

# Three Teams

In response to feedback from the consultation, we have now clearly defined the day-to-day work of NWBA into three distinct teams, each with its own areas of responsibility and its own Team Leader.

## Operations

The Operations Team is led by Mandy Howarth. Team members are Jonathan Boyers and Ali Hirst. For many churches we have been, and will continue to be, the first point of contact within the Association. If you are unsure as to where you should take a query or request, then this is a good place to start. Between us we aim to facilitate the activities of the Association as well as offering administrative support for groups such as NWBA Council and the Ministerial Recognition Committee. The Operations Team is also responsible for organising events, arranging mission grants as well as administering the BUGB DBS process for ministers and arranging safeguarding training for churches.



MANDY HOWARTH



ALI HIRST



JANE HENDERSON



ANDREW PHILLIPS



Drop-In at Hope, Aintree



Pentecost in St Helen's

TIM PRESSWOOD



## Church Life

The Church Life Team which is being developed under Tim Presswood's leadership will provide pastoral support for local churches and ministers. A 'network' of Regional Ministers will be based in member churches, providing shared ministry to the local church and to churches in the surrounding area.

These Church Life Ministers will also be the first point of call for churches seeking advice on legal, trust, safeguarding, recruitment and buildings support.

It is also the Church Life Team that will oversee the Ministerial Recognition process and will journey with candidates through to the end of their NAM period.



GRAHAM LINDLEY



ANDREW DODD



KATH DODD



PHIL JUMP



JONNY HIRST



ROY SEARLE

## Mission and Ministry

The MMD team has two core objectives: To envision, support and enable local congregations as they seek to find and fulfil their place in the mission of God.

To work more broadly, with various partners to develop an overall mission vision and strategy for Baptists in the North West. Much of our work at present is focussed around "Unlocking the Potential" which seeks to develop and release the gifts of God's people through our churches. In particular we are seeking to:

- Invest in Leaders: Jane Henderson co-ordinates our Leadership Development Programme, which currently works through four hubs, to help ministers cultivate their key leadership skills. Through the Latchford Centre, we are also developing a number of initiatives to equip local church leaders who are not Accredited Ministers.
- Develop key specialisms: Andrew Phillips is our Children and Families Networker, and is particularly working with churches to develop inter-generational congregations. Andrew is joined by Jonny Hirst, our Young People's Networker, who will take a key role in managing our annual IMPACT weekend, and developing our Young Leaders' Programme.
- Develop new expressions of Mission: Roy Searle works across the North of England as Pioneer Co-ordinator offering support to existing pioneers and seeking to envision those who are engaged in new contexts and mission opportunities.

## What About the Networks?

Some of our Networks meet regularly, organise worship and mission together as well as supporting ministers' fellowships. This is what was originally hoped for the Networks and we would encourage that to continue. However, it is now clear that for a majority of our churches, the existing networks are not meeting their needs. Instead of networks appointing a "Network Minister," NWBA will employ the Church Life Team. Church Life Ministers will support networks and encourage churches to share fellowship together.



Planting a Tree of Hope in Partington



## Governance

### FORUM & AGM

We will continue to hold an Annual General Meeting to which churches will be encouraged to send representatives. This will be held as part of our Forum in which we will share the latest developments in mission and worship as well as providing training and resources.

The AGM will appoint the members of NWBA's new Trustee Board.

### TRUSTEE BOARD

The Trustee Board will replace the existing NWBA Council. For several years, Council has had a number of vacancies and the new Trustee Board will recognise this. Trustees will be recruited for the skills that they are able to bring, although it will be the AGM which formally agrees their appointment. There will be no more than 12 trustees, who will meet much more frequently than the present three meetings per year.

The Trustee Board will take on all the charitable, legal responsibility for the management of NWBA.

### TEAM MEETINGS

With the recruitment of the Church Life Team, NWBA's staff team will be both significantly larger and significantly more based in local churches. The meetings of the new, enlarged full team will take over much of the role of the existing Network Ministers' Meeting.



## Get Involved...

We are looking to recruit up to 5 Church Life Ministers who will share their ministry between a local church and up to 30 other local churches. Alongside this, we are also exploring the development of "Hub Churches" that will specialise in a particular area of mission and ministry, sharing their insight and experience for the benefit of churches and leaders across the Association

This is not a 'job recruitment! Rather, we are seeking to discern God's will in developing a new form of partnership with the churches of NWBA.

If your church, after prayerful consideration, believe this is something which you would be interested in, please send an Expression of Interest to [transition@nwba.org.uk](mailto:transition@nwba.org.uk)



## Representation

Phil Jump will continue to serve as Team Leader and will be overall leader of the Core Team.

Phil will continue to represent NWBA at national Baptist events and meetings, as well as significant ecumenical gatherings. However, we will, increasingly, be looking to the Church Life Ministers to represent NWBA at events within their area such as county ecumenical church leaders' meetings and civic events.

Churches should see the Church life team as the first point of contact for day to day concerns and issues

# NETWORKING FOR MISSION



Dear Friends

We hope that you are aware that NWBA's theme for 2018 is **Unlocking the Potential**. It is clear that within the churches of NWBA, God is at work today more than ever, renewing what it means to be Christ's body in the North West. We believe that our role, as an Association of Baptist Churches is to 'unlock' all of this, supporting you as you engage in new forms of mission for the twenty-first century. You can read more about this on our [website](#).

18 months ago, at Forum 2016, we launched the Networking for Mission consultation in which we proposed to change the way in which NWBA is organised to enable us more effectively to unlock the potential within our churches.

Through a series of network events, ministers' gatherings, a newsletter, emails and the website, over 70 churches engaged in this process.

That it has taken this long to produce this report is a sign of how seriously we have taken the variety of views that came out. However, it is also a clear indication, we believe, that change is necessary. We need to move to a more fundamentally Baptist way of working in which local churches take more ownership of our Association life.

After much discussion and prayer, we are happy to present this report to you to outline the changes to our Association. Some of these have already begun. Others require the active participation of member churches. We hope you will read this report, pray about it together, and discuss it as a church. If you believe that God might want you, as a church, to become more involved in this process, please send in an expression of interest as detailed overleaf.

These are challenging times for us all as we seek to discover God's new ways of engaging in mission in what is increasingly a pluralistic and secular society. We are excited to be part of your journey and to be part of 'Unlocking Your Potential'.



Mandy



Phil

