

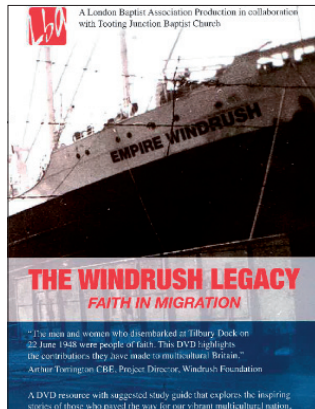
# The Windrush legacy

THE arrival of several hundred people from the Caribbean in Essex on 22 June 1948 marked a step change in immigration to Britain - and now the voices of the Windrush generation, and the vital role faith played in overcoming the difficulties they faced, have been captured in a new film that links to issues of immigration and racism today.

*The Windrush Legacy - Faith in Migration* DVD resource has been produced by the London Baptist Association (LBA) in collaboration with Tooting Baptist Church. As well as telling the story of the migration of the Windrush generation to Britain, it features the views of white British people at that time, those of their children and grandchildren, and the perspectives of newer migrants to these shores.

The connecting theme for all is how their Christian faith has helped and sustained them through the changing circumstances of life.

LBA Regional Minister Kumar Rajagopalan is one of the film's producers, and he said faith and the age of the participants had all played a role in making the resource. 'There have been quite a lot of resources about Windrush, but nothing



from a faith perspective. We wanted to look at how faith has enabled the Windrush generation to cope with the various pressures they have faced.

'Additionally most of them are in their 80s now - books are good, but we thought to record their stories and get them in an audio-visual format would help to understand them more widely.'

Several of the 492 passengers on the Empire Windrush attend Tooting Junction Baptist Church, whose pastor is Osoba Otaigbe.

He said, 'Our past stories influence our present, when we understand it and reflect on it constructively it brings out the best in us.'

'But when suppressed you

never know what the next generations will make of it. As a church with many Windrush generation members we wanted to be part of sharing in this story. The DVD tells inspiring stories of those who paved the way for our vibrant multicultural Britain, how faith sustained them in the midst of great challenges.'

Osoba added that apart from telling the story of the past, 'we were very aware of the scaremongering about Romanians and Bulgarians coming to Britain', and the stories of modern migrants are also featured. These include Teofil Harii, minister of Hope and Grace Romanian Church in Croydon.

***The Windrush Legacy - Faith in Migration* resource is accompanied by a booklet to provoke small/home group discussions**

**It is free, but if churches would like to make a £12 donation to cover the costs, that will be gratefully received. Copies can be ordered from the London Baptist Association on 020 7692 5592 or [cynthia.athur@londonbaptist.org.uk](mailto:cynthia.athur@londonbaptist.org.uk)**

**For the full story visit [bit.ly/STGtKZ](http://bit.ly/STGtKZ)**

# Regional minister appointments

THE APPOINTMENTS of two new regional ministers were announced this week.

Colin Pye will be the new Regional Minister at the Central Baptist Association (CBA), filling the position made vacant by the retirement of Helen Wordsworth. Colin had been part of the CBA Regional Ministry team for one day a week, as well as minister at Little Kingshill Baptist Church in Bucks.



Colin Pye

The appointment was made 'unanimously' after an interview process, endorsed by the CBA Council and ratified by the Assembly on 14 June, said moderator Graham Clarke.

He added, 'Although Colin has been part of the Regional Ministry Team on a one day a week basis for a long time, the CBA is looking forward to Colin working among us

across the broader scope of the Association's life, impacting on many more churches with his gifts and skills.'

Colin, whose new role begins on 1 September, said, 'I am thrilled to have been invited to be the new Regional Minister for the CBA and excited to see how this new role will develop over the coming months and years.'

'Having a long history with the Buckinghamshire Forum (one of five forums in the CBA) I am looking forward to getting to know the wider Association, and trust that we as a team will be effective in encouraging our strapline, namely 'walking together in ministry and mission.'

Elsewhere Nick Lear will become the new Regional Minister at the Eastern Baptist Association, covering the southern sector of the Association. Nick is currently the Senior Minister at Colchester Baptist Church and in his blog explained how the process had been 'bittersweet'.

The post had already been advertised twice before he applied, and he was only prompted to consider it by 'people whom I trust and



Nick Lear

whose spiritual perceptiveness I value'. During the interview 'it dawned on me that God might be calling me to take on this role', and he was duly selected by the interview panel, a choice subsequently confirmed by the EBA Council which announced the news on Sunday.

'So it's a bittersweet moment,' continued Nick. 'I have a deep sense of eager anticipation and excitement about God's call for the future and at the same time deep sadness about leaving the church in Colchester.'

'I accepted the invitation and since I have done that I have felt an immense sense of God's affirmation and peace about the decision, although telling the church today (15 June) was one of the most difficult things I have had to do in my ministry.'

Nick will take up his responsibilities on 1 November.

# New chapter for church in the pub

A TORQUAY church's outreach work has been boosted after it secured greater use of the pub where it worships.

The Willows Community Church (Baptist) meets for worship in the Willow Tree Public House every Sunday morning. The pub is the only building in the Willows open to the public, meaning until now the outreach work of the church,

especially children's and young people's work, has been forced to happen outside of the area.

Now that looks set to change as it appears the brewery has consented to lease the pub's unused annexe to the Council for community use. Minister Bruce Porter said, 'With the annexe becoming available, we are looking at providing a weekly luncheon club, a parent and

toddlers group, a drop in centre and renewed children's and youth work.'

'The services will probably continue in the pub because, as it is open for breakfasts, when we meet it has proved to be an effective witness to many of the customers.'

'Please pray for us as we look forward to a new chapter in the life of the church.'

# Banksy, Brunel... and a Baptist

Horfield Baptist Church member Jenny Foster appears in an exhibition which celebrates Bristol citizens

A new exhibition celebrating the contributions of Bristol citizens, past and present, to the character and status of the city at home and abroad, features a member of a Baptist church.

Jenny Foster, Bristol's Fairtrade Co-ordinator, is among the 40 people selected as making a major contribution to the city, taking her place alongside the likes of world-famous street artist Banksy, and Victorian engineering genius Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

'You Make Bristol' opened at the city's M Shed museum last month.

Sixty communities across the city were invited to nominate people for the display and to make the final selection of 40 individuals or groups. All the captions are written by members of the community or volunteers bringing a fresh and heart-felt approach to the exhibition.

Roger James, regional Oxfam manager, wrote the caption for Jenny, stating 'Jenny is an inspiration and a beacon for



Fairtrade in Bristol and the region. Her leadership and skills have built partnerships across the community, businesses and media.

'She pioneered the influential Fairtrade Business Awards, Ethical Finance Conferences and the world's largest Fairtrade fashion shows. Bristol is now seen as a leading Fairtrade city with an ethical beating heart, hosting the International Fair Trade Conference in 2015.'

Jenny, a member of Horfield Baptist Church, said she was overwhelmed to be selected alongside such renowned and illustrious people. 'I'm delighted

and proud that Fairtrade is regarded so highly by the people of Bristol. This is particularly significant given our slave trade history – Bristol is now redefined as a fair and ethical place to live and work.'

Other Bristolians featured include physician Michael Dillon, Gareth Chilcott, Bath and England rugby prop, Roy Hackett who helped lead the Bristol Bus Company boycott and was a founder of St Paul's Carnival, Ernest Bevan, the Labour minister, as well as the Aardman animation team, best known for the popular Wallace and Gromit films.

a human being loved by God - like my friend Suzy, writes Anna Hancock

[bit.ly/1I30Sje](http://bit.ly/1I30Sje)

> Hugh Stowell Brown, man of the people: Famous preacher, social activist, church planter – Wayne Clarke on a 19th century Baptist who touched the lives of many

[bit.ly/1pg67vd](http://bit.ly/1pg67vd)

> Going digital - interactive Bible stories: An interview with Fiona Veitch Smith of Heaton Baptist Church, whose children stories have recently been converted into interactive e-books

[bit.ly/1kNUUxR](http://bit.ly/1kNUUxR)

> Christian Aid launches Iraq crisis appeal

[bit.ly/UfkPc4](http://bit.ly/UfkPc4)

## Stories from the World Cup

A CHRISTIAN sports media agency is bringing the sights, sounds and stories from the 2014 World Cup to sports fans around the world.

British charity 2K Plus International Sports Media is producing a daily half-hour programme from its base in Tijuca in the heart of Rio de Janeiro.

2K Plus aims to promote a relevant, alternative, Christ-centred lifestyle to sports fans in all corners of the globe.

With an international team of media professionals it is producing radio material in English and Spanish for 1000 radio stations across Africa, Europe, North and South America and Australia.

Its material includes interviews with star players such as Falcao and Kaka who talk in depth about their Christian faith, to speaking to chaplains from some of the national teams to get an insight into what support players need during this month long tournament.

Adrian Barnard is the 2K Plus team leader. 'We want to show that faith in Jesus Christ is relevant through our common interest in sport and highlight the importance of Christian values in the beautiful game.'

**Planet Sport – Destination Rio can be heard at [www.planetsport.tv](http://www.planetsport.tv).**

**Follow on Twitter @ planetsporttv, Facebook at planetsportmedia, iTunes, YouTube and Tumblr**

## Faith and Thought

FAITH and Thought, formerly the Victoria Institute, has organised an event entitled 'Homosexuality – scientific, biblical, social and pastoral aspects' at Bloomsbury Baptist Church this autumn.

Four speakers will bring four different perspectives on this topical subject within the Christian church. Is same-sex attraction 'in the genes'? Can we simply redact parts of scripture which we find awkward? How have societies views changed so dramatically within just a few generations?

And, most importantly, how do we extend the gospel message of love and hope to all, when sincere Christians may sincerely

disagree?

It takes place on Saturday 18 October from 10:30am to 4:00pm, Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church (London).

Cost £10 (£7 concessions) will be refunded to anyone joining the institute on the day.

There is no need to book in advance, but those who intend to come have been asked to drop administrator Alan Kerry an email to help to have a rough idea of numbers: [drapkerry@gmail.com](mailto:drapkerry@gmail.com)

Faith and Thought has been a forum for those who wish to hold together Christian faith and advances in scientific knowledge.

For more visit [www.faithandthought.org.uk](http://www.faithandthought.org.uk)

### JOBS

**Chief Executive Officer, African Pastors Fellowship Chaplains, Royal Air Force**

For more details visit: <http://www.baptist.org.uk/jobs>

### NOTICE

Were you there in 1914? Where? – at the laying the Foundation Stone of Hoddesdon Baptist Church (Herts). Probably not! But maybe a relative of yours was present that day; if so, we would love to see you at our Anniversary Thanksgiving Service at 10am on Sunday 27 July. Contact the church at Burford Street, Hoddesdon, Herts EN11 8HX for more details.

### BAPTISMS

**Ashurst Drive Baptist Church, Ilford:** Inova Lee. . . . . 1  
**Barrow upon Soar Baptist Church, Leicestershire:** Maurice Blount, Geoff Sarson . . . . . 2  
**Bourne Baptist Church, East Midlands:** Hannah Fytche, Eleanor Mould, Charlotte Parker and Lizzie Quinlan . . . . . 4  
**Colchester Baptist Church, Essex:** Simon Hinds . . . . . 1  
**Cranham Baptist Church, Upminster:** Pat Harbott, Sarah Rumsey, Trisha Massam . . . . . 3  
**Teddington Baptist Church, Middlessex:** Charles Clifford, Lauren Wood . 2  
**West Wickham & Shirley Baptist Church, Croydon:** Emma Smythe. . . . . 1

Send notifications of baptisms, ministerial changes, deaths and testimonies to [phobson@baptist.org.uk](mailto:phobson@baptist.org.uk)

### From the www. [baptisttimes.co.uk](http://baptisttimes.co.uk)

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