



NEWS & VIEWS

EVENTS COMING UP...

✦ Annual Conference

We have just been in conversation with Kay Wilson and she has decided to come to the conference in Swanwick, in July. She would like to personally thank our supporters for their love, encouragement and prayers. Kay will have an opportunity to share with the whole conference, during the programme on the Sunday.

✦ CMJ France Conference

Planning is in full swing for the first CMJ France conference. This is a very important event for the newly formed CMJ France and they would value our prayers for a full attendance at the weekend being held in Houlgate from 17th – 19th June.



✦ Residential Keshet

We are holding another residential Keshet Course at Willersley Castle Hotel in the Peak District, from 27th November – 2nd December. Details will be available from our website, though bookings will be made through Christian Guild.

EDITORIAL

The time seems to have flown by since I agreed to take over as CEO for three years. My stint is up from 1st August this year and Council has asked Alex Jacob to take over as acting CEO for two years. The reason for this arrangement is that we are in discussions with other ministries about future co-operation and the Council did not want to close down options at this point in time. Both they, and I, have every confidence in Alex's ability to take on the role.

In looking back over the past three years there have been some momentous happenings during this relatively short period. It began by moving the HQ from St Albans to Farnsfield and recruiting a new team to work at HQ. This was remarkably easy to do and we really feel this decision was a wise one. No sooner had we made the move than we were plunged into the preparations for the bi-centenary celebrations. This involved everyone working flat out together and we can look back on these bicentenary events with great enjoyment and pride.

When I first started, I was asked to focus on two main aspects of the ministry – to expand the supporter base and to balance the budget. We have been able to achieve both of these targets, thanks to the hard work of the HQ staff – particularly Jane, Jacki and Alan,

a great team of volunteers, the generosity of supporters and the blessing of God. In addition we have seen the development of the young people's work under Jen Robins; a reconnection with Ethiopia and have been involved in restarting CMJ France and possibly CMJ Holland. Finally, we have begun to work more closely with other Jewish ministries in the UK; have, at last, been able to expand the Evangelism Team in the UK and to launch the 'Bride Song' production.

It is with a mixture of sadness and relief that I will be handing the reins over to Alex. I could not have done this work without the support of Sue, my wife, and the CMJ team in the UK. Most of all I could not have done it without the guidance of the Holy Spirit. There have, of course, been times when I have made mistakes and not listened to His still small voice, but thankfully our God is forgiving and gracious.

CMJ is a great ministry and it has been a privilege to serve the ministry in some small way over the last three years. We shall, of course, continue to support CMJ in the future and look forward to meeting supporters at Swanwick for a great celebration.

Robin Aldridge



KRISTINE LUKEN MEMORIAL FUND

We would like to extend our many thanks to those who gave generously to Kristine's fund. We have agreed with the family for the gifts received from the USA and Israel, to be spent in Israel, on the CMJ Heritage Centres and the purchase of the Conrad Schick model. The UK gifts are being used to bolster the conference Bursary Fund and to pay some of the production expenses for 'Bride Song'. These were all aspects of the CMJ ministry which were close to Kristine's heart.

NEW PUBLICATION

Alex is publishing a new book, called "Receive the Truth". It is a less academic book than his previous one, aimed at answering 20 of the most frequently asked questions about Jewish ministry. It will be available at conference and will make an excellent handbook for supporters.

VISIT TO ELIM



Robin, Sue and Jane with the Elim Rotterdam Board

With only 10 kg of hand luggage each, Robin & Sue Aldridge and I set out for Holland early one Friday morning in March. Saving the money it would have cost to take suitcases had seemed a good idea, until we realised we had to take some CMJ

literature and copies of Kelvin Crombie's Book, *Restoring Israel*, weighing in at almost 1 kg each! The early start, flying at 6:45am, had also seemed a good idea, until I realised it meant leaving home at 3.30am! Oh, the hardships of modern Missionary work!

We were heading for Rotterdam to meet with the Elim Board, led by Wim van Duijvenbode (photo 1).

Elim was the name of the CMJ Mission House in Rotterdam, built in 1901 (photo 2). In 2005, God led the Rotterdam prayer group to the same house, after He'd told them to pray for Israel. As the group asked God where to hold these meetings, it was two years before He spoke through one of the group. They had to put a picture of the Tabernacle over a map of Rotterdam. Where the Menorah lay on the map of Rotterdam would be the place God wanted them to meet. This led them to a building on North Island with a 'To Let' sign outside. The Estate Agent said it had only been on the market for two days! When the group enquired about a plaque on the outside of the Building, they were told it stood for 'The London Society for the Promotion of Christianity amongst the Jews.' God had led them to the old CMJ building, taken from us in 1940 by the Nazis!

A LONG HISTORY

CMJ has a long history with Holland. In the early 19th century work began in Amsterdam. It was a vibrant work and hundreds of Jewish people came to faith in Jesus. Around 1844 Julius Bloch

began a smaller work in Rotterdam, among the 7,000 Jewish people living there, and the few Jewish people who were beginning to leave Europe from the port. By the 1880s Rotterdam had become significant due to its International Port. There was a huge increase of Jewish emigrants leaving Europe, especially from Russia. Positioned between the train station and the port, CMJ in Elim reached out to 220,000 Jewish people between 1901 and 1918. CMJ made sure these passengers had plenty of literature to read on their boat journey!

Before Bloch retired, a man called Zalman (photo 3) came down from Amsterdam to help with the work in Rotterdam. Zalman and his wife worked tirelessly for CMJ, though the closing of the American borders to Jewish immigration meant Jewish emigration from Holland had almost dried-up by the time Zalman died.

The Nazis closed Elim in Rotterdam in 1940 and the last CMJ worker, Rev. Rottenberg, a Jewish Believer who had come to faith through Zalman, joined a smaller CMJ team in The Hague. In 1942 Rottenberg died in Mauthausen Concentration Camp.

A NEW CHAPTER

Sixty-five years after the Nazis took CMJ's building, God took Elim Rotterdam to the house on North Island and breathed life into it once again. Increasingly, they felt God was calling them to link-up with CMJ.

Wim invited us to visit the Dutch team in March and share about the work of CMJ. The story of CMJ Holland has not finished yet!

Lydia, one of the Elim Board members, met us at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam. She was coming by train and would be wearing an orange and red scarf and

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ROTTERDAM

carrying a striped umbrella. If we'd had any doubts about finding our guide, they were quickly dispelled as soon as we saw Lydia holding an open striped umbrella over her head inside the airport!

GREAT CHRISTIANS, PAST AND PRESENT

Many have read 'The Hiding Place' by Corrie Ten Boom. The trainline from Rotterdam to Amsterdam passes through Haarlem, where the famous Ten Boom Watchmaker's shop still stands (photo 4). What excitement to visit their house and feel the wonderful atmosphere that remains. The hiding place is off Corrie's bedroom, through the bottom section of a cupboard. Our visit was especially blessed by the presence of Corrie's grand-niece (photo 5) and husband, who had joined the tour.

There is a temptation to think that all the 'Great Christians' belong to past days, but we were about to meet Elim Rotterdam.

Our excitement at the re-connection with CMJ's history intensified as we turned into Tulpstraat. Walking through the door of Elim, a framed photo of Zalman on the wall, we met the group waiting for us in the house. How many groups had met for Bible study, prayer and discussion in these buildings? How many Jewish people had met their Messiah in this place?

Over the weekend, we shared the work of CMJ with The Elim Board, The Houses of Prayer from The Hague and Utrecht and the whole extended Elim Rotterdam group. We worshipped together, shared a Shabbat Meal (photo 6), led by Robin and Sue, and had many conversations about CMJ. We visited a Messianic Congregation (photo 7), and some of the Jewish sights in Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

In Rotterdam, there remains part of the old wall (photo 8) where Jewish

people had to meet to be taken from their homes forever. In Amsterdam it's a building – still standing, still used – where decades before, Jewish People were forced onto 'The Transport.' Of course, many would have been Jewish believers in Jesus and some would have been CMJ workers.

On the last day, before we headed back to Amsterdam to visit the Jewish Museum and fly home, we met the man through whom God had given Elim Rotterdam the word about where to find their building (photo 9). Please pray for him and his young family; he's been ill since he received that word, though God is certainly with him.

The Elim Board members, so ably led by Wim, were kindness itself; we so appreciated the hospitality of those we stayed with. We are also pleased to be welcoming four of the board to our conference in July.

WALKING IN ANCIENT PATHWAYS

We are singing from the same hymn sheet and are happy to hear that as a result of our visit and the prayerful consideration to find God's will, the Elim Board have decided they would like to work more closely with us towards the creation of a CMJ Holland.

The members of Elim Rotterdam were already on the path that God had shown them. This has been confirmed to them and we look, with awe, at our amazing God as we wait for the re-connection; the birth!

*'Thus says the Lord, Stand at the crossroads, and look,
And ask for the ancient paths,
Where the good ways lies; and walk in it,
And find rest for your souls.'*

JEREMIAH 6:16A

And what was it Corrie Ten Boom said? "The safest place to be, is in the centre of God's will."

Jane Moxon

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EVANGELISM TEAM

We are pleased to announce that for 2011 we now have a newly configured evangelism team. Alex will continue to oversee the team which consists of:



ADRIAN GLASSPOLE – is our Northern-based evangelist, covering particularly Manchester and Leeds. Adrian is a very experienced evangelist and has been with CMJ for nine years. In addition to his normal work as an evangelist, Adrian is supporting two STEP churches. He also organises our attendance at New Age Festivals and our links with University Christian Fellowships.



JEN ROBINS – works mainly with young people, but joins the team for the “Jesus Experience” stand at New Age events. Jen uses her musical gifts in concerts and runs a four-week presence for us at Soul Survivor. Jen has also recently started co-hosting “R-Mornings” on Revelation TV, providing a great opportunity to share about the work she does with CMJ.



PAUL AND JANE HAMES – are our Midlands-based evangelists, covering Leicester and Birmingham. Most of their time is devoted to evangelism, though they are also involved in developing the Young People’s tours to Israel, with Jen.



SIMON LISSAK – is based in the South of England, covering London in particular. He is a part-time evangelist for CMJ and also for Jews for Jesus. He was born in London to a Jewish father who escaped from Poland. He became a believer several years ago and recently started to work with Jews for Jesus.

He is married to Maxine, with two young sons. Simon will cover the outreach work in Stamford Hill for CMJ and with the “Jesus Experience” stands at the New Age Festivals in London. You will have an opportunity to meet Simon at Swanwick.



ALTERNATIVE SPIRITUALITY WORK

Many moons ago, we discovered there were a disproportionate number of Jewish People involved in ‘New Age’ activities, both as practitioners and as customers. As a result, we developed and maintained shared responsibility on the *Jesus Experience* stand at key events, mainly in London. The latest such event was at the *Vitality Show*, held at Earls Court in March. The *Jesus Experience* stand is not just about having a CMJ presence; we work closely with the help and support of *Christian Witness to Israel*, *The Messianic Testimony*, *London City Mission*, *Alpha* and a large number of Churches and Ministries.

Vitality is popular, and so was our Jesus Experience stand, with many of the 40,000+ people (mainly ladies) making their way to the spirituality section. Jesus Experience was the largest and most beautiful stand. My good friend Richard Gibson, who is head of Leeds Christian Fellowship, helped for the first time this year. His presence was invaluable, as we see many Israelis, with whom he could easily relate. This year, there was a strong CMJ representation, which included myself, Alex, Paul & Janey, and Jen. In fact there were a record number of people volunteering to staff the stand and invite people to share a ‘life-Scripture’ (a *life-Scripture* is a verse from the Bible printed on cards, which guests to the stand were invited to chose at random).

We share the Good News of Yeshua in ways that are non-threatening and culturally appropriate to visitors to the Festivals. We aim to connect people with Churches or Messianic Congregations in their areas, and select relevant literature, chosen for its easy-to-read and helpful content. We also make a point

of plugging the Alpha Course, so people can explore aspects of Christianity once they return home; being national events, we find people attend from all over the UK, and from even-further afield.

On the first day, I was approached by a lady I had spoken with last year. She made a bee-line for me specifically to say “Thank you” for setting her on the right path last year (this is not unusual, though it is a thrill!) But alas, a second lady told us she didn’t want to hear anything about “that born again stuff”. Nevertheless, we invited her to choose three of the life-Scripture cards, which she did. Each of the cards she picked stated: “You must be born again!” She walked away unhappy, but with a clear message from The Almighty!

By the time you read this the Jesus Experience stand will also have appeared at the *Mind, Body, Spirit* festival, in central London, over the May Bank Holiday. This is a much more spiritual event with hundreds of stands trying to show the way of enlightenment, to the thousands of people coming to find their spiritual path. Please pray for the seeds we will have sown as we present The Way, the Truth and the Life only found in Yeshua, alongside other Christian stands. Pray for each seed to find fertile ground, and that the resulting harvest will be plentiful.

We have already received reports about the number of people who made a commitment to Yeshua at *Vitality*, so we pray for an even greater response at *Mind, Body, Spirit*.

Adrian Glasspole



A PART OF THE WORLDWIDE CMJ FAMILY

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