

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 73:26 [NIV]

Jim Green – Honorary Vice President and member of CPA for 70 years

It seems particularly appropriate that in the **1,070th issue** of this magazine we celebrate Jim Green having been a member of CPA for 70 years!! Here is a summary of Jim's life and career. An extended article is available from CPA HQ (office@cpauk.net):

"I have been informed that I am possibly the oldest (94 years) and longest serving member of CPA (I joined 1950). The words 'Kept by the power of God' spring to mind!

I had become a Christian in 1943 at the age of 17 and joined the local Baptist Church. On hearing that I had applied to join the Police the Church Secretary asked whether I thought it was possible to be a Christian and also be a Policeman. He apparently was unfamiliar with the scriptures in Romans 13 as was I at that time.

I am fully persuaded that God has a plan and purpose for our lives. I successfully joined the Metropolitan Police in 1948 on being demobbed from the Army where I had served in the Military Police. It is possible that I would not have considered joining the Met had I not been selected for the Military Police following basic training in the Army.

My first posting in the Met Police was to Holloway Police Station. The pay was £5 per week, plus rent allowance (if you were married), boot allowance and cycle allowance (3d) if you needed to ride your bicycle when covering 2 or more beats. Towards the end of my probationary period I became aware of the International Christian Police Association. I applied to join and received a letter of welcome from Sgt Alec Catto and was invited along to the monthly meetings held at ICPA Headquarters, at that time located at Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road.

The monthly meetings were great times of fellowship and encouragement. I came to have great cause to praise God for the strong bond of Christian love and support shown by these brothers and sisters in Christ. Whatever their rank we were all one in Christ Jesus.



Following my probationary period I applied to be selected for Traffic Patrol. I found that being with another PC in the car afforded the opportunity to witness. It was often surprising when the conversation turned to spiritual matters, usually instigated by my companion. I made it a practice to leave a copy of "On & Off Duty" in the cars which provided a good opener.

*I remember one man saying, "I wish I had your faith". I explained that he could easily do so, it was as simple as ABC: **Acknowledge** you are a sinner- **Believe** in the shed blood of Christ – make a **Commitment**. "There must be more to it than that" he said. I found that too often people wanted to earn their salvation and couldn't accept it as God's free gift.*

On & Off Duty

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Jim Green – 1952 (standing in uniform with the children)

In 1956 I was promoted to Sergeant and posted to Wealdstone Police Station. I had only been there a few days and was being driven round in a patrol car when the driver began to relate to me the story of how, on an occasion, he was with a Christian patrol colleague. They were called to a domestic dispute. On entering the house a man (the husband), came rushing down the stairs saying he was going to kill himself. Whilst the driver continued up the stairs to where the wife was, his Christian PC colleague (called Martin, someone who was known to me) began dealing with the man. After a while the wife had calmed down so the driver went to see how his colleague was getting on.

On reaching a landing he heard voices where a door was ajar. He opened it slightly and saw his police colleague and the man on their knees with a bible open. The driver went back to the wife. Shortly afterwards Martin, and the man reappeared. The man was now calm and explained how he had just committed his life to Christ as his Saviour.

When I first joined CPA it was very much concentrated in London, possibly due to just emerging from the War. Northern Ireland and Glasgow had branches functioning but were distinct. I have been pleased to see over the past 40-50 years the spread of CPA both nationally and internationally. I have no need to go into the detail about this as Don Axcell has already done a brilliant job on the history of CPA in his book "Where Duty Calls".

In 1962 I was promoted to Inspector. In 1966 when the Police Convalescent Home at Hove was opened by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother I was the CPA representative on the Management Committee. Until my retirement from the Met in 1978 I held a number of

national CPA roles, including Chair of CPA Council and I am one of the few remaining retired Vice-Presidents of CPA.

Throughout my life I have experienced the mercy and graciousness of God. I found my service in the police very challenging at times. I can relate to the psalmist when he says, "my feet had almost slipped" [Psalm 73]. There were times when the pressures were almost unbearable. Stress is no new phenomenon. I praise God that His grace proved sufficient.

Throughout my service I found the CPA to be a great blessing and continue to pray God's blessing upon the leaders and supporters of the Association. The Police are one of the bedrocks of our Society. I am convinced that Christian Police Officers are called to serve God as light and salt in this nation and throughout the world."



Jim Green at CPA Conference in 2016

National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast

from Regional Coordinator Pete Westlake

I was invited by Meleri Cray from The Bible Society in Wales, to join the live-streamed National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast on 30th June, which The Bible Society partnered. I also joined the webinar held the same day entitled 'Mission during Lockdown and beyond'.

I was particularly struck by a leading politician who mentioned the role of the church 'helping to hold society together' during lockdown and to the reading from Philippians Ch2 v 3-11 where it talks of looking to the interests of others.

The message from The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin discussed the new language we have adopted in recent months – "Lockdown", "contact tracing" and "the R number". He talked about how 10 million people had stepped forward as community volunteers shopping for food and medicines, working in foodbanks and making PPE. He talked about self-sacrifice for the greater good. We were asked to think about how we transition back to normal. Will it be back to the old normal or a new normal where community good is supported?

Churches and Christian groups have transformed. The doors may be closed to meeting together, but windows of opportunity have opened to reach into communities, opportunities to serve just as Christ served!

I recommend you watch the full sessions via: www.christiansinparliament.org.uk/prayer-breakfast/2020-livestream



Update – Team Chariot (CPA Community Partner)

by founder Pete Bisgrove

Here at the CPA we are so blessed by all the partnerships we have made over many years. Team Chariot is one of our valued partners and



Pete Bisgrove has kindly provided an update on the latest news of this organisation that he founded.

Since 2014 Team Chariot has been active and outdoors to support various charities by competing in endurance events. Utilizing basic skills in advertising, PR, and fitness many charities have had their logos taken to unusual places. From the heights of Ben Nevis to the streets of London, Team Chariot has been giving a shout out to over 15 charities.

And the message of hope? 'God has NOT forgotten You' is that message. From the CEO to the volunteers of these great charities, Team Chariot have become quite well known. Recently Team Chariot took part in the London Marathon's '2.6 Challenge'. The theme was '2.6, or 26' for any charity, happening on 26th April this year. Team Chariot donned the rucksack, weighing 26kg (57lbs) and fast walked a marathon distance of 26.2 miles. The charities supported were SSAFA (Armed Forces Charity, nationwide) and Eve (Domestic Abuse charity from Northampton). Most recently on 3rd July the latest event was 25 push-ups, 25 times, over 25 miles. Actually, it was 26.4 miles, a full marathon distance. And I lost count of push-up sets at mile 19, so did a few more to make sure – 28 in the end. Wearing 2.5kg toe cap work boots (civilian) and carrying a 38lb rucksack. Nothing compared to what people cope with re: mental ill-health and PTSD issues.

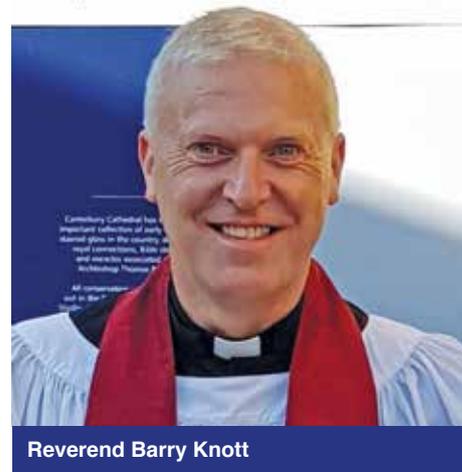
I called at fire, police and ambulance stations, a medical centre, the outpatients centre of a general hospital and a few places along the roadside. All socially distancing of course. For more details please see: www.teamchariot.com

From the Director

It was an absolute privilege for me to chat with Jim Green about his faith and his police career. I first met Jim in 2016 when I was commissioned into my role as Executive Director. What a blessing and inspiration he continues to be to all us at the CPA. I am so grateful Jim has allowed me to share his story.

It was also a great pleasure to represent CPA at Rev Barry Knott's formal licensing at his parishes at Lymgne and Saltwood in Kent. This took place in July by video conference (due to the current restrictions in meetings). Barry, a retired Detective with Kent Police, has been such a faithful servant of the Lord and has given such time and energy to the CPA over many years, including Branch Leader and National Trustee. We hold Barry and his family in our prayers.

Lee Russell MA – Executive Director



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OUR MISSION is to

- Be a National Voice for Christians in Policing.
- Encourage and support Christians in the Police Service.
- Communicate in words and action, the truth, message and hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ to colleagues and the community we serve.
- Build bridges between the Christian community and the Police.

OUR VISION is to see

- The CPA as a national charity which actively leads on issues relevant to Christians in Policing.
- An active and growing branch of CPA in every Police Service in the UK and every Christian in the Police Service to fulfil their potential in Jesus Christ.
- Colleagues and those we serve to know Jesus Christ personally.
- Police and Churches working together in every community to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

President Deputy Chief Constable Paul Netherton **Chair of Council A/Inspector** Marie Reavey

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ON & OFF DUTY is the CPA monthly digest of news and articles. We also update a monthly Prayer Diary intended to inform and encourage those associated with the CPA. Please forward any items to office@CPAuk.net by the 20th of each month.

NB. All articles published will also be available for unrestricted viewing via the Internet. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the CPA Council.

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