

# FOCUS



**SANDES**

The soldier's friend  
since 1869

the  
magazine  
of

# SANDES

**Soldiers' & Airmen's Centres**  
January – March 2020



**SANDES ANNUAL CONFERENCE 24 – 26 April 2020**  
at Rydal Hall, Ambleside, Cumbria  
Our Guest Speaker will be Rev. Cole Maynard  
Please come along and hear about the work of SANDES



**CAN YOU ...**

mop floors,  
wash dishes,  
help prepare food,  
serve tea and coffee,  
and still look cheerful?

**CAN YOU ...**

counsel a young Christian,  
share the Gospel 1-to-1,  
pray and love every day,  
and trust God for the  
results?

**IF SO ...**

would you think and pray  
about working or  
volunteering with SANDES?

**For further information please contact  
Sandes Head Office on 028 9050 0250**

Our front cover this issue show soldiers carrying their heavy loads as they move into position. They have trained hard and are fit and able to carry such a heavy load for long distances. Occasionally, their load will become too heavy for them and more often than not, a colleague will help them and share their burden for a distance until they regain their strength and they are ready to move on. Sometimes they cannot share the weight of their load, and they have to stop or hinder the progress of their unit. As Christians, we have someone who will always help us with our burdens, someone who is always ready to share the weight of our daily struggles with us.

Scripture describes a great exchange of our burdens for the peace of God. Jesus said "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." You have a God who loves you so much that He offers to take your burdens

off your own shoulders, place them on His, and give you peace in return. Where does your life feel heavy? Where do you feel buried under the burdens of the world? God offers you His peace today if you will take some time to align yourself with him and "yoke" yourself to the teaching of Jesus.

Do you ever feel alone in what you are doing? Do you ever feel like peace is an unobtainable goal, blocked by layer upon layer of work you need to get through first? God's plan is different than the world's plan. The world says you can only have peace when you have completed the job, become the best, or gained the approval of man. God tells you to stop working in your own strength, yoke yourself to His teaching, and rid yourself of all the stress and pressure of the world. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your anxieties on him, because He cares for you." You have a God who cares about you. Your God is for you. He knows society tells you to work for and care about certain things, but He offers you the refuge of His peace instead.

We serve a God who does not want us to live even one day burdened. Every day, we can wake up and choose to yoke ourselves to our heavenly Father and His word. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Align your mind with what He says about you—casting off every opinion other than His. Align your day with the leading of God's Spirit and receive the anointing and power He longs to bring into every situation.

God says, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." If you will choose God today over the way you have done things in the past, if you will choose to obey His word, then "you will find rest for your souls." What area of your life needs rest today? In what parts of your heart do you need God's peace and ease? He is waiting right now to meet with you, to offer you his yoke. Let Him take your burdens, fears, and stress. Our fragile frame was not meant to bear such pressure. Come underneath

God's teaching today, align your thinking with his, and let the cares of the world fall off as you live in light of the teaching of Jesus.

1. Reflect on your life for a minute. In what areas do you need God's peace today? It could be your mindset, your appearance, friends, family, work, anything that you feel burdened by.

2. Now offer that area of your life to God and ask Him for His opinion. Listen to God and let Him tell you what He thinks about you. Look up verses that reveal his teaching on the subject.

3. Meditate on Scripture or what God spoke regarding the area in which you need peace. Let His peace flood that area of your life. Submit yourself to His word. Believe that He sees things truthfully. Whatever God says goes.

"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

# FOCUS

on

# Hollywood



Hebrews 12: 2

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Another year has passed, but the work carries on as, year after year, we seek to help those who come into the Centre to understand and come to terms with the claims of the life-changing message of the Gospel. Over the last year, we have had the privilege of ministering to the boys and girls through, not only our own Good News Club, but also the different seasonal specials at Christmas, Easter and the summer 5 Day Club, as well as other events that were organised by the Army. As always, please continue to pray with us for the seed that has been sown in the hearts

of all that have come through our doors.

Over the last few months, I have had the opportunity to speak on the work of Sandes. Two of the meetings were in local churches and one in a house fellowship. For some it was their first encounter with the work, while others have been both prayer warriors and supporters of the work over many years. It goes without saying, these meetings are important as they highlight the need for both prayerful and financial support from God's people.



Chris with some of the folks from Castlereagh Baptist Church

The regiment continue to be away for much of the time and this has affected the footfall in the Centre. However, despite that setback, the Lord is still very much in control and I am in no doubt that He will continue to meet the needs of the work, especially here at Hollywood. Some of the lads, when they have returned from their various tours, have called in to the Centre and have kept us up to date with what has been happening in their lives. Some have ongoing health issues; several of the soldiers have had tests and treatment for various infections. One soldier in particular who comes to mind, had a life threatening condition; he called in before going on leave to let me know that he was making good progress and should be back to full duties early 2020. He also thanked us for our interest and concern for his wellbeing and for our prayers. He said that he and his family have felt the impact of our prayers and commented that there might just be something in “what you Christians call prayer”.

Opportunities also arise with the civilians who work on camp, some of whom would take us into their confidence and talk about life and family issues while others would ask us to remember them in prayer. It was during these times, I was able to give out

Bibles and other Christian literature. The Remembrance week provided another great opportunity with those who are veterans of the UDR. I met up with some of the men and women I used to serve with and when I offered them UDR Bibles and dog tags they were so appreciative. One of the men asked for a further twenty-four Bibles to give to some of his colleagues who were unable to attend the Remembrance Service.



Some of the soldiers on their way to the carol service

Pray with us for a moving of God’s Spirit in the lives of all we have talked to and for those who received Bibles and various Christian literature.

Thank you for your continued prayerful support and may you all know God’s blessing in the year ahead, remembering that His grace is sufficient for you and His power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore may we all look unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith.

**Chris & Marlene**



## BOOKING FORM



# Sandes Annual Conference

24–26 April 2020

Rydal Hall, Ambleside, Cumbria

Guest Speaker – Rev. Cole Maynard

£165 per person (Friday High Tea to Sunday Lunch)

Residential or Day Visitor: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children (u16): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact no: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: £20 deposit per person for ..... Residential places @ £165/each:

For Day Visitors:

..... x Saturday lunch @ £15.00/each: \_\_\_\_\_

..... x Saturday Dinner @ £20.00/each: \_\_\_\_\_

..... x Sunday Dinner @ £20.00/each: \_\_\_\_\_

# FOCUS

on

## Harrogate



To God be the Glory great things He has done and is still doing.

The end is drawing near of another year wonderful in its roller coaster ride of ups and downs.

Sandes has been taken into people's hearts here as always, just yesterday we received a very generous donation from the Padres which Jim accepted on behalf of Sandes, a real blessing in every sense of the word.



Jim with the Padres at Harrogate

It is always sad when people leave us. When it comes to the end of their posting here, they have been a great support to Sandes and they bring in their replacement to show them Sandes and tell them all about us, and that Sandes had made their time here much better for them.

As you know all our soldiers and staff are very special to all of us. Talking of special people, a team of four from the Army Foundation College is taking part and preparing to set sail from La Gomera in the Canary Islands on the 12 Dec 2019 and row across the Atlantic ocean. The team are Richard, Chris, Alex and Kian, the boat is their home for the next forty or fifty days and nights is seven meters long and two meters wide so space is limited. They will be at sea for Christmas and the New year please remember them and their families and keep them

all in your prayers, they are all certainly in our hearts and we wish them Godspeed and success on reaching the finish line in Antigua. Kian is hoping to clinch the record for the fastest teenager to complete the race, go team Force Atlantic and Daphne (the boat).



Lt. Col. Rich Hall MBE, Capt. Chris Hames, Capt. Alex Walsh, Private Kian Helm all aboard on "Daphne"!

This has been a special year for Sandes as we celebrated 150 years as the soldiers' friend, our team and Bombardier Lax (Emmalee) from the College all attended the Service in Lisburn Cathedral in Northern Ireland, it was a wonderful to see the amazing turnout and to be part of a very special day and amazing work.

The Centre continues to be busy and we are steady in climbing back to were we used to be, Mark and Sally are in awe that in the days gone by Jim, myself and Denise did the work alone and the Centre was even busier! Then Kara joined us and

stayed for seven years. Happy memories for us and Lord willing we continue to make happy memories. Sandes is a corner stone at the college, we have been told this many times over the years and pray that it will stand on that foundation for many more years to come.

We feel truly blessed to serve here in Harrogate, our wee settees are looking a bit shabby but still used by many but it is still a cosy and homely "Little Haven" on camp. We are well supported by everyone on camp and those who visit from other parts.

Christmas is fast approaching as I write this report and the Christmas festivities have begun in earnest. Do you still believe in the magic of Christmas, a time to reach out to each other, a time for forgiveness, a time to remember? We wish each and everyone of you the warmest wishes for Christmas and every blessing in 2020. A new year is on the horizon make it count, make a difference.

Thank you for your prayers and support to all of us at the Army Foundation College Harrogate.

**Jim & Maryjane**



As you will see on the back of this magazine, Sandes is incredibly privileged to have many friends in high places. They are our Vice Presidents of whom the longest serving was, until recently,

FIELD MARSHAL THE LORD BRAMALL. K.G., G.C.B., O.B.E., M.C.

His contribution to Sandes over some forty years has been indescribable. When his name was mentioned in military circles, all opposition to a proposal we were making on behalf of Sandes, immediately dissolved.

The official opening of a new Sandes Centre for Army personnel was rarely performed without his presence, and he was often accompanied by the late Lady Bramall.

His appreciation of Sandes' long years of serving the British Army in many parts of the world was evident in his correspondence, his speeches, and his willingness to lend his support in the high circles in which he moved.

It is with immense sadness that we have lost, not just his name from our list of highly valued Vice Presidents, but as a true friend, supporter and prayer partner whom we shall never replace.

Our sincere sympathies and prayers are with Field Marshal the Lord Bramall's family.

Hazel Knox MBE

# Prayer Diary



17th January	Sandes Prayer Meeting
20th January	Sandes Council Meeting
21st February	Sandes Prayer Meeting
3rd March	C.V.W.W. Meeting
20th March	Sandes Prayer Meeting

## Prayer Requests

**Pray for divine wisdom for the way ahead as we prepare to open a new Centre in Aldershot**

Pray for the Head Office team as they provide support to all the Centres

Please pray for our Superintendents and Support Workers:

Jim and Mary Jane McCracken	Harrogate
Mark and Sally Nieuwoudt	Harrogate
Chris and Marlene Wilkinson	Hollywood
Trevor & Jan Pinkerton	Lisburn/Ballykinler
James and Michelle Loubser	Pirbright

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.  
Ephesians 6:18

# January 2020



## Please pray for:

- 1 rest & restoration for all the workers of Sandes
- 2 soldiers and their families suffering from the consequences of conflict
- 3 God's favour and blessing on all Christian ministries to the military
- 4 the work of Sandes to bear fruit in the lives of those we reach out to
- 5 James and Michelle and their Team in Pirbright
- 6 those in the Sandes family who need a healing touch from the Lord
- 7 courage and confidence for Christians serving in the Army
- 8 Sandes deputation to Shore Street Prebyterian Church
- 9 encouragement and blessing on those who prayerfully support Sandes
- 10 a secure spiritual climate on camps and especially in our Sandes Centres
- 11 wisdom on new initiatives or opportunities presented to Sandes
- 12 divine inspiration for Padres taking services today in the Garrison Churches
- 13 goodwill support from the Commanding Officers and their teams on all our camps
- 14 Trevor and Jan and their Team in Lisburn
- 15 opportunities to help and witness despite the busyness of running the centres
- 16 the marriages and health of the families of Sandes workers
- 17 the Sandes monthly prayer meeting at noon today
- 18 Jim and Maryjane and their Team in Harrogate
- 19 Sandes to know a fresh anointing as we face the challenges of this age
- 20 wisdom for the Sandes Council who meet today
- 21 protection for the Sandes Mission against spiritual attack
- 22 increased footfall in all our centres
- 23 good relationships and partnership with Padres on camp
- 24 those soldiers and recruits who have come to Sandes with life issues
- 25 Sandes deputation to Jennymount Methodist Church
- 26 growth in the Sandes prayer and financial support base
- 27 opportunities with wives and children on all of the camps
- 28 Chris and Marlene and their Team in Hollywood
- 29 soldiers and their families to come to living faith in Christ
- 30 settled and committed teams in Sandes
- 31 the Lord's financial provision for the work in the year ahead

**Then He spoke to them, that men always ought to pray  
and not lose heart. Luke 18:1**

# February 2020

## Please pray for:



- 1 the safety of our soldiers on deployment
- 2 for our vice presidents and others working behind the scenes to create this platform for Sandes outreach
- 3 Bibles, literature and dog tags being distributed through our centres
- 4 Sandes deputation to Christ Church Presbyterian Chrch
- 5 a secure spiritual climate on camps and especially in our Sandes Centres
- 6 wisdom on new initiatives or opportunities presented to Sandes
- 7 increased usage of the Sandes centres with opportunities to impact lives
- 8 opportunities in Holywood despite low troop numbers on site
- 9 divine inspiration for Padres taking services today
- 10 preparations for the Annual Conference in April
- 11 good rapport with all soldiers coming to the Centres
- 12 Trevor and Jan and their Team in Lisburn
- 13 a sense of peace and Godly purpose for those workers facing challenges
- 14 new opportunities for outreach in each of our centres
- 15 the right people to come forward as volunteers in Lisburn
- 16 Jim and Mary Jane and their Team in Harrogate
- 17 Chris and Marlene and their Team in Hollywood
- 18 God's leading for the future of Sandes
- 19 Finance team in Head Office as they prepare year end accounts and prepare for annual audit
- 20 a growth in the support base of Sandes
- 21 a sense of freshness and newness for those who encounter the message of hope in Sandes
- 22 protection for our troops serving and training throughout the world
- 23 opportunities with recruits coming into Sandes on Saturday evenings
- 24 encouragement for Christians in the Armed Forces to share their faith
- 25 Sandes to be relevant to todays soldiers
- 26 Sandes deputation to Monkstown Baptist Church
- 27 wisdom for the Sandes Committee
- 28 fresh ideas and effective ways for outreach within and beyond the Sandes Centres
- 29 James and Michelle and their Team in Pirbright

**The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16**

# March 2020

## Please pray for:



- 1 Jim and Mary Jane and their Team in Harrogate
- 2 breakthroughs as we see people in the military being saved
- 3 local fellowships and spiritual support for all the workers in Sandes
- 4 good and supportive relationships with Padres on the camps
- 5 those missions attending the CVWW meeting in London today
- 6 preparations for the Annual Conference next month
- 7 funding to replace worn and damaged furniture in the Centres
- 8 a renewed sense of vision and a fresh anointing on Sandes
- 9 a secure spiritual climate on camps and especially in our Centres
- 10 conviction of the Holy Spirit to awaken people within the military community from spiritual apathy and unbelief
- 11 James and Michelle and their Team in Pirbright
- 12 soldiers and their families suffering from the consequences of conflict
- 13 people to consider supporting Sandes in their legacy planning
- 14 a growth in foot fall across all our Centres
- 15 continued protection for Sandes against spiritual attack
- 16 wisdom for new initiatives
- 17 Sandes workers would know real peace and encouragement in their endeavours
- 18 Trevor and Jan and their Team in Lisburn
- 19 Encouragement for Christians in the Armed Forces to share their faith
- 20 Sandes deputation in Scrabo Presbyterian Church tonight
- 21 praise God for recent breakthroughs and pray that we would see more people saved
- 22 a deep revelation of God's love to all attending garrison services today
- 23 courage and confidence for Christians serving in the Army
- 24 Sandes deputation in McQuiston Memorial Church today
- 25 a deep revelation of God's love to all attending garrison services today
- 26 that more and more people will catch the vision for Sandes
- 27 thanksgiving for all of our volunteers
- 28 wisdom for new initiatives
- 29 Chris and Marlene and their Team in Hollywood
- 30 the Lord's financial provision for the work of the Mission
- 31 final decisions and work for the new Centre in Aldershot

**Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Psalm 141:2**

# FOCUS

on

## Aldershot



In early 2020, we are hoping, in God's will, to open a new Sandes Centre in the Aldershot Garrison! The Garrison Commander contacted us in April to see if Sandes would be interested in opening a Centre in a building called the Connaught Centre. It is his vision to create a community and welfare hub for the Garrison as more and more soldiers are located there. Over the next year or so, there will be over 5,000 soldiers and their dependants living in Aldershot, and most of them living near the Connaught Centre! All the regimental welfare departments will be located here, and several military and non-military charities will all be under the one roof here too.

At present, we are working with the Garrison to replace the kitchen, redecorate the space and source new tables, chairs and sofas, as well as work with other agencies to have a play

park built outside the Centre and also a play area behind what are now the big yellow doors at the end of the community hall!



At the time of writing, there is much work to be done! As you can see from the pictures, it will be a challenge to make the area into a "home from home"!

The kitchen needs a lot of work done to it as well!



Outside, there is a good area where we can have tables and chairs in the summer time, and there is also a small area of garden which we will be able to develop over time.



The Army have kindly committed to refurbish the kitchen and make it fit for our purposes, as well as redecorate the hall! They will also be providing us with sets of tables and chairs, sofas and coffee tables, as well as ensure that the welfare units and other organisations in the Connaught Centre will use Sandes for coffee mornings and any other catering they require!

I was able to meet with all of the organisations who are involved with the centre in December, and it was a real encouragement to hear of their enthusiasm for Sandes coming to Aldershot. One of the Chaplains who was there is already enthused about the

outreach opportunities that we will be able to work with them on.

We have now appointed a Superintendent Couple to run the Centre. More about them in the next issue! We thank God for leading them to us, and trust that He will bless their time with Sandes.

Hopefully by the time the next issue of FOCUS is with you the new Sandes Centre will be ready to open, and a new chapter in the history of this mission to our Forces will begin.

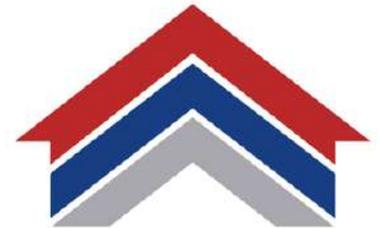
Please pray for all that needs to be done over the next few months to enable the Centre to open. Specifically, please pray that the kitchen and redecorating will be completed, and that the grant assistance we have applied for will come through. Please also pray for the soldiers and their families that we hope will come to the Centre, that they will know and feel the love of God in all that we do for them, and that we will see God's blessing on them and the work there.

**Gary Robb**

# FOCUS

on

## Pirbright

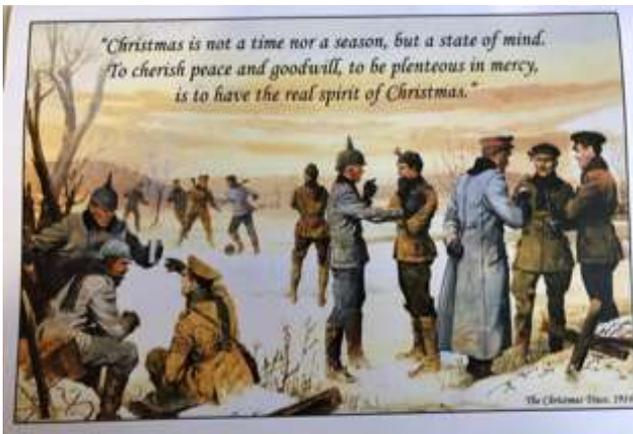


**SANDES**

The soldier's friend  
since 1869

### Christmas, New Year?

As we approach this wonderful time of the year, being wished many good wishes from so many of our visitors, we received amongst others a beautiful Christmas card from the QM's department ...



which challenged us all to consider what Christmas and this time of year is really all about.

### To cherish peace ...

We remember the evening we walked into the Family room to find two of our precious recruits fast asleep on the couches. We left them sleeping till the end of the shift and then panicked that

they might be late for any curfew. When we woke them up, they both said that that was the best sleep they had had in six weeks. They did look so peaceful amidst the challenging training they face within their 14 weeks.



As we walked alongside the entire camp to the Remembrance Day service, we were reminded again to cherish the peace that we do now enjoy because of the many who have died in wars.



**and good will ...**

It was the highlight of our year to partner with the WRVS for the Rugby World Cup. We served burgers at the start of the tournament, opened the centre for a troop of reservists on one Saturday morning to enjoy another game and then served 250 sausage baps at the final. Of course, there was one very happy South African (James). A lot of fun was had by all!



James cooking the sausages!

We had Andy Dakin from the Naval & Military Bible Society visit the centre. He brought with him many needed Bibles which he donates to all our Centres. It was so lovely to see him, and we are so grateful to have so many Bibles again to bless our soldiers with.



**... to be plenteous in mercy,**

We love going the extra mile for those we serve. Friends of one recruit, approached us to organise a surprise birthday party. We had so much fun planning, preparing and executing the surprise.

Major Miller also invited us to the Welfare Christmas lunch. It was so much fun as we played games and chatted with the Padre's, the Head of the Preschool on camp and of course the Welfare team.



Major Miller and Sandy from the pre-school with James & Michelle

**...this is to have the real spirit of Christmas!**

As we concluded our considerations of the beautiful card, we realised that every day in the Centre we experience the real spirit of Christmas!

**James & Michelle**

# Deputations

Would you like someone from Sandes to visit your church group and talk about the work that Sandes does with the military?

Learn of the history of Sandes and what goes on at each of our Centres.

See the materials and literature that we distribute in the U.K. and across the world to support our soldiers.

Join the hundreds of people who support the work of Sandes. Stand with us as we seek to bring Christian love and witness to those within HM Forces.

To arrange a suitable date and time, please call  
Head Office on 028 90 500 250 or email [admin@sandes.org.uk](mailto:admin@sandes.org.uk)

## PLEASE PRAY!

Plans for the new Centre in Aldershot are progressing well, we are hoping to open in March or April this year. There is still a lot to be done, and your prayers are still vital to the success of the new Centre.

Please pray:

- for guidance that this would be the right opportunity for Sandes to grow
- for the Centre to quickly become popular with the military families living close to it in Aldershot
- that the finances required will be secured in God's will and time
- with thanks for this opportunity to reach soldiers and their wives with the Gospel

**"And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him?  
And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?"**

**Romans 10:14 (NLT)**

# FOCUS

on

## Lisburn & Ballykinlar



“If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing.”  
1 Corinthians 13:2

Those that regularly read these FOCUS reports may have realised that I am a fan of the Christian band Casting Crowns and I often quote some of their lyrics! Recently one of their older songs has impacted me afresh, it is called “Jesus friend of sinners”. Some of the phrases that have challenged me are “Nobody knows what we are for, only what we are against when we judge the wounded”.....“it’s time to put down our signs, cross over the lines and love like You did”.....open our eyes to the world at the end of our

pointing fingers”. In Sandes we get a lot of visitors from a lot of different backgrounds and beliefs, some of their lifestyles involve activities that would be contrary to the Bible. Does this mean that they are not welcome in Sandes or in our churches? When Jesus was on earth, He spent time with the down and outs in society and instead of condemning them He loved them and cared for them. He was widely criticised by the “religious” leaders of the day. They had their own standards and expectations and they thought they were above others. In Sandes we like to welcome everyone, and we try to treat everyone with Love, we love to share what Jesus has done in our lives and to share in the hope He has given us.

This last quarter we have been very busy in our Lisburn Centre

and although the 2 Rifles have been away a lot on training exercises and many of the other units on camp have been on deployment in various countries around the world, there always seems to be lots of people on camp and more and more of them are making their way into Sandes which is great, even though it means extra work for our team. The team of workers we have are all stars and we would be lost without them. We are looking to expand our team to help us with the extra work load and one of the areas that we are lacking in is volunteers who can come in and help us just by doing dishes and clearing tables etc. At the moment we only have one volunteer, Amanda who comes in every Tuesday to help us out and she is worth her weight in gold, but we could do with volunteers in for the other days too!

Our work with the welfare team on camp is continuing well as we provide a listening ear for our customers and we can signpost those people to the different agencies who are specialised in specific

areas. We have also a new Brigadier on camp who has been in the Centre on a few occasions and is very supportive of the work we are doing for the people here on camp. We pray that he has a successful posting and that we will continue to work together for the benefit of all who work on camp.

Our wives prayer meeting has grown more over the last quarter with 2 new Christian couples arriving on camp and we have been having good fellowship with them, unfortunately the group will also be getting smaller as another 2 families will be leaving due to postings. Jo and Amy have been great friends and encouragements to us over the last few years and they have even volunteered with us.



Jan with some of the ladies who come to the Wives Prayer Meeting

During the next quarter Jan and I will reach the landmark of having served with Sandes for 15 years and I think that friends who we have come to know over the years, and then move on, remains one of the most difficult things we face on a regular basis.



Trevor and Jan said a sad farewell to Illy who has joined the RAF

In Ballykinlar we remain open on request and although we may not have had as many cadet evenings we have had more bookings from the Army recruitment team bringing work experience teenagers down. We normally open up on the Monday and Tuesday evenings for them and although we do some cooked food for them the main reason for opening up is to give them a place where they can come in and “chill out” for a couple of hours and play pool or table tennis or sit and chat with their friends. This also

gives us a chance to chat with them and tell them about the work of Sandes and maybe for some who go on to join the Army they will look out for Sandes centres and call in to see us again.

This incoming quarter 2 Rifles will be deploying for a few months and we pray that God will bless and protect them in their work. As always, we will miss them and do not know how this will affect the footfall through the centre.

With the new year we always start afresh and seek God for what His will is for us, sometimes there is a new project to undertake, other times it's just a case of “keeping on keeping on” with a steadfast determination. The last year has had its difficulties and we have had a few discouragements, but God gave me the following verse during one of these times and we have tried to work with this verse as our motto.

“They were just trying to intimidate us, imagining that they could discourage us and stop the work. So I continued the work with even greater determination” Nehemiah 6:9

**Trevor & Jan**

# LEGACY PLANNING

**As Christians we believe, and live our lives according to the principle, that everything we own comes from God and is entrusted to us for our life on earth. We are stewards of our family, property, belongings and finances.**

We know that this earth is not our home and so we endeavour to steward our possessions in such a way as to leave a lasting legacy. That legacy will first and foremost be a gospel legacy – a godly life lived to the glory of God and so we employ our resources to that end.

We all know that at some stage we will leave this present world and enter our eternal rest and will no longer have need of our earthly possessions. What a joy it is to know that even after our death we can still be a blessing to those we leave behind!

We can use our possessions to make provision for our family and friends, but we can also utilise our possessions to leave a legacy in providing for the furtherance of Gospel work.

Sandes has benefitted in immeasurable ways from individuals who have left a legacy in their wills for a specific project or the wider work of the mission. This giving is not budgeted for and can be utilised in a way that can propel and fuel some previously unplanned aspect to the ministry. In the past, legacies have been used to assist with running and core costs and the purchase of important and necessary items for the Centres.

No matter how large or small, each gift can and will make a significant impact on the work of the mission and ministry for the glory of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to find out more or if you would like to leave a gift in your will to Sandes, please contact the Mission Director who would gratefully speak with you in confidence.

## Gift Aid

**Gift Aid is a tax relief allowing UK charities such as Sandes to reclaim an extra 25% on every eligible donation made by a UK tax payer.**

For every £1 that is kindly and generously donated to further the work of Sandes, HMRC will increase the value of your donation by 25p (25%). This extra amount makes a huge difference to the work of Sandes.

When you donate, please circle "YES" on the donation page to confirm whether or not you are a UK taxpayer. Please note that Gift Aid can only be reclaimed on donations made by individuals who pay UK income or capital gains tax at a rate at least equal to the amount reclaimed on their donations in the current tax year.

If you have any queries, please contact Sandes Head Office on  
028 9050 0250 or via email on [admin@sandes.org.uk](mailto:admin@sandes.org.uk)



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