka 1.

An exellent way to pioneer is to apply for jobs advertised in your trade or professional journal. It is usual to offer free transport and substantial living expenses with these jobs so that the pioneer is better able to help the progress of the Faith in their adopted country. The IGC has recently heard of some opportunities for postgraduate students in Commonwealth countries which will be of interest to students wanting to undertake a short-term pioneering project - these awards are conditional on the student returning to their country of residence at the end of the course.

Further details of all these ideas may be obtained from Mr Ray Humphrey,

RG11



AUG 5

Picnic, Main Building, Gunnersbury Park, lpm. Details Samandar

AUG 7-11

"SOUL WARS" YOUTH CONFERENCE. Dealing with problems of being a Baha'i youth in today's society. Speakers include Mary Hardy, Philip Hainsworth, and Professor Soheil Bushru'i, among others.

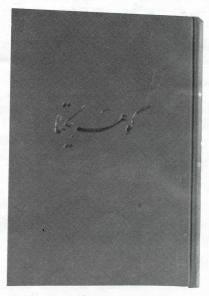
			Cost: £37.80 full board, £20.20 half-board. Self-catering and camping, £14.40. Kitchen facilities available for self-caterers. SAE for more details. Nica Louie, Worthing, W. Sussex.
	AUG	11	Public talk entitled "A view on world education" Speaker Mr Roger Prentice.  Sussex. For information contact
	AUG	9–12	Junior Youth Summer School, 29 Newtondale, Sutton Park, Hull For boys 8-11, aim is to give deeper understanding of the Faith. Outings and involvement in local Baha'i community.
	AUG	11-19	Irish Summer School, King's Hospital School, nr Dublin (as last year). £80 Irish (much less in Sterling). Details from Summer School Registrar, 24 Burlington Rd., Dublin 4, Ireland.
	AUG	12	Genuine American Picnic on Tooting Common. Meet at 31a Fieldhouse Rd, London SW12, at 11.30am. Cost £3, Children & OAPs £1.50 Further details contact Kathy Nikjoo after 8pm.
	AUG	12	One day school organised by Ealing L.Y.C. Further information contact Shirin Youssefian on
	AUG	12	Barbeque (& possibly barn dance) Jenkin's, Meltham, 3pm
	AUG	12	Picnic in Kensington Gardens. Meet at the Albert Memorial 11.30
	AUG	18-23	Swiss Summer School, Topic: Shoghi Effendi (in English) Details and address as above.
	AUG	18-25	First Welsh Summer School. Details to follow.
	AUG	18–26	Italian Summer School, Northern Italy. Details and booking from Chiara Azzali, Tel. Mantova.
	AUG	25–30	Swiss Summer School, Topic: Persian and Arabic Baha'i Writings (in Persian and Arabic). Details and address as above.
	AUG	26-1 SEP	Second Welsh Summer School. Details to follow.
	SEPT	23	One day school "Families" Organised by Lambeth community but held at 27 Rutland Gate, London SW7. Cost £2. Details Kathy after 8pm.
	SEPT	22-23	Weekend school on Isle of Wight. "I desire distinction for you" Sleeping bag accommodation provided. Meals at cost. Details 0983 873629 or 862484
	SEPT	26	Public meeting, Coleman St Community Centre, Southend, Essex. 8pm. Details Southend 232202.
	SEPT	29	Fire and Snow in concert, Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Ave, Southend, Essex. Details Southend 232202
Public meetings at the National Centre, 27 Rutland Gate, Thursdays 8pm Speakers - Aug 9 - Ananda Taliah, Aug 16 - Geeta & Roger Kingdon, Aug Adamson. All are welcome.			at the National Centre, 27 Rutland Gate, Thursdays 8pm Ananda Taliah, Aug 16 - Geeta & Roger Kingdon, Aug 23 - Hugh

# NEW BOOKS IN FARSI

**NOW AVAILABLE** 

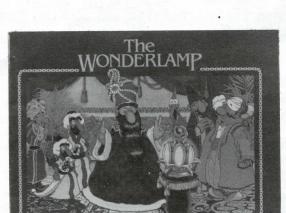


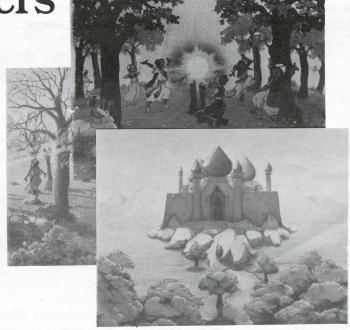
Some Answered Questions MUFÁVAÞÁT 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ £6.95



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