

Where's Moldova?...

... I hear you say. When CPA Moldova invited us to join them for their 7th annual conference we had to check the map!

Situated as a landlocked state on the back side of Romania, they gained independence in 1991 as part of the breakup of the USSR. What 3.5m people lack materially (they are the poorest in Europe by GDP) is made up by their rich hospitality, family-centred living and optimism for the future. (What is optimism? – see next page.) This is even though they won't qualify for next year's European football championships!

A good meeting with the Deputy Policing Minister confirmed Police are poorly paid, corruption is a problem and they are not held in high regard by the public. However, God is working and we heard many testimonies of encounters with Jesus. Two hundred people attended the conference – police, prison officers and customs officials and families, with representatives from Switzerland, Ukraine and Romania. Half of the delegates weren't Christians and had simply been invited to a family-orientated weekend that included time for recreational sports.

Tony Gale, Chair of Council CPA UK said, 'It was a real blessing to enjoy the fellowship in a well organised conference that was well attended – and catered for families and non-Christian police members in good measure.' Editor.



'This regionalisation lark has gone too far!'
Tony Gale exchanging hats with Anatolie Andriuta, President of CPA Moldova (alternative captions welcome)



Reaching Out, Building Bridges...

Pocket Testament for the Police Service

CPA have launched a nationwide appeal to raise £20k to purchase and distribute 10,000 New Testaments including Psalms and Proverbs, with additional material especially for the police. They will be given locally and at special events such as The Olympics 2012, World Police & Fire Games Belfast 2013 and Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014. Thank you for any support you can give either as an individual, Branch of CPA, church or other organisation. Current total – £11,611.95. Please visit www.CPAuk.net to give online.

Beacons Of Peace

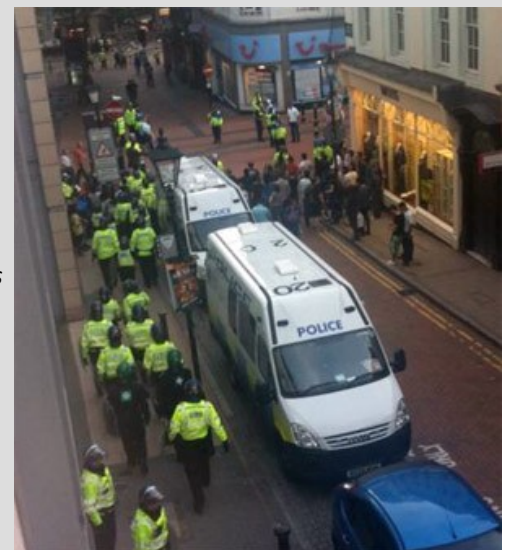
Gordon Blake is a Sergeant based at Hodge Hill Response Team D Stechford, East Birmingham and Deputy Branch Leader West Mids CPA/Regional Coordinator. Gordon's wife reflects on her husband's deployment to recent rioting:

It's Monday evening and the phone rings; it's Gordon and he's being deployed to Birmingham city centre. After watching the news coverage for the last couple of days and all the unrest on the streets my heart sinks. After lots of 'I love you's and 'Be careful's we put the phone down.

This situation isn't new for me; one thing I have learnt about my husband over ten years of marriage is that if there's some national event which requires Public Order trained volunteers he'll be first on the list.

So tossing and turning in my bed I wondered whether I should be obsessively watching the news or trying to text Gordon without disturbing him in a potentially life-threatening situation.

But then I felt the still calm voice of God say to me, 'Beth, Gordon is in the safest place he could possibly be, in my hand in my plan.' With this I smiled knowing there's someone much bigger than fear and anxiety on our side and he's completely in Control. I pulled the covers over my head and slept like a baby!



*In these troubled times the best place we can be is in a place of peace. Safe in the knowledge that we're walking in God's plan and he's in control. We need to stand strong in this despite how ugly, intimidating or challenging, and when every opinion and person seems against you. God called you to the Police Force for a reason. I really feel that Christian police officers can be **beacons of peace** over these days because you know the true source of peace... our heavenly father.*

In 1 Cor 1:2 Paul writes, 'He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did all Christians everywhere – whoever calls upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and theirs.'

May God our father and the Lord Jesus give you his grace and peace. 'Father, I pray that you would equip our officers to be ministers of peace on their shift and allocated communities this week. Father, I pray that despite all disillusionment officers would stand strong in the knowledge that we are in the palm of your hand and walking in your plan for our lives. Amen.' Beth Blake

So what is Optimism? You focus on the objective rather than the obstacle, realistically addressing the obstacles and being optimistic about resolving them. Expect the best from those you lead and catch them doing something good. Enthusiasm is contagious and **confidence breeds confidence**. People tend to live up to a leader's expectation. If a leader expects failure, he/she will get it. If the leader clearly expects success and commitment, he/she will probably get that. *Editor* (Notes on Optimism from *Leaders Equipped to Serve* – Training programme for CPA Leaders which is available to be delivered to individual Branches/Regions on request).

South West Region Get-together: Phil Skedgell (SW Coordinator) writes: On 16 September we had a really good meeting at Portishead with representatives from Wilts, A&S, D&C (including ACC Paul Netherton), Dyfed Powys and Glos. Don Axcell, Exec Director, joined us and A&S Chaplain Kelton Black led a time of 'communion'. During prayer two scriptures stood out – that we should be united (1Cor 1:10), and have boldness not timidity (2Timothy 1:7–8). Wilts now have a critical mass to form a Branch and we will be helping them in next steps to formation. In CPA at D&C we are experimenting with **Twitter** and you can tweet **@DC_CPA**

National CPA Key Dates

- 14–16 Nov 2011:** Leaders' Conference, High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Herts (for current/potential leaders/leadership teams. £140 pp)
- 27–29 April 2012:** National Conference at Novotel, Birmingham



CPA Prayer Diary October

....to be a servant of God, you are a servant of people.

Part of our vision is to see 'an active and growing Branch of CPA in every Police Service in the UK'. Let us pray particularly where Forces have no active Branch, indicated in **red**, and especially where there is no single point of contact.

Print, and pray every day!

<p>Sat 1/Sun 2 Treasurer Jackie Price</p> <p>TVP (Chris Geen)</p> <p>South Wales (Jim Hillier)</p>	<p>Mon 3 Matt Baggott (CC. PSNI/ President CPA)</p> <p>PSNI (Leslie Badger)</p> <p>Members of Council</p>	<p>Tues 4 Leic and Chair of Council (Tony Gale)</p> <p>A&S (Gavin Jennings)</p> <p>Stan Wright (Vice-P)</p>	<p>Wed 5 Jackie Gillen (HQ office)</p> <p>Northumbria</p> <p>Exec Dir. Don Axcell Chaplain Flint House</p>	<p>Thurs 6 Norfolk (Rachel Foster)</p> <p>South Yorks (vacant) – new leader needed</p> <p>Mike Quinnell (Regional Co-ord NE)</p>	<p>Fri 7 Surrey (Nick Sharpe)</p> <p>Essex (Rob Hance)</p> <p>Gordon A'Court (Vice-P)</p>
<p>Sat 8/Sun 9 Northants (Peter Littleton)</p> <p>City of London (Mark Price)</p> <p>Beds (Steve Lloyd)</p>	<p>Mon 10 Cheshire (Simon Treeton)</p> <p>W Yorks (Wendy Hall)</p> <p>Robin Oake (Vice-P)</p>	<p>Tues 11 Gwent (Grant Wilson) close to forming</p> <p>Fife (Donald Jenks)</p> <p>Tayside</p>	<p>Wed 12 Staffs (vacant) need for new leader</p> <p>Northern (David Garbett)</p> <p>Exec Dir. Don Axcell Chaplain Flint House</p>	<p>Thurs 13 Kent (Barry Knott) Annual conference</p> <p>Lothian and Borders (Neil Bain)</p> <p>BTP (Craig Virco)</p>	<p>Fri 14 Met (Nick Cornish – lead/Mark Watts/ Andy Walker/ Steve Durrant) – Branch celebration</p> <p>West Mercia (Mark Turner)</p>
<p>Sat 15/Sun 16 Cleveland (Brian McCarthy)</p> <p>Jim Green (Vice-P)</p> <p>John Manson (Vice-P)</p>	<p>Mon 17 W Mids (Pete Blackburn)</p> <p>North Wales</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway</p>	<p>Tues 18 Cams (Jane Weir)</p> <p>Gtr Manchester (Mike Russell) – Branch AGM</p> <p>Gordon Blake (Regional Co-ord W Mids)</p>	<p>Wed 19 Sussex</p> <p>Merseyside (Peter Owens)</p> <p>Exec Dir. Don Axcell Chaplain Flint House</p>	<p>Thurs 20 Warwickshire (Dave Valente)</p> <p>Cumbria (Tim Ward)</p> <p>North Yorks</p>	<p>Fri 21 Dorset (Neil Leat)</p> <p>Devon and Cornwall (Phil Skedgell and Region Co-ord SW)</p> <p>Tom Davidson (Vice-P)</p>
<p>Sat 22/Sun 23 Notts (awaits appoint- ment of new leader)</p> <p>Durham</p>	<p>Mon 24 Herts. (Chris Upton)</p> <p>Grampian (Christa Reid)</p> <p>Bert Sharp (Webservant)</p>	<p>Tues 25 Hampshire (Matt Reeves)</p> <p>Humberside (Adrian Wallace)</p> <p>Adrian Whiting (ACC Dorset/ Deputy President CPA)</p>	<p>Wed 26 Strathclyde (Harry Pearson)</p> <p>Exec Dir. Don Axcell Chaplain Flint House</p>	<p>Thurs 27 Wiltshire (Paul Fisher) continuing to gather members to form Branch</p> <p>Lancs (Kirstie Banks-Lyon) – ready to form branch</p>	<p>Fri 28 Gloucestershire (Jerry Foster-Turner)</p> <p>Lincs (Paul Timmins)</p> <p>Derbyshire (Mary Murray) new spoc pending</p>
<p>Sat 29/Sun 30 Dyfed Powys (Martin Walters)</p> <p>Suffolk</p>	<p>Mon 31 Central Scotland (Catriona Paton)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Paul Bright)</p>	<p>Special Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > PSNI: re ongoing dissident threat, violence. > Met: moving forward with new Commissioner > Cleveland: re investigation into CC and Dep > The Police Service: that wise decisions will be made around reduced budgets, delivery of policing and for staff with uncertain futures. <p>Redundancy A Christian Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Appointment of Regional Co-ordinators in CPA across the UK – three in place. > Good outcome to Blackpool Christian cafe v Police issue (see Christian Concern) 			