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Update February 2012

'And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan.' *Leviticus 25:10, ESV*

Every Cloud Has A Silver Lining

Tony Melville, CPA member and Chief Constable of Gloucestershire has spoken out, and no doubt reflects the views of many chiefs around the country, that further cuts to his force's budget would take it to 'a metaphorical cliff edge'. ([BBC Radio 4 26.1.12](#)).

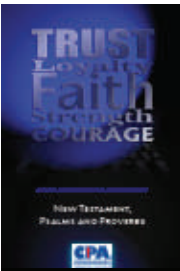


CC Peter Fahy, ACPO lead for Workforce Development, has echoed with, 'We will shortly enter the most difficult financial year for policing in living memory. This is a very difficult time for most police forces with staff leaving and the challenge of managing redundancy and change programmes. Workforce morale is understandably affected by the pay freeze, proposed increment freeze and increase in pension contributions.' ([BBC News](#)).

That's the bad news, but as the nation continues to have a major shake down, the good news is God's in charge and *every cloud has a silver lining* as we put our trust in him. It has encouraged a fresh approach in many areas, eg debate on work life balance – working less, consuming less, living more ([21 hour report](#)), David Cameron's *Big Society* has been re energised together with Christian faith overtures, there was a forthright Queen's speech and people are turning to church in a significant way in the last year ([The Telegraph](#)).

Are we seeing a seismic shift from secular and material to a genuine search for authentic Christian faith? Let's continue to play our part as the Lord leads us in and around the Police Service in 2012, and remember it is the year of Jubilee! ([Hope Together](#)). *Editor*

CPA Update is a monthly digest of news and testimony, with prayer diary, that is intended to inform, encourage members/other contacts and keep the communication flow going. NB. Views expressed are not necessarily that of CPA Council. Please submit items for Update, including key prayer items. Deadline is the 25th of the month; it will be as good as the material that comes in. Thank you. Editor: Assistant Director, Paul Bright paul.bright@CPAuk.net



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 – let's put a Bible in a officer's hand, God will do the rest!

Current total – £13,530.05 + £1,000 just pledged. Come on, we can do it! Visit www.CPAuk.net to give online.

When things are tough in the job think about this...

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village
The child of a peasant woman.
He grew up in another obscure village
Where he worked in a carpenter shop
Until he was thirty.
He never wrote a book.
He never held an office.
He never went to college.
He never visited a big city.
He never travelled more than two hundred miles
From the place where he was born.
He did none of the things
Usually associated with greatness.
He had no credentials but himself.
He was only thirty three.
His friends ran away.
One of them denied him.
He was turned over to his enemies
And went through the mockery of a trial.
He was nailed to a cross between two thieves.
While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing
The only property he had on earth.
When he was dead
He was laid in a borrowed grave
Through the pity of a friend.
Nineteen centuries have come and gone
And today Jesus is the central figure of the human race
And the leader of mankind's progress.
All the armies that have ever marched
All the navies that have ever sailed
All the parliaments that have ever sat
All the kings that ever reigned put together
Have not affected the life of mankind on earth
As powerfully as that one solitary life.
James Allan © 1926 www.changinglivesonline.org



The day every church needs to be ready for the 2012 Games

The *More Than Gold – Get Set Tour 2012* is coming. Would you please consider printing off the poster for notice boards etc in order to promote this event that has touring dates all over the UK. Great opportunities for churches and church communities to get involved, whether in London or locally. More info including pdf poster at More Than Gold.
Thanks, Mike Freeman MBE, Operations Manager, Games Pastor Team.

And the next baby arriving on platform 1 will be the 4.51...

Congratulations to Craig Virco (British Transport Police CPA Branch leader), and his wife Zoe, on the arrival of Charlotte Hope McLaren Virco, 3rd Jan '12.



THE KESWICK CONVENTION 2012

I am sending out my annual invitation to all Branches of CPA, still looking for volunteers for the Police team for the Keswick Convention 2012. The convention is held over three weeks between Saturday 14th July and Saturday 4th August 2012. (see keswickministries.org). The team members are there to provide advice and guidance on any incidents that may occur, and as liaison between the Convention and emergency services when and if required. Accommodation is provided for team members and arrangements can be made for family to join. Travel costs are also met. I appreciate that 2012 is a difficult year due to leave restrictions during Olympics in London, but you would be most welcome up here in Lake District. If interested, or would like further information, do not hesitate to contact me. Many thanks, Karen Messenger, Cumbria CPA karen.messenger@cnc.pnn.police.uk Tel Home 01946 694 516 M. 07732 691 051.

National CPA Key Dates 2012

27–29 April 2012: National Conference at Novotel Birmingham (open to all, booking forms to follow. Council Meeting 28th)
17th May: National Day of Prayer for the Police Service **14th July:** Council Meeting in Manchester:
12–14th November: Leaders' Conference, High Leigh, Herts (Council Meeting 14th)

Holy Spirit song

Brian McCarthy is Branch Leader of Cleveland CPA cleveland@CPAuk.net and here he shares the story of a song he has written – it might encourage you to have a go too!

I wrote the Holy Spirit Song ([YouTube link to listen](#)) shortly after becoming a Christian in 2006. I wanted to write a song that would encourage people to come forward to the evangelist's altar call. I had wanted to step forward so many times but was just too shy until my friend asked me if I wanted to go forward, and I'm so glad I did. I thought the song might just gently bring to mind for people, who like me were desperate to make the step of faith but didn't dare, what it was they were being asked to buy into – being looked after by the most powerful, gentle loving God. I absolutely love the line in Psalm 23, 'You make a feast for me amid my enemies'!

After deciding to write the song, I was driving on the A66 having visited Glasgow with my wife and two daughters. I was running lyrics through my mind and praying about the song, then all of a sudden I could hear the lines being sung inside my head – like a choir. I said to Catherine, 'Quick get a pencil and paper out of the glove compartment.' As I was saying the lines to her I was starting to fill up with tears. 'My tired heart aches for Your peace. My burden lain at Your feet. Jesus' love my soul redeem. Holy Spirit come live in me. The highest mountain can't touch Your feet, Love deeper than the deepest sea.' I still have the bit of paper Catherine wrote on. I completed the song a little while later on the Alpha course during the Holy Spirit Encounter weekend at Tees Valley Community Church by paraphrasing Psalm 23 to make the verses.

Then about four years ago, my good friend [Gram Seed](#), (photo: Gram and Brian) an ex-offender, encouraged me saying that he listened to it over and over again as he drove round the country visiting prisoners to let them know about the saving power of Jesus. In spring last year, I was invited to play a solo piece as part of worship in the church and so I performed the Holy Spirit Song supported by Rachel Hughes and Connie Vaughan, two young ladies with beautiful voices. Tony Grainge (Eden Project) who took the sermon invited me up again to play for the altar call – the feedback was amazing. One lady asked me to play her down the aisle with the song for her wedding, which I did this summer – honour after honour, and people kept asking me to make a CD of the song which I did. People have bought over 150 CDs in TVCC alone. All monies raised are shared between Sowing Seeds, CAP and Eden Project in Teesside. One lady who was visiting TVCC from Texas, and who worked for the space shuttle programme at NASA took a CD back home to play to the astronauts as the 'wake-up' song on the last ever space shuttle flight. Understandably the music slots were taken up on that historic flight by the astronauts' immediate families. It was still exciting waiting to hear if it got played in



space!!! The positive feedback has continued, particularly from people who are experiencing anxiety and depression. A number of people have told me they play the song over and over again especially in times when they need to feel God near. One person told me they have been getting bullied at work and the only thing that has kept them going is listening to the song over and over driving to and from work over a three-month period. One person who struggles against depression came and told me the song consistently soothes them – they described it being like David playing the harp for Saul – well it is David who wrote Psalm 23 inspired by God, perhaps there is something in that.

Who knows, perhaps people who don't know God can hear it and be encouraged that the Lord Almighty is their shepherd, and that He is waiting to bestow the gift of love through grace to those who are burdened and weary. That they may find the Lord. And for those who already know the Lord to be reminded of God's promises and protection and be soothed. God TV has been receptive to the song. If you listen you may think it isn't the most polished vocals or the most polished recording, but given all that has happened, I believe there is something in this song – something from the Lord. I thought about re-recording it in a professional studio, but then it's not about me. If it is anointed by the Lord, it needs nothing more to do what He has set it out to do.

I am excited to think the Lord has blessed me with something he is using to set captives free, and I hope it spreads from the *CPA Update* to lots of places! Thanks. God bless, Brian



