



For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11 [NIV]

As we look towards a New Year

I think that everyone across the whole world would agree that 2020 was not as anyone would have ever imagined, even in our worst nightmares. In January 2020, Coronavirus was an issue that most people had never heard of.

Little did we know that the Coronavirus pandemic would sweep through all nations of the earth, changing how we lived and interacted in a way that no previous generation had ever seen – not even in times of war. In addition, massively important racial inequality issues came to the fore and created an atmosphere of reflection and action across the world.

Here at the CPA, we decided to remain fully operational during the whole of 2020. We felt that if we were relevant in a time of normality, how much more we should also be relevant in a time of crisis. We do feel that God blessed this decision. We have had more new members join the CPA in 2020, than we did in 2019. We also have had two new CPA branches join our charity, and more CPA Friends and Community Partners joined us too.

Sadly, due the Coronavirus restrictions, we had to cancel our 2020 National Conference in Scotland in May 2020. Also, we had to move our CPA Leadership

Conference in November 2020 to an online event. However, we have invested in the future and our 2021 conferences are booked and are being planned as this issue reaches you!

In 2020 we commenced online programmes for ALPHA. We commenced a Health and Wellbeing programme delivered by our partners at Kintsugi Hope. We also coordinated a 24 hour online International Day of Prayer for the Emergency Services in June 2020. This incredibly fulfilling and successful event saw First Responders from across the world come together in 24 hours of prayer. Commencing in the US and Australia, it then progressed across the world, across a full 24 hours of prayer events, all of them online. In the UK we were joined by our First Responder partners in Firefighters for Christ, The Christian Ambulance Association and also by Police Chaplains across the UK. In 2021 we will continue these online programmes and events.

Our CPA Annual Report for 2020, also went fully online at the end of 2020. We felt it was important to reflect on the year as we would normally have done at our AGM. Despite a delay in the AGM due to the pandemic, we were able to circulate the 2020

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On & Off Duty

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Annual Report in mid-November. It can be viewed via <https://www.cpauk.net/downloads/>

The CPA has been in a period of “Response” to the pandemic. We commenced a “Recovery” phase in Summer 2020, only to return to a “response” footing in October when the restrictions and “lockdowns” returned. We are praying that 2021 will see us move to a “Recovery and Reconstruction” phase. We know that we will do things differently going forward. Online meetings have shown how effective they are in keeping connected at very low cost, which is important to the diligent use of our resources.

As we start this New Year, none of us know what it will bring. However, our LORD knows what is ahead of us. We know that even when we are tired, HE is not, when we are discouraged, HE is not, and when our plans fall to nothing, HIS plans are for us to prosper, to give us hope and to give us a future.

On behalf of all at the Christian Police Association, I wish you a Peaceful and productive New Year. Blessings to you all.

Lee Russell MA – CPA Executive Director

Police Uplift programme

– including online event on 28th January 2021
(update by Marie Reavey – Chair of CPA Trustees and CPA representative on this programme).

Do you know anyone who has considered joining the police? There is no better time to join the police family. As Christians we are called to be peacemakers and to uphold the cause of the poor and oppressed. We should live lives of honesty, accountability, selflessness and fairness, with integrity and humility. These attributes and characteristics all fit with being a police officer.

We need Christians in the police service to make their difference and play their part in policing the UK. If you know anyone who wants a career where you can have your mission to be salt and light, a career which is rewarding and varied then please encourage them to consider joining the Police. No day is the same and you never know what each day will bring. Policing also brings a variety of opportunities for promotion and specialisation.

On 28th January 2021 from Midday to 2.30 pm there will be an interactive national event where you will be able to hear from a number of speakers about their experiences of joining the police service and how the service has been supportive of them as officers with a religion, faith or belief. You will also hear from some national organisations who work to support religion, faith and beliefs in policing and how their organisation might be useful to you once you join.

You will hear from some police forces about the opportunities they offer and how they support officers with a religion. You will have the

opportunity to listen to speakers and ask questions. There will be breakout sessions where you can choose which force(s) you would like to specifically hear from (and speak to) and join them in their dedicated breakout area. Instructions on how to do this will be provided when you join us.

The police service is committed to furthering diversity and inclusion. This event is a positive action event for individuals with a religion, faith or belief.

There are other positive action events on offer in this series too. If you are interested, please visit

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/make-your-difference-religion-belief-police-careers-discovery-event-tickets-132029223963>

In addition you can visit www.Joiningthepolice.co.uk for further information about joining the police



Good News For Everyone (formally Gideons UK)

– update for 2021 from our very
valued Community Partner

GOOD NEWS
for Everyone!
formerly known as **GideonsUK**

Recently, CPA representative Nigel Robinson was able to present Superintendent Michael Brittain (Norfolk Constabulary) with a gift of a presentation Bible on behalf of Good News for Everyone, represented by Colin King. The Area Commander was very appreciative of the gift (see image). This latest presentation demonstrates the excellent partnership that CPA enjoy both nationally and locally with Good News for Everyone (Gideons UK) who have provided us with a large number of Bibles with the constabulary crest for the benefit of officers and staff across the United Kingdom.

Iain Mair is the Chief Executive of Good News for Everyone (Gideons UK) and has provided this update for the interest of our readers:

“Under the Lord’s direction and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, these are exciting times for Gideons in the United Kingdom. Over the past two years, some significant changes have taken place, including opening membership for both men and women to join in their own right and on the same basis i.e. we are no longer a ‘men’s association’.

In making these changes, we felt the Lord was laying the words of Isaiah 43:19 upon our hearts “*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.*”

Unfortunately, these changes meant we were no longer part of the Gideons (USA) and necessitated a change of name. At present we have a temporary name ‘GOOD NEWS for Everyone!’ and we have been praying much for our new and permanent name.

The name we are presently seeking to register, although the process may take several months, has been inspired by the words of Mark 16:15 *He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”*

This command of the Lord Jesus is very clear and is very much aligned with the objective of our Association – to introduce others to the Lord Jesus Christ. These words of our Lord have inspired and encouraged

generations of faithful members over many years, to be active in sharing the good news of the Gospel in this country and around the world through personal witnessing and the distribution of the precious Word of God. We have applied to register **GO International** as a Trademark and therefore as the Association’s new name – **GO** from the beginning of the command of our Lord quoted above and **International** representing our desire to take the Word of God “...to all creation”.

These are significant changes but what is more important is what has not changed and that is the work we do and why we do it; placing and presenting Scriptures so that others may be introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ. The partnership we are privileged to have with the Christian Police Association is very significant to our work and continues to open many doors that, without the tremendous support of the CPA, would remain closed. All to God’s glory!”



Hope for the New Year

– by Mike Quinnell

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12: 12-13 [NIV]

As we look at this passage, we are reminded how Paul was encouraging the early church members to show love and support to all.

Hope is an immensely powerful commodity. It sustains us through the darkest times and positively shapes our perception of the journey.

So as we enter a New Year, we look at the encouragement and the HOPE, that as believers we can give to those who most need it and we are reminded how

Jesus is always there to walk beside us, in times of hardship and to give us the strength to keep going. Try and make it your task to share HOPE and LOVE with others as we walk into this New Year.

Prayer

Lord as we look forward to a New Year, please help us to shine for you in such a way that we can be a beacon of light. Let us offer hope and love to those who we meet and to encourage them to put their trust in you

Amen



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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 OBE **Chair of Council** A/Inspector Marie Reavey
Editorial Team Lee Russell (Executive Director) Tony Gale (Executive Support Manager) Allan Spencer (volunteer support)
Administrator Lindsey Monk

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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