

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

February 19, 2014

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Report on floods

Dear Brothers:

As you are aware from national news reports, a number of areas in Britain and Ireland have been severely affected by storms and flooding in recent days.

Here at the branch, numerous enquiries have been received from concerned brothers and sisters regarding those who are living in the affected areas. Your loving concern is truly an identifying mark of Jesus' followers. (John 13:35) Therefore, we are pleased to provide you with an initial report based on information received so far from the various circuits that have been affected.

Some properties have been affected by flooding and storm damage. However, we are pleased to mention that all of our brothers and sisters are safe and well. We know that the homes of two publishers have been flooded but the local brothers are giving kindly assistance. In other badly affected areas a number of publishers have been evacuated from their homes as a precautionary measure and are being cared for by family members or local publishers.—Prov. 22:3.

At this time no Kingdom Halls have been flooded, but some have sustained roof damage with tiles being dislodged or displaced. A tree fell on the roof of one Kingdom Hall and some water damage occurred as a result. The tree has been removed and the Kingdom Hall has already been repaired.

Access to a number of publishers' homes has only been possible by wading through water on surrounding roads or within their gardens. Others have had their electricity supply affected, but in all cases their needs have been met by others in the congregation. Many have lovingly assisted their neighbours in distress.

The homes of some publishers have sustained damage to roof tiles due to the high winds that were experienced this past weekend. However, all those affected are receiving support and assistance.

While there has been disruption in some areas, which has made travelling to meetings and engaging in field service challenging, alternative arrangements have been made to ensure our brothers and sisters do not miss out on spiritual activities. It is especially encouraging to report that in some congregations the level of ministry activity has actually increased during this time.

With the strong winds that have affected Wales, our Regional Translation Office suffered structural damage. The electric power went out for two days, resulting in no heating, hot water, or cooking facilities. The internet and telephone lines were severed from the building by bargeboards falling from the roof. Snow and falling trees due to the storms prevented the commuters and other members of the family from working at the office, but all are safe and well.

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While many of those affected may not necessarily be in dangerous situations, they will be experiencing very anxious times. We feel sure that you will keep all of these dear brothers and sisters in the affected areas in your thoughts and prayers.—Matt. 6:34; 1 Pet. 2:17.

Like you, we look forward to the time when God's Son, Jesus Christ, who has been given the power necessary to bring about all the changes needed to make the earth a delightful paradise, will assert full control of earth's elements and make sure that the subjects of the Kingdom no longer suffer the calamities we see today.—Mark 4:37-41.

Please be assured of our very warmest Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

PS to the coordinator of the body of elders:

Please arrange for this letter to be read to the congregation at the first Service Meeting after its receipt. Thereafter, it should be placed on the noticeboard.