

9th October 1998

Dear Bruce

Though much mercy Jed is improving and hopes to have his artificial leg in about 2 weeks. Further to notes sent previously, I enclose an updated version which further emphasises the very real way in which brethren universally have entered so feelingly into the exercise.

The 3 days were a real tonic – it's the working out of the ministry that's proving the test for us. I enclose the 3 day booklet, an updated address/phone book and a location map for the dear brethren in Leeds and Harrogate.

My prosecution is on Friday 16th October in the local magistrate's court and in view of significant and sustained media interest (see enclosed newspaper article) we feel that a low key approach is best. In fact the solicitor has suggested that only John Carruth and I attend.

The prosecuting officer seems well disposed and says he will not bring the brethren into it and doubts whether the hearing will be much longer than 40 minutes. I reckon it'll take longer!

I intend to plead guilty and take the full blame for what has happened. I enclose a transcript of my solicitor's proposed speech and would much appreciate your help and perhaps a word from your father before Friday.

Another matter concerning us is that my two younger brothers, Ralph (age 37) and Cedric (age 36) not walking with us, have applied to the Court of Protection to be appointed Receivers to deal with the financial affairs of our parents. This step, ratified by Social Services, is a logical step if our brothers are to override our mother who obtained Power of Attorney over father in 1991. The need to control their interest springs from the fact that father is unable to deal with his own matters as he suffers from a disease akin to Alzheimer's and mother is rather unstable mentally.

Garth and I feel that our two brothers act responsibly in caring for our parents and that the motive for the action seems right. But we need to know what position to take, especially as mother is resisting this move. She has already appealed to us on Christian grounds knowing that we are regarded by law as being closer of kin.

Questions such as the burial of our parents seems relevant.

Sooner or later we're going to have to address the question of the way forward on my site. Everything has stopped and I want to be dependent on your father's counsel. We need larger business premises and the question of the need of a meeting room is likely to come up again. at least two houses are being used every week which brings up the question of rooms set aside.

Sorry to burden you with so much but we need so much help.

Yours in Christ,

Lance Christie