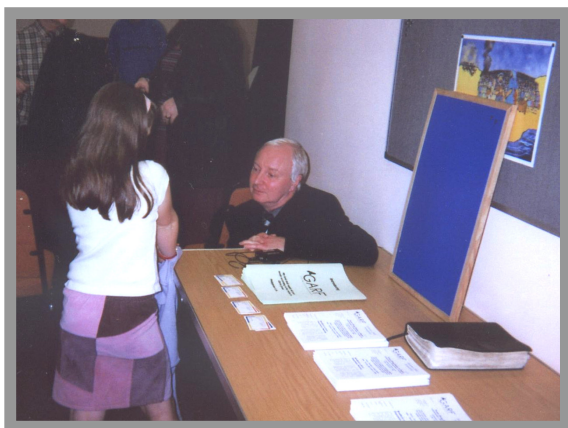


## Honorary Secretary's Report

Our quarterly meetings continue to be times of blessing as we have looked to our gracious God to guide us in administering the fund in accordance with His will.

### *Deputation Meetings*

Pastor Tony Bickley of Brighton has encouraged us with his enthusiasm to promote the fund at Deputation meetings. We reported in our *Autumn Newsletter* the warm hospitality enjoyed with Pastor Robert Oliver and the fellowship at Bradford on Avon in June 2005. Pastor Graham Chewter and the Church at Providence, Bedford also gave a warm reception when Tony shared his testimony in October with about 60 friends including young people and children. A waster for 15 years until a police raid on the home he lived with Liz (now his wife) and baby, a custodial sentence seemed inevitable, as a suspended prison sentence had been imposed a year earlier. They heard how God in His mercy was pleased to not only deliver him from going to jail but saved him by His irresistible grace.



*One of the Bedford children discusses with Tony his testimony.*

In February Tony met with a ministers fraternal in Northern Ireland and as a result a series of meetings are arranged God Willing to be held during the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Two meetings are being arranged in Erith, one to promote *GARF on June 14th*, the other an evangelistic event later this year to which the neighbourhood will be invited to hear Tony's testimony.

Please pray these meetings will not only help to raise awareness of *GARF* but be a means of bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to people caught up in the vices of life.

### **Editorials**

We were delighted Edward Malcolm, the esteemed editor of *The Gospel Magazine*, printed the entire sermon preached at our 2005 AGM by Pastor Bob Morgan of Erith. The title *Sound the Battle Cry* well reflects the solemnity of the message and the challenge to God's people to defend His cause in this dark and evil day.

*The English Churchman* published a summary of the sermon.

If any friends would like a copy of *Sound the Battle Cry* do please contact us. We would be delighted to post it to you.

Tim Curnow, *Grace Magazine's* editor gave charities similar to ours a wonderful opportunity to promote our work in a double spread feature last October under the title *Is Your Pastor on the Breadline?*

**The committee's prayerful desire is that God will be pleased to move His people to support *GARF* or similar charities. *Romans 12 v 13; 2 Corinthians 9 v 6-8.***

## **Change of Policy**

We were faced with some difficult issues relating to overseas Grants and as a result a decision has been made to limit our support to **UK** Ministers, their Widows and their dependants. *The Ministers Relief Society* kindly agreed for us to refer overseas applications to them as they have more adequate monitoring facilities.

## **New Committee Members**

The 2004/05 Report had news of Reg Payne's resignation. He has since written to say how he misses the opportunities of fellowship and being part of a team with the sole aim to help the Lord's people. Reg is 88 and his wife 90. Praise God for such stalwarts!

However, we still have only five committee members. Appeals have been made for several years to encourage God' people to consider becoming involved but as yet these have been met with no response. Please pray we shall soon be strengthened with additional members. If you wish to be considered or could recommend a friend please contact us. *2 Corinthians 8 v 16 & 17.*

## **AGM and Thanksgiving Service 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006**

We are thrilled Pastor Howard Sayers and the fellowship at Hailsham Baptist Church are hosting our AGM.

It is also a pleasure to have Stan Evers, the Pastor at Potton to preach. May the Lord be pleased to bless him and prepare hearts to receive the message.

Finally, thank you for your practical support; please uphold the committee in prayer.  
*1 Thessalonians 5 v 25.*

David Cottington  
*Honorary Secretary*

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## **Members of the Committee** as at March 2006

John Cornwell (Lewes)  
David Cottington (Halland)  
Chris David (Halland)  
Ken Starnes (Ringmer)  
Phil Starnes (Halland)

## **Trustees**

Ben Elford  
Reg Payne  
Phil Starnes  
David Wyld

## **Hon. Treasurer**

Chris David  
77 Hunters Way  
Uckfield  
East Sussex  
TN22 2BB

☎01825 760223  
Email:  
treasurer@garf.org.uk

## **Hon. Secretary**

David Cottington  
10 Ryefield Close  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2XJ

☎01323 507168  
Email:  
secretary@garf.org.uk

## **Deputation Speaker:**

Tony Bickley  
Pastor, Brighton Grace Baptist Chapel

## Treasurer's Report



This year's Treasurer's Report will concentrate on some facts and figures about the work of GARF:

### During the last 8 years (1998/99 to 2005/06) encouragements include:

- GARF has received:
  - 2 substantial legacies £15,000 (2000) & £105,500 (2003)
  - Donations from 35 Individual Supporters £6,000
  - Gifts from 12 Churches £3,800
- Grants have been paid to 19 ministers & widows
- Since 2003, an average of 4 new grants have been approved per year
- Total annual grants have increased from £4,000 to £18,520
- Deputation meetings have been held at many churches in the UK and Northern Ireland

### However, not all has been good news...

- The fund was almost wound up in 2000 due to a lack of income & no capital
- 89% of our total income during this 8 year period has arisen as a result of the 2 legacies:
  - Legacies (81%)
  - Interest on Legacies (8%)
  - Individual Support (8%)
  - **Church Support (3%)**
- GARF has few regular (i.e. annual) supporters - 2/3 of gifts are one-offs
- Despite the above legacies, the net surplus is still LESS than the total expenditure
- **If income & grants remain at their current levels, the fund's future will need to be reconsidered again in the next few years.**

The GARF committee are very grateful to God and to all the churches & individuals who continue to support the work of the fund.

You may have read articles in the Christian Press about GARF receiving a substantial legacy a couple of years ago; we thank God for this unexpected provision, **but we have also distributed over £50,000 of this money since the legacy was received.**

Please pray for and help support this important work in order that GARF can continue to support gospel ministers, their widows & dependents in the future.

Chris David  
*Honorary Treasurer*

# Annual Report 2006

## Income & Expenditure as at 31st March, 2006

	2006	2005
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions & Donations	915	1,495
Church Donations		
Pantiles Chuch (AGM)	115	
Old Baptist Chapel, Bradford on Avon (Dep)	100	
Providence Baptist Chapel, Bedford (Dep)	263	
Halland Chapel	250	
Providence Chapel, Brighton	1000	
Beragh Evangelical Church	200	
	1,928	441
Legacy Income	3,531	0
Interest on Investments	3,428	3,683
Income Tax Recovery on Gift Aid, Investments & Subscriptions	0	72
	-----	-----
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,802</b>	<b>5,691</b>
	-----	-----
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Grants	18,520	15,450
Advertising & Promotion	636	849
Ministerial Fees	50	150
	-----	-----
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19,206</b>	<b>16,449</b>
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Surplus/Deficit	<b>-9,404</b>	<b>-10,758</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2006

	2006	2005
	£	£
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Giro Bank Current A/c	1,973	1881
Portman Deposit A/c	72,541	82112
Cash To Be Banked / Unpresented Cheques	-1,250	-1325
	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,264</b>	<b>82668</b>
	-----	-----
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
Balance at beginning of year	82,668	93426
Add Surplus / Less Deficit	-9,404	-10758
	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,264</b>	<b>82668</b>