

# Southern Counties Baptist Association

## Annual Review 2019



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southern counties baptist association

*“Growing healthy churches in  
relationship for God’s mission”*

The Southern Counties Baptist Association (SCBA) is a family of over 160 Baptist Churches and Pioneer Mission Projects, spread mainly throughout Berkshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Guernsey, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire, covering thirteen counties in total. Each church is independent and self-governing, that work together with each other in unity in the context of the SCBA, encouraging and resourcing each other.

The SCBA aims to:

- Build strong relationships
- Grow healthy churches
- Resource effective mission
- Enable lifelong discipleship

The SCBA is one of 13 Regional Associations which, together with local churches and colleges, makes up the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB).

# Charity Details

Charity Name: Southern Counties Baptist Association

Charity Registration No.: 1091066

Company Registration No.: 4279837

Registered Office and Operational Address: Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 8XD

## Trustees:

Dr Mike Mortimer	Moderator of Trustees (to Nov 2019)
Revd Anne Carter	Moderator of Trustees (from Nov 2019)
Revd Nigel Cox	Association Treasurer
Mr Andrew Johnson	Company Secretary (from Nov 2019)
Mrs Ann Andrews	
Mr John Bragg	
Revd Anthony Clarke	Regent's Park College Representative
Mrs Melvina Fawcett	
Revd Simon Ford	
Revd Martin Hardwidge	
Revd Dr Colin Norris	Regional Minister Team Leader
Mrs Anne Lane	

## Regional Ministry Team:

Revd Dr Colin Norris	Regional Minister Team Leader
Revd Alison Boulton	Pioneer Mission Enabler (to July 2019)
Revd Clare Hooper	CYF Missional Developer
Revd Jonathan Hunt	Regional Minister
Revd David Llewellyn	Regional Minister

## Staff Team:

Mrs Amy Allen	Administration Manager
Ms Andrea King	Safeguarding Officer
Miss Alysén Merrill	Administration Support

# The Aims of SCBA

## Short-term:

- Co-operate with churches directly and through working groups by passing appropriate resolutions to enable building development projects, including the provision of grants and loans, including Sustainable Energy Funding. Many of these projects are directly aimed at making church buildings more accessible and available to the local community.
- Assist churches and ministers that are seeking new ministries through the National Settlement process.
- Assist Individuals in exploring a call to any Baptist ministry by signposting various routes to recognised Baptist ministry, interviewing candidates, supporting ministerial candidates and providing Baptist Union approved training for lay pastors.
- Encourage dialogue within churches or between churches and their local community.
- Encourage the SCBA Grants Committee as it continues to seek creative ways of supporting churches in their mission using Baptist Home Mission, Pioneering and other Association funds.
- Receive and consider reports from the SCBA Strategy Groups and the Regional Ministers, enabling the charitable company to maintain effective governance

## Long-term:

- Make Safeguarding training available on a rolling programme, encouraging and enabling members of our churches to receive training at a reduce cost or free, and ensuring that ministers have completed Level 2 & 3 training.
- Ensure, through its Staff, Finance & Administration Group, responsible and effective stewardship of the resources of the charitable company.
- Encourage churches to support Baptist Home Mission and BMS World Mission through prayer, direct partnership with mission personnel and financial gifts, so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can continue to be shared in the UK and abroad.
- Support the staff employed by the charitable company through the provision of appropriate training and support, and provision of clear and effective staffing and other policies.
- Seek appropriate and timely legal advice on issues having a potentially wide-ranging effect with a view to mitigating risk.

# The Objective of SCBA

The advancement of the Christian Faith especially by means of and in accordance with the principles of the Baptist denomination, as set out for the time being, in the Declaration of Principle of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

# SCBA Strategy Groups

Southern Counties Baptist Association seeks to carry out the aims and objectives of the association through the support of the following strategy groups:





# SCBA Events in 2019

SCBA have had a full year of events with over 300 Ministers and Leaders linking up with our Association via these events:

## SCBA Ministers' & Leaders' Conference

In February, nearly 120 Ministers' & Leaders' attended our three-day conference held at DoubleTree by Hilton in Cheltenham. Kang-San and Loun Tan were the keynote speakers on the theme of "Dynamic Diversity: The New Humanity for Today & Tomorrow."

The conference also included additional session for 23 Chaplains/Sector Ministers and 11 Children, Youth & Families Workers, both exploring their roles in their communities.



## SCBA Leaders' Day

The team were delighted that Revd David Coffey, Global Ambassador for BMS World Mission, was able to be our guest speaker at our Leaders' Day in June to talk on "Mentored by Jesus". We were joined by over 90 Ministers and Leaders at the encouraging day at Amesbury Baptist Church.

## SCBA Leaders' Day & Annual General Meeting

Our guest speaker for our November Leader's day was Revd Ken Benjamin, BU President, who led over 140 Ministers and Leaders on his presidential theme: "Where Do We Grow From Here".

The day also included the SBCA Annual General Meeting in which we bid farewell to our outgoing Association Moderator, Dr Mike Mortimer, and welcomed out incoming Association Moderator, Revd Anne Carter



WHERE DO WE  
GROW FROM HERE?



# SCBA Leadership Development in 2019

SCBA have progressed in a programme of development for our ministers and leaders.

## Footsteps

Nearly 30 students attended Footsteps 1 and 2, meeting once a month on Saturdays.

Footsteps is run in partnership with Regent's Park College, Oxford, and is designed for anyone who wants a deeper understanding of their faith and to develop skills useful for their particular ministry.

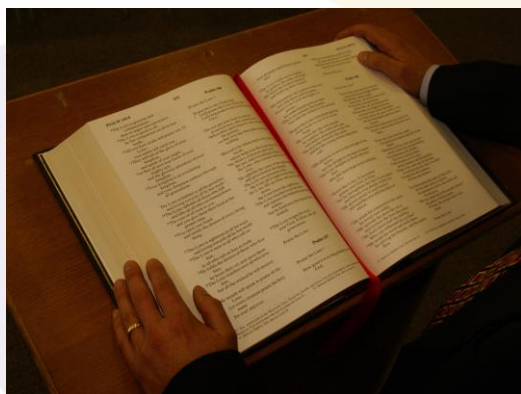
The course also includes a Children, youth & families stream whose purpose is to inspire, connect and resource those working with children, young people and families in their church and community.



## Ministerial Recognition

The process of discerning God's call upon a person's life is not a straightforward one. As Baptist we believe no one can determine for themselves that God has called them to a particular form of ministry; the sense of calling must be tested and affirmed by others. We call this process 'Ministerial Recognition'.

The Ministerial Recognition Group is formed as part of the South West Partnership and is now carried out at residential conferences with the four Associations.



## Ministerial Accreditation

The Regional Ministers oversee the development of ministers during their first three years of ministry. Three ministers became fully Accredited Ministers and were recognised at the Baptist Assembly, with ten Newly Accredited Ministers gathering for two reflection sessions in February and September





# Supporting Mission in 2019

SCBA financially supports mission through churches, chaplaincies and special ministries through Home Mission Grants, as well as supporting Pioneers in new ways of 'doing church'.

## Home Mission Churches

### Anderson Baptist Church Reading

- Partnership with a Nepalese Fellowship.
- Connecting with the community.
- "To be community which shares Christ, makes disciples and reflects God's glory."



### Colwell Baptist Church, Isle of Wight

- Running a twice weekly Foodbank Café and a monthly lunch for elderly locals who would otherwise eat alone.
- Taking on the challenge of reaching out to those who do not know Him.

### Datchet Baptist Church, Slough

- A real heart for mission.
- United in spirit and a sense of hope for the future of the church.
- A very strong sense of family.



### Freemantle Baptist Church, Southampton

- Working alongside the families in the community.
- Running various groups for the community.
- "Sharing the love of God with our community."

### Sandown Baptist Church, Isle of Wight

- Reaching young families in the community.
- Serving the local schools.
- "Here to reach others with Christ's love as we learn to follow Him."



## The Meeting Place, Westbourne

- Working at a 'Grass Roots' level.
- Seeking to build community and provide a space for children and families to 'be'.
- Building relationships with parents and carer of the children attending the Toddler Group.



## Warren Park Café Church, Havant

- 'Doing Church for the unchurched'.
- Forming 'discipleship huddles'.
- "A Jesus-centred community seeking a more simplistic way of life."

## Witney New Life Church

- A community in formation.
- Establishing a Christian community in West Witney.
- "Worship with us: your local church, just around the corner."



## Chaplaincies Supported by Home Mission



### Bournemouth University Free Church Chaplaincy

- Pastoral support and one-to-one encounters.
- A 'Global Café' for international students.
- "Offering a safe space for people to offload their worries."

### IBEX: South Coast

- Relating faith to economic life in Hampshire & Dorset.
- A Christian presence in local businesses.
- "The Churches working with the economy."



### Southampton University Free Church Chaplaincy

- Supporting over 25,000 students & 6,000 staff.
- Offering an 'Open House' during term time.
- "Offering a listening ear to anyone who needs it."



# Special Ministries Supported by Home Mission

## Graven Hill Project, Bicester

- A Special Ministry Grant to fund a Pioneer on a new 'self-build' housing estate.
- Pioneer called and financially supported by Orchard Baptist Church, Bicester.
- Working together with other denominations in Bicester to serve the new housing estates.



## PACE in Guernsey

- Creating Opportunities for children to explore the Christian faith.
- Supporting teachers by leading assemblies, lessons, lunch clubs and Prayer Spaces.
- "Connecting schools & churches, communicating Christian belief & values; creating space to explore faith."



## REInspired, Reading

- Developing creative partnerships between churches & schools.
- Delivering Religious Education sessions from the local RE syllabus.
- "Bringing Religious education to life."



# Pioneers Supported by SCBA

## Missional Listener, Dorset

- Revd Ben Lucas living in Charlton Downs with his wife, Ez, and four children.
- Felt a very strong calling to go and make disciples of people.
- Called to plant missional communities in Dorset.



## Pioneering in Hamworthy, Poole

- Revd John Good living in Poole with his wife, Mim, and two sons.
- Pioneering on a growing housing development of 1,200 homes.
- Set up a Watersports Library for people living in Poole Bournemouth who would love to get out in the water.





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The full Annual Report, which incorporates financial statements, is available at:

[www.scba.org.uk/governance](http://www.scba.org.uk/governance)

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