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**Bahá'í Journal UK**Journal of the Bahá'í Community of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Volume 20, No.1 – May/June, 2003 / 160BE **LARGE PRINT** / Standard Print.Letters

Letters to the Editor



Beloved Friends,

REUNION PLANNED BY THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF JAMAICA

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Jamaica is planning a Reunion event from 12-27 July, 2003, and we would like to request your assistance in disseminating this information as widely as possible. We know that many of the persons to whom this is addressed now reside in many parts of the world and we do not have individual addresses for all of them.

The National Assembly would like to invite anyone who has ever been to Jamaica on a Bahá'í-related activity, whether as a pioneer, a travel teacher, a speaker, or visitor, as well as all Jamaican Bahá'ís living outside of Jamaica, to join us for this exciting two-week period (or as much of it as possible). Activities during this period will include:

Teaching events during the weekend of 19-20 June. A picnic/outing on Thursday 24 June. A symposium on the weekend of 25-27 June consisting of a reception and cultural show (on Friday), sessions and audiovisual presentations on the history and progress of the Faith in Jamaica, and a public meeting and concert (on Saturday), and a Sunday morning devotional programme (hopefully to be broadcast or recorded for broadcast). Other informal activities such as proclamation events, firesides, interviews, radio and TV broadcasts, etc.

For more information please send an email to: Namvar Zohoori at zohoori@unc.edu or write to: Reunion, National Bahá'í Centre, 208 Mountain View Avenue, Kingston 6, Jamaica, West Indies.

With warmest Bahá'í greetings,
Namvar Zohoori

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

MEMORIES OF HUGH AND VIOLET MCKINLEY

Could I please through the Bahá'í Journal ask all the friends who knew my late husband Hugh Mckinley, and more importantly the older members of the community who remember his mother Violet Mckinley, to share their memories of them with me? At present I am putting an article together about Violet's life for the Journal. They were both Knights of Bahá'u'lláh for Cyprus where she is buried. During the period the Mckinley's were in Cyprus, there was a Civil War raging, so no records are available to the Cyprus Bahá'ís, except Hugh's personal correspondence, so any stories and recollections are very precious for the Faith in Cyprus as a whole, as well as part of the lives of both Hugh and his mother. Their story has yet to be told.

Violet and Hugh's father, David, were among the first forty Bahá'ís in the UK, so their lives are part of the history of the Faith in this country. These memories will become part of a book Ismael Velasco is starting to put together. Their services in the Faith start in Torquay

before the war and continue with the establishment of the first Local Spiritual Assembly in Cardiff in 1946, through to their move to Cyprus in 1953 and then Hugh's pioneering in Greece in the 60's and 70's. If friends outside the country read his could they please add their memories. Please do not make them so succinct that they tell me nothing, also please say how you came to know either Hugh or his mother, also please give some dates. Any other information would be most helpful. Please send your memories and information to me c/o the National Office (27 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PD).

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

In anticipation,
Deborah Mckinley

Dear Friends,

COURSES AT SUSSEX UNIVERSITY

I am writing on behalf of the Brighton Spiritual Assembly with a suggestion for any youth considering taking up courses at Sussex University.

We are a large community and have been blessed with the presence of quite a few students who have both enlivened our meetings and greatly assisted our teaching efforts. However, the neighbouring community of Lewes, which is actually nearer to the University and possibly cheaper for renting, has been decimated by the boundary changes and would benefit enormously from the support of students. May we therefore suggest that if any are making plans to attend Sussex University in the new academic term starting September, to please give some thought to strengthening the Lewes community. It is a charming, historical town and a potential lynch pin for the whole of East Sussex. There is the added bonus that it is only a ten minute train journey to Brighton city.

Ron Ford

<p>BJUK welcomes letters on any topic of general interest, which may be printed at the Editor's discretion. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the National Assembly or the Editor. Editor: Patrick Morrissey, e-mail: journal@bahai.org.uk, fax: 0870 136 3730</p>
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