

GIDEON MEMBER HONoured BY THE QUEEN

Andy Dalton, a member of the Batley, Dewsbury & Morley branch of the Gideons was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) by Her Majesty the Queen for services to church, community and youth in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. This included his role over the last 25 years as an active member of the local GideonsUK branch.

He has held a number of positions in the local branch including Vice Chairman, Branch Secretary and Friends Secretary. He has been active in Scripture placements in local schools. For the last quarter of a century he has spearheaded the annual placement to Year 7 pupils at the local Morley Academy. Andy estimates that he has placed around 5,000 New Testaments. He says he is now presenting them to the children of some former pupils he met in the early years as a Gideon visiting the school!

He is also secretary of the local Congregational church and an active lay preacher. He has been a town councillor for 20



years and was Mayor of Morley in 2013. After every election he presents Scriptures to all the newly elected councillors of Morley Town Council.

Andy Dalton says, "It's a great honour to receive this British Empire Medal from our Sovereign. We only have one life to serve the Lord. My involvement in Gideon ministry makes life very busy indeed, making Jesus known through the placement of Scriptures. And for this I am truly grateful."

MAYOR ACCEPTS ELEVEN SCRIPTURES!



David Goldin with Faith and John Casse presented a Bible to the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Dee Simson. She is also a councillor for the ward in which Faith and John live and they know her through her involvement in the local community. John says they had half an hour together, and were able to share with Dee something of the work of Gideons at local, national and international level.

The Mayor commented that she appreciated the valuable contribution that the local churches and associated organisations made to the lives of many people in Brighton and Hove. She was pleased to receive our gift of a Bible, assured us that it would be used and that she would take it with her when she retires from her mayoral position next year. She also accepted a New Testament and Psalms for her husband, Paul, who acts as her Consort.

Faith was able to talk a little with her about her family and Dee accepted Testaments for her three children and six grandchildren as well. So, in total, we distributed one Bible and ten Testaments, for which we give thanks to God.

I have since written in appreciation for the opportunity to visit, and the Mayor's PA replied, "I have printed a copy of your email and photo for the Mayor, Cllr. Dee Simson, who is keeping a "Memory Box". The Mayor wishes to thank you again for the personal copy of a Bible presented to her. She is grateful for the work that is done by Gideons locally."

Submitted by John Casse
Brighton and Hove Branch