

MISSION TO MILITARY GARRISONS

Registered Office

MMG, Challenge House, 29 Canal Street, Glasgow, G4 0AD

Telephone: 0141 333 0703 Fax: 0141 331 0563

Scottish Charity Number: SC 005038

VAT Registration Number: 384 6618 17

President of the Council

Major General A N Carlier CBE

Vice President

Brigadier W I C Dobbie

MMG Council

Mrs A Harvey	Mrs J M Fraser
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Mrs M Cowie	Mr T Leighton

Rev E W Sutherland (Chairperson)

Secretary and Treasurer

W m J Clauson I. Eng M IIE

MMG CENTRES

Cyprus MMG Tea Room & Shop, Four Mile Point, BFPO 59
Tel/Fax: 00 357 396 2017

Falklands MMG Oasis, Mount Pleasant Airport, BFPO 655
Tel/Fax: 00 500 32199

Larkhill MMG Oasis at the Gun Club, Royal School of Artillery

Hon Medical Adviser:	Dr D S Munro MB ChB DCH DRCOG MRCP
Legal Advisers:	Carruthers Gemmill, 81 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 2EH
Bankers:	Bank of Scotland, 235 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, G2 3EY
Auditors:	Martin Aitken & Co., 1 Royal Terrace, Glasgow, G3 7NT

Any cheques should be crossed and made payable to MMG

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News Letter
January 2002

Centre Update

LARKHILL: The Centre is well used and the Team are kept very busy. The Cyber Café continues to be very popular in the evenings and, at times, there is a queue to use the Computers. It is good that many of the young service men and women spend their off duty time under a Christian influence.

Bibles and tracts are freely available to all who use the Centre and they are taken on a regular basis.

The team are encouraged by the letters, cards and e-mails received from those whom they have had the privilege to help and have now moved on to other bases.

MILL HILL: The Army are to close the base here in the near future. With the ongoing reduction in uniformed personnel, the Council decided to close the MMG Centre at an earlier date. The Centre closed on the 30th November 2001.

The Military Authorities were sad at our going but understood the reasons for it.

In recognition of the work carried out by John and Winnie Morton, the Army held a presentation for them, this being a Silver Statuette of a Soldier. John and Winnie are being relocated to Larkhill and are looking forward to a new avenue of service.

CYPRUS: In the run up to Christmas, a booklet explaining the true meaning of Christmas was given to every customer who used the Shop.

There is a monthly "Oasis Fellowship" meeting in the Centre and tracts and Bibles continue to be distributed.

The Job Club for children is popular and the children's "Cross Stitch" class for 8-10 year olds is steadily growing in numbers.

The Council

Mr Norman Ayre and Mr Tom Thirkill retired from the Council after very many years of faithful service to the Mission.

Norman was deeply involved in the financial and staffing affairs of the Mission, and Tom whilst working in Cyprus, was responsible for the building of the shop extension there.

Mr Tom Leighton has joined the Council, and we look forward to his help in the days to come.

PRAYER POINTS

Pray for the Centres and the teams as they continue to serve the Lord.

- **Larkhill:** Ivor Henry
John & Winnie Morton
John & Lesley Spencer

Pray for Lesley as she continues to undergo medical treatment and John as he supports her through this time.

- **Cyprus:** Sandy & Patricia Kirkwood
- **Falklands:** Pat Dewar
Steven Dewar
Jenny Faulkner

The Council

Since our last Newsletter, there have been several changes to our Council.

Mr William McInnes : Mr William McInnes, a Council member for over 50 years was called home to be with the Lord.

Mr McInnes was a member of many organisations, both Christian and others concerned with the welfare of the Citizens of his native city, Glasgow.

Although 95 years of age, he had a clear mind and continued to be an active elder in his local Church.

He served for many years in the Banking Profession and his knowledge and experience made him a very valuable member of the many organisations he served.

Mr McInnes was a Sunday School Superintendent for 40 years and continued to have a great interest in the spiritual development of young people.

The service to mark his passing was an occasion for joyous thanksgiving for a Christian Gentleman who had fought the contest to the very end, had kept the faith and entered into the presence of the Master he so faithfully served.

"Be ye faithful unto death and I will give you a Crown of life".

Centre Update

FALKLANDS : The team continue to be kept busy. The weekly "Food 4 Thought" fellowship evening, including a meal and prayer hour, together with the weekly Bible Studies are a great encouragement. The following is an extract from the Team leader's last letter -

"As we're celebrating our Lord's birth, we have been upholding all MMG staff and supporters wherever and however they are serving. For Jen, Steve and myself we are being taken through new experiences here in the Falklands as we rejoice in His birth in the Southern Hemisphere. In our service through the Oasis, we continue to be very busy. Although this is our summer and many take the opportunity to get out and about, there are always those who feel alone at this time. We are maintaining most of our normal working hours throughout the holidays, to be available to those who seek a haven or company.

We continue to ask for prayer as we seek to maintain the level of service that has developed. We are witnessing exciting developments as our Lord touches the lives of people on the base. The spirit has brought about mighty changes in the life of one particular man and there have been many clear answers to prayer. Recently we prayed throughout the coffee shop and we have been encouraged at seeing God's hand at work. We are aware that as we're being led into new ground, the enemy is responding. Please pray that as we continue to put on His armour, we will move in His protection and by His power."

PRAYER POINT

Pray for the Council and Staff at Glasgow as they continue to manage the affairs of the Mission.

David, The Soldier

When we read 1st Samuel Chapter 30, imagine the distress of David and his men when they come home to find their village has been raided. Indeed, worse, as well as the enemy taking the spoils of war, they have taken captive the women and children.

Such was their distress that David and his men wept till they had no strength left to weep. What did David do then - run away, bury his head in his hands - no - he went to the Lord in prayer.

What a marvellous God we have, when all around us seems bleak, desolate and hopeless, He is there to listen to our pleas and requests.

The Lord told David to go after the enemy, that he would find them, meet them in battle, and win a great victory over them. David and his men went after the enemy, and came to the Brook Besor where they rested and had a drink. Two hundred of David's men were so weak that they could no go on, a third of David's force - only four hundred left to go on. What a dilemma for any Commander, a large number of his soldiers unable to proceed. Any other Commander may well have thought the position was hopeless; to go into battle with a depleted force may well have meant disaster and certain defeat.

David however carried on. The Lord had told him to go and that he would overtake the enemy, engage them in battle and recover all. Such is the situation in our lives, when we go forward in the Lord's strength, we can do great things. When the position seems hopeless, with the Lord on our side we cannot fail. Our faith doesn't overcome the problems that come to us in life, but it certainly gives us the

1st Samuel Chapter 30

courage and strength to face up to them.

David found the enemy, engaged them, and fought from twilight unto the evening of the next day; such was the ferocity of the battle. Scriptures tell us "David recovered all". The women and children were safe and all the spoils of war recovered, to be split amongst David and his soldiers.

Some of David's men argued that those who were too weak to go to fight, the men who stayed at the Brook Besor, should not share in the spoils - they should just take their wives and children and go.

David intervenes and says that all shall share alike, whether they went to battle or stayed behind, for the victory is the Lord's.

There is a great truth for us, that one day we shall all share in the Glory. Whatever we are, whatever we are, we are all valued and valuable in the eyes of the Lord. Whether we speak at Church services, are responsible for the fabric of our churches, act as treasurer, welcome visitors into our midst or just quietly witness to the saving power of our Lord - we are all engaged in active service for Him.

The victory is the Lord's and praise be, we shall all share in that victory.

PRAYER POINT

Give thanks for the Senior Officers who help and support the Mission.