

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

LDA:LDS October 31, 2014

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: New arrangements for construction and renovation of Kingdom Halls

Dear Brothers:

We are writing to provide an update regarding the exciting changes now being made to the way that Kingdom Hall projects are carried out.

During November, construction servants will be appointed to work on Kingdom Hall projects in Britain for the first time. These brothers and sisters will either be assigned to a Kingdom Hall Construction Group (building and renovating Kingdom Halls) or as field representatives (coordinating property purchase, design and planning). As they will be working at their assignments full-time, projects will be handled at a faster rate than was previously possible, in order to meet the need for Kingdom Halls.

Approval has been given to form 12 construction groups in Britain and 2 in Ireland. This will take place gradually over coming months. When a group is formed and assigned to an area, the local RBC will transfer to them their project workload. Hence, RBCs will keep on working until a construction group is assigned to their area. The RBC volunteers will become LDC volunteers and continue to have a full share in projects.

Since July 2014, the cost of all construction/renovation works has been covered by the branch. Although maintenance is paid for using local congregation funds, there is no longer any need for funds to be held by congregations for construction, renovation or land purchase. The response from the congregations to this adjustment has been truly amazing. The generous spirit you have shown will undoubtedly result in rich blessings.—Prov. 11:25; Gal. 6:10.

We are aware that a number of Kingdom Halls are unsuitable and have been in need of improvement or replacement for some years. The new arrangements are being set up with the objective of addressing this need within the next few years.

Whether you attend a Kingdom Hall that is suitable or in some way deficient, you can help support the new arrangements in a number of ways. How so? Please note the following important points:

1. Give consideration to applying to serve as an LDC volunteer. Although Kingdom Hall construction will be overseen by full-time servants, the majority of the work will still be carried out by volunteers.

2. The timescale to catch up with the backlog of over 400 Kingdom Hall projects is estimated to be five years. May we seek your patient cooperation while this new programme is implemented. Maintain the hall you use to the best of your ability, and avoid carrying out any construction works without branch approval. An effort will be made to concentrate on the highest-priority needs first.

3. In order to support global expansion, more efficient use needs to be made of Kingdom Halls and Assembly Halls. For example, now that there is only one midweek

congregation meeting during the visit of the circuit overseer, it is possible that Kingdom Halls can be used by four congregations. Also, the branch office has been directed to consider whether meeting places could be consolidated so that underutilized Kingdom Halls can be sold. Your willingness to accept such changes is greatly appreciated.—Phil. 2:4.

The advancement of Jehovah's organization is clear for us to see. We are enthusiastically looking forward to improving the physical presence of our Kingdom Halls in the same way that our online presence has developed. With Jehovah's rich blessing and your loyal support, rapid progress will be made.

Please be assured of our warm Christian love and best wishes.

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

cc: All RBCs
Circuit overseers

PS to 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.