

## THE 'FOUR CANDLES' PROJECT

The original script for the classic Two Ronnies Fork Handles sketch was sold at auction for £48,500 in December 2007. The sketch, written by the late Ronnie Barker, sees the comedian trying to buy fork handles and being offered four candles by shopkeeper Ronnie Corbett. First shown in 1976 it went on to be voted the greatest Two Ronnies sketch in a TV special. As the sketch continues, Corbett's character becomes increasingly irritated with workman Barker's requests for items with double meanings.



Christmas is a time with many double meanings, and very often people can become so drawn into the materialistic and secular traditions of the season that they forget its real meaning. The Four Candles project aims to help people remember the real reason for the celebration, encouraging them to light a candle on Christmas Day, pause to remember the birth of Jesus and pray. Similarly, it enables people to begin the New Year by lighting another candle and focusing on God in prayer. Candles are packed in sets of four so that church members can keep two for themselves and make a gift of the other two.



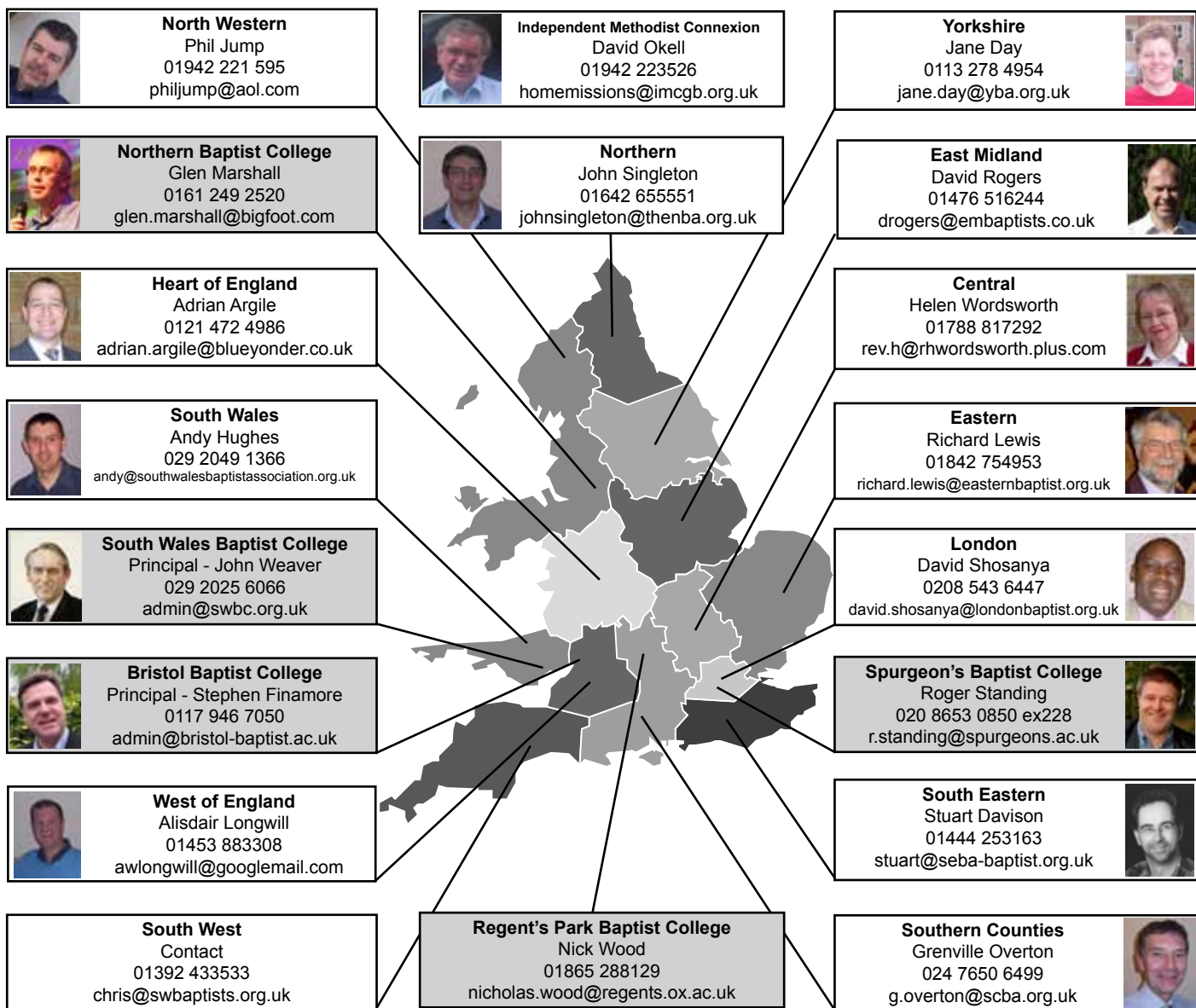
### The Four Candles Project – A Step by Step Guide

- 1 Order Christmas Day and New Year's Day prayer labels from Baptist Union Mission Department (available in bundles of fifty for each day at £5.00 (+ £2.50 p&p) - enough to make twenty-five sets)
- 2 Add a message from the church / church contact details to the reverse of the labels
- 3 Purchase the candles of your choice to make sets of four candles (these can be purchased from your local supplier or ordered from [www.candlesupply.co.uk](http://www.candlesupply.co.uk))
- 4 Attach prayer labels to candles with ribbon/raffia
- 5 Make up sets of four candles, each with two 'Christmas' candles and two 'New Year' candles, making them as attractive as possible to encourage members to give them as a gift
- 6 Explain the project to church members and encourage them to buy a set of four candles – keeping one set of Christmas and New Year candles for themselves and making a gift of the other two

We would love to hear how it goes in your church so that we can share it with others.

This leaflet is one of a series which has been produced by the Mission Department.

For more information please contact your local association or college (see contact details below) or contact the department on 01235 517713 / email [mission@baptist.org.uk](mailto:mission@baptist.org.uk)



## Order form for Four Candles Project Prayer Labels

Prayer Labels for the candles are available in bundles of 50 of each of the two labels (for Christmas Day and New Year's Day - a total of 100 labels). This will be sufficient for twenty-five sets of four candles. Cost per set of 100 prayer labels is £5.00 + £2.50 p&p per order.

Please complete the information below and return it to the Mission Department.

Name	
Delivery Address	
Postcode	
Church name	
Association	
Number of sets of prayer labels (100 labels per set)	
Cost of labels (£5.00 per set)	
Postage and Packing £2.50 per order	£2.50
Total amount enclosed	

Please return your order with a cheque made payable to the Baptist Union of Great Britain to:

The Mission Department, Baptist Union of Great Britain,  
Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8RT