

News from Keston College

In summer Keston College seems to become the Mecca for our supporters all over the world, who converge on us in hundreds to meet the staff and see the work in progress. Many want to discuss what they can do personally to help.

Visitors

Among our visitors have been Vladimir Bukovsky, Yevgeni Bresenden (the Soviet Pentecostal leader now living in California, who travelled to England for the press conference concerning the defence of Orlov), Archbishop Mstyslav Skrypnyk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America and a group of pastors and church people from Germany who were brought to Keston by the Rev. Michael Whitehorn of Sevenoaks. It was also a pleasure to welcome Dick Shumaker and Aileen Freeman of the Slavic Gospel Association in Wheaton, Illinois. Aileen Freeman hopes to spend more time on Keston work in the future. She already runs our USA office part-time.

Staff visits

My own visit to America in April was not all positive. I was warmly welcomed by groups of Lithuanians and Ukrainians, who both want to see the work done at Keston College for their compatriots in Eastern Europe developed. I am indebted to Fr. Pugevicius and Prof. Bohdan Bociurkiw for their invaluable assistance. "Ukrainian Year" at Keston College was also helped by the visits of Prof. Moroziuk of Loyola University, Montreal in July and August and Roman Kudela briefly in June. However, it was not possible to finalize plans for a link between Keston College and the Center for Civil Rights at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana. Peter Reddaway (a member of our Council and lecturer at the London School of Economics) and I attended a conference at Notre Dame. However, the financial support, which had seemed certain, for this exciting project to house our archives on microfilm in the USA and to establish a full-time representative there was not forthcoming. Let us hope that someone in America will

realize the potential value of such a link. Alan Scarfe plans to visit the States in the autumn.

Television and radio

Among numerous programmes with which the staff of Keston College have been associated in the last few months are "Long Live the First Snowdrop" (BBC radio), and two broadcasts by me on *The World at One* (BBC radio) about the health of Georgi Vins and about our newly published Christian prisoner list (see enclosed leaflet). We also gave research help or scripts to NBC Television, Belgian Television, Norwegian Radio and Australian Broadcasting.

Staff and Council

Our warm congratulations go to Xenia Howard-Johnston, our editor, who has recently announced her engagement to Lyle Dennen, an American priest working in London. She hopes to continue with her work as editor after they are married. Kathleen Matchett was married to Andy Carter in Witney in April. We wish them every happiness. Gina van der Molen, our subscription secretary, has left us to have a baby. Her work is now being done equally efficiently by Doreen Young who lives near Keston.

Archdeacon John Youens, a member of our Council of Management, continues to be active on our behalf. We were deeply grateful to him and his wife for a gift of £2,000 to endow a library. This generous gift was donated in memory of their daughter who was killed tragically in the crash of the Turkish airliner a few years ago.

Our Council of Management give me great support and it is impossible to thank them adequately for all they do. Sir John Lawrence, our chairman, spends a day at Keston each week giving invaluable advice. Now the Rev. Bernard Tidball, who has retired from his work at the Bible Society, has agreed to become our Deputy Director as a part-time appointment. One of his main tasks, initially, will be to finance the re-development of our large, draughty classrooms in the old Keston school. We hope to divide them into smaller units, more suitable for quiet research. I am also grateful to Howard Blandford-Baker for his careful work in planning our budget.

Parish support

Most remarkable in 1977 has been the way in which churches of all denominations have increased their support. Regular support of this kind means so much to us. We can plan our research and take on new projects. If your church does not help, perhaps you could put a few copies of *The Right to Believe* on your church bookstall each time it is printed (probably four times a year). If you would like to help us in this way, please write and tell us.

MICHAEL BOURDEAUX

Forthcoming Engagements 1977

Sept. 17	Michael Rowe. Tonbridge School at 12.00 p.m.
Sept. 19 – Oct. 16	Alan Scarfe. Lecture Tour of the United States.
Oct. 3	Jane Ellis. Ladies' afternoon meeting, Chislehurst at 2.30 p.m.
Oct. 7	Archdeacon Youens. Swanley Group of Churches at 8.00 p.m.
Oct. 9	Archdeacon Youens. St. Paul's Camberley at 11 a.m.
Oct. 9	Michael Bourdeaux. Salisbury Cathedral at 11.30 a.m.; Winchester Cathedral at 3.30 p.m.; St. Swithun's School Service in Winchester Cathedral at 5.30 p.m.; Chaplaincy Centre, Southampton University at 8 p.m.
Oct. 10	Michael Bourdeaux. Public Meeting. The Guildhall, Salisbury at 7.30 p.m.
Oct. 22	Archdeacon Youens. Ely Diocesan Synod at 11 a.m.
Oct. 23	Alan Scarfe. Bishop Otter College, Chichester at 9.15 a.m.
Oct. 29	Alan Scarfe. Young People's Group, Christchurch, Bromley.
Nov. 8	Archdeacon Youens. Bagshot Park at 11 a.m.

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