

More blessings in Birmingham



Youth Work in Birmingham has seen a great blessing in 2023. This Easter, Birmingham ran a holiday club aimed at primary school children for three days which was attended by an average of 9 children each day, all from the local area around the hall. Using the Scripture Union resource Guardians of Ancora, the children took part in a range of crafts, games and Bible stories. A great time was had by all.

The Easter Club was built on the established youth work in Birmingham which has two clubs, one for primary school-aged children started in January 2022, and a second club for age 10 plus that has existed for many years. Over the last 17 months, around forty different children have attended the two clubs with between 10 and 15 regularly attending each club.

Following Covid, the youth work had almost ceased completely, but the prayers of the Church have been answered with the commencement of the Kids Club for Primary School children and the increase in the numbers

attending the older Youth Club.

The youth work team give great thanks to the Lord for such a great blessing and opportunity to share the Gospel message.

Steve Oakley; Phil Jefferson

Putting the Cart Before the Horse

Are we guilty? Some things in life are important, some things are very important, and some things have priority over others. Should we get it wrong, we can mess up. As a child I was told, "I want does not get." Our Lord taught his disciples many important things about prayer (conversing with God). He told them to ask, seek and knock - the value of being consistent and persistent. However, His teaching emphasised that we should seek first the Kingdom of God (Matt. 6:25-34) and all these things would be added unto us.. We should avoid a shopping list approach. The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom. 14:17).

The Lord taught His disciples how to pray (Matt. 6:9-15) - firstly how to address God as our heavenly Father and the first request 'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.' Further down, 'give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses', finishing with 'for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever'.



A very important prayer is the intercessory prayer where you pray for others and for their spiritual and physical needs. The focus is on them and not one's own needs. Jabez in 1 Chr. 4: 9,10 asked God to bless him indeed, that He would enlarge his border (expand in number and area). He also asked that God's hand would be with him, and that God would keep him from evil so that he would not be sorry. The Bible records clearly 'that God granted him that which he requested.' Our Lord said 'ask and ye shall receive' and James in his epistle makes a bold statement, 'you have not, because you ask not'.

Be assured God loves to answer our prayers and loves it when we depend on Him.

Neville Coomer

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help from
past writing

13 May - 15 July

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ROMFORD CONFERENCE

11.11.23

Our unchanging Saviour & Lord

10:45 COFFEE | 11:30 START | BUFFET LUNCH | 5:30 FINISH

IVY HILL HOTEL, MARGARETTING, CM14 0EH

Hebrews 13:8

"Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever"

LENNIE SHAW (SWINDON) - YESTERDAY
STEVE BROOKS (HAYES) - TODAY
DAVID VILES (HAYES) - FOREVER
STEPHEN OXLEY (HAYES) - SINGING

THE CHURCH OF GOD IN
ROMFORD

The Inside Story

Our experience of the Holy Spirit

North West Study Day

Manchester

Saturday 14th October

More details to follow

Kirkintilloch Coffee Corner - End of Season Outing



We are very privileged that the Lord has blessed our Coffee Corner, which has been so well attended. For the last Coffee Corner of the season, a bus was hired taking twenty-seven of us to a garden centre at Killearn for lunch. The garden centre was lovely and the restaurant provided us with a two-course

lunch.

One of our Corner helpers, Louise Johnston, had a birthday that day and was given a beautiful cake, which was distributed to everyone with our teas and coffees.

From the garden centre we went to Aberfoyle where we had a lovely walk and visited the Scottish Wool Centre. We had a perfect day which was much appreciated by everyone.

Coffee Corner now breaks for the summer time and will recommence (God willing) on 9 August.

This little poem comes to mind:

He knows, He loves, He cares,
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who put their trust in Him

Tony Smith and Helen Bell



Remembering Lord's Servants in prayer

Kevin Beal

John Black

Phil Brennan

Bernard French

Gbenga Fagbenle

Mark Imoukhuede

Brian Johnston

Craig Jones

SB Khupboih

Vidya Kiran

Geralde Mag-usara

Andy McIlree

Anthony Nemi

Laurence Onyokoko

Karl Smith

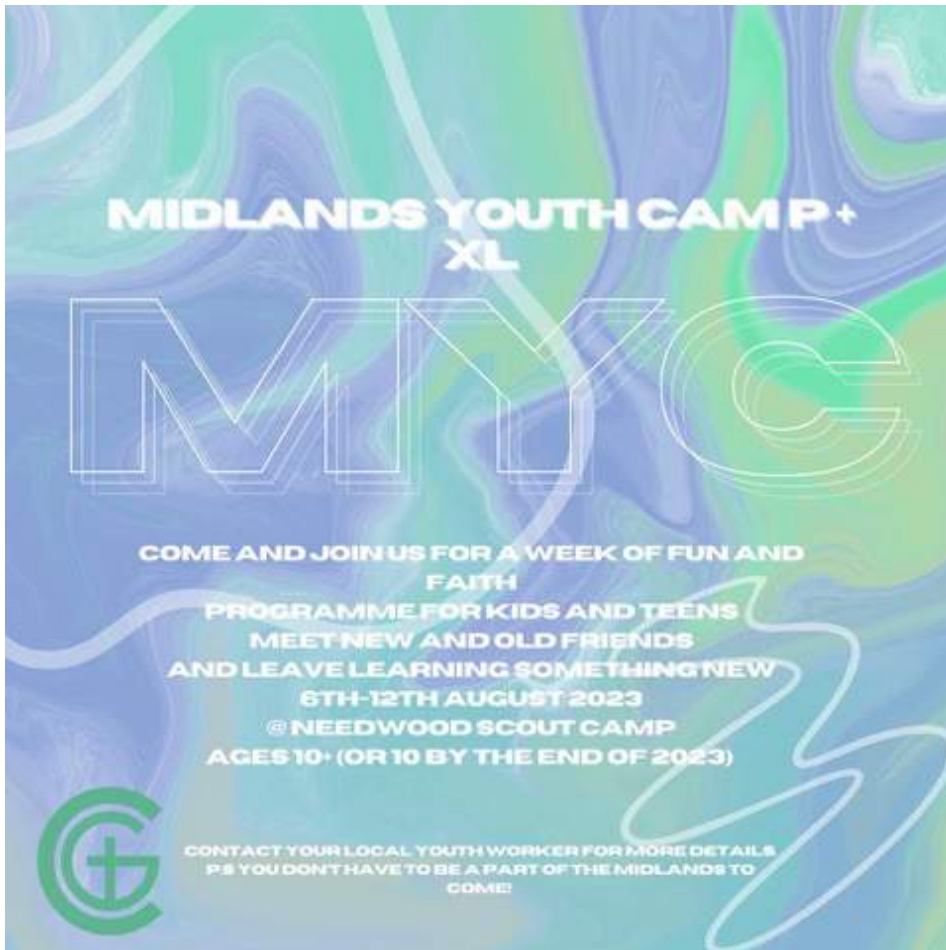
Brian Tugwell

Robert Wood

David Woods

Lian Za Nang (James)



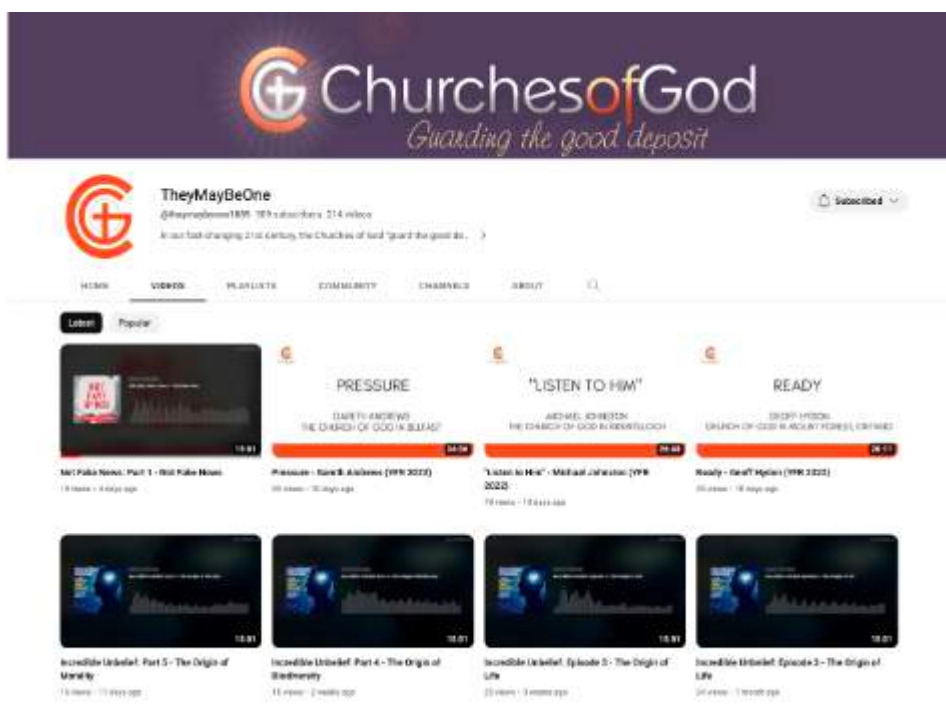


Have you listened online?

Are you aware that there is a media rich series of talks available to listen to at any time of the day. To find out more and get listening go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/@theymaybeone1889>

Content is added on a regular basis



God's Man in Jerusalem

The Story of A.F. Atkinson 1939-1947

Following the August 2021 Intelligence report, a new book is available.

A.F. Atkinson's first and exploratory visit to Palestine - as it was then - came when he was in his early 40s and just a few months before the Second World War started. The 'diary' he kept from that date - in the form of bi-monthly letters back home to Churches of God published faithfully in Intelligence - form a remarkable historical record of one man's passion to spread the Gospel in general, but in particular to the Jewish people whom he loved with the love of Christ.

This book, which includes all the letters as well as his testimony, has been published to be much more than just an interesting archival account, but a help and an encouragement to all who read it who feel a call from the Lord to do His work in whatever field that may be.

As it was for A.F. Atkinson, it may be a lonely work, it may be a costly work, it may be a challenging work which seems to bear relatively little fruit this side of heaven, but the call remains loud and clear nevertheless: "Go, labour on; spend, and be spent; Thy joy to do the Father's will; It is the way the Master went; Should not the servant tread it still?" (Horatio Bonar).

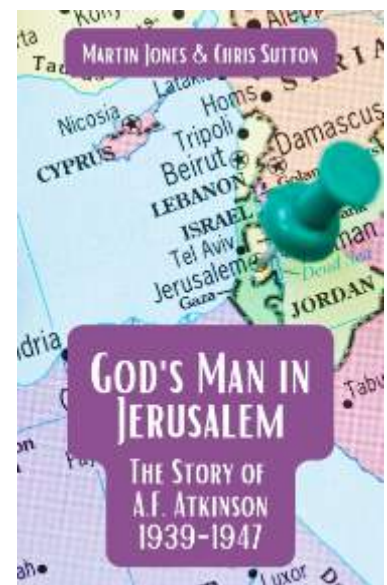
Obtain a copy in eBook and paperback on Amazon via this link:

<https://books2read.com/u/4j5Ynj>

Or a free PDF version via this link:

<https://sites.google.com/view/churches-of-god-archives/history>

Martin Jones; Chris Sutton



Sisters in Study

What do the sisters in Victoria BC, Melbourne, Australia and New Zealand have in common?

We get together every Sunday evening in Canada and Monday down under to study God's word. The distance between us has become non-existent due to Zoom. As Churches in the Western world shrink, it is even more important that sisters in the House of God meet to celebrate our shared faith, prayer concerns and our love for God's House. When we look at the lovely photos of our sisters in Africa, India, and other places we see so many happy and smiling faces that are sharing times of fellowship.

How do we do this in our smaller Churches? If someone has access to Zoom, put a request out for other sisters in your area who want to be part of something special. The Fellowship is supported in prayer by like-minded sisters. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all meet for a social time and sharing? Even though many of us don't have close sisters whom we can meet for coffee, via the Internet we have that sense of unity that has defined the Fellowship for so long. Going outside the Church for fellowship and Bible study is understandable, but it shouldn't detract from the assembling of ourselves for Bible study and prayer. If you would like some more information, please contact me at sgoldsac@islandnet.com What a gift this time together has been for our sisters.

Here are some Scriptures to encourage you to reach out to sisters near and far to unite in Bible study and prayer.

John 13:35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Romans 15:5-6 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed, our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Suzannah Goldsack; Jack Young; Phil Williamson



Summer Camp

Monnikenhoeve, Berendrecht,
Belgium
(www.monnikenhoeve.be)

**Monday 21st -
Friday 25th August**

Family atmosphere in beautifully renovated farm buildings. Activities and bilingual studies geared for all ages to enjoy. Come and support the Church in Antwerp and enjoy their hospitality.

For further information & application forms, contact Brian Johnston,
10 Donnington Close, Leigh,
Lancashire WN7 3NY
Tel. 01942 609748
E-mail:
brian@churchofgodinleigh.org.uk



PrayerMail News

Over 30 years ago, just after the first YFR event in 1992, Derek Adams established 'Prayer Mail' as a means of sharing matters for prayer across the Fellowship. Derek has now passed Prayer Mail to new hands (the Fellowship Media Committee).

For PrayerMail™ to comply with data protection regulations we now ask all those who want to continue receiving PrayerMail to subscribe via this sign-up page: <https://mailchi.mp/churchesofgod/subscribe>.

It is hoped that PrayerMail will be circulated every other week when there is information to be shared; urgent matters will be circulated more quickly. A new email address is now live to receive requests for prayer: PrayerMail@churchesofgod.info. Once you have subscribed to PrayerMail we will provide more information about submitting prayer requests.

"we ... have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God ..." (Col. 1:9-10).

The Fellowship Media Committee

Churches of God
... that they may be one

Stay connected.

Please complete the form below and tick the boxes for newsletters you would like to receive emails about.

Email Address:

First Name:

Last Name:

Select which emails you would like to receive:

- PrayerMail
- Ordain Bells
- Newborn Truth
- Search For Truth

At home with the Lord – Janet Grace Renfrew (known as Janette), Middlesbrough, England



It is with mixed emotions that we record the death of our sister Janette, called home on 11 March, a sadness shared by the Middlesbrough Assembly, her family, relatives and friends, and also a joy knowing that her absence from the body means that she is at home with the Lord, which is very far better.

Our sister was born in Canada and born again in Scotland, baptised in her early teens and added to the Church of God in Methil. In 1957 she married Robert Ross and they moved to England. Robert and Janette lived in Hartlepool where they had two children, Linda and Gordon. In 1993 Janette was widowed by the sudden home call of Robert. Some years later she married Alistair Renfrew, only to be widowed a second time by his home call. Throughout her lifetime Janette remained faithful to the Lord, her Saviour.

A celebration of her life took place on 21 April, where her granddaughter Rhian spoke of memories of Janette, and her step-granddaughter Alero read Ecc. 3: 1-8. The service was conducted by Peter Stoner and attended by family, friends and neighbours.

We continue to pray for the Lord's comfort for all affected by the loss of Janette.

J. McIlvenna; W.C.Taylor

At home with the Lord – Joe Wannop, Swindon, England



Our founding father, Joe Wannop, was called home on 16 May after a time of declining health. His breathing problems had left him dependent on a continual supply of oxygen for some time and he was unable to leave the family home for the past year. His last few days, in hospital, kept him from his granddaughter Sophie's wedding, but she and her husband were able to share some time with him before he passed away peacefully.

Joe was born in 1931 and grew up with his parents Alfred & Elsie and sisters Doreen and Hilda in Liverpool. He married Sylvia in 1957 and Dave & Lynn completed their family.

Joe, Sylvia and their young family came south from Liverpool, on a journey of faith in the early 60s. They moved with his job, joined others in isolation and travelled to Yeovil for some time, greatly enjoying the hospitality of the saints there.

With encouragement and support from many, especially Arthur Jones, the Church of God in Swindon was planted in December 1963; initially just six members - Joe & Sylvia and four members of the Gray family. The support over the years was exceptional and

came from many brothers and sisters.

Youth work was established and attracted many young people, some of whom were baptised and added to the Church. In recent years Joe & Sylvia have seen the expansion that they longed and prayed for. Their faith in God has enabled them to witness additions over time, the most recent being Lucy Tugwell, granddaughter to Brian & Elsie, who spent their early years in Swindon, and to Jon & Adrienne Goodchild who came here from Yeovil.

We will miss Joe, knowing the energy he had and the trust in God that he and Sylvia have demonstrated over so many years. Sylvia has Dave, Lynn and her husband Martin nearby. They all continue to need our prayers.

Colin Jarvis; Lennie Shaw

Tribute to Joe Wannop from South East England District

Joe Wannop was the oldest, and one of the longest-serving, overseers in the South East England District. His fellow-elders wish to pay warm tribute to an exceptional man of God whose devotion to the Lord's service and God's people was exemplary. As Paul wrote of Tychicus, Joe was 'a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow-servant in the Lord'. He and his wife Sylvia, came to Swindon from Liverpool in April 1962, some eighteen months before the Church was planted. Prior to his recognition in late 1973, the Church had no resident overseer, being supported by brethren from Bournemouth. When called home, Joe was in his 50th year of lovingly nurturing and caring for the saints in Swindon, in the full expectation that the Lord would bless the Church and give it increase; as has indeed been the case. In all his dealings with the saints throughout the District, Joe exemplified Paul's sentiments: 'what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?'

Alex Jarvis; David Parker

At home with the Lord – Helen Fullerton, Melbourne, Australia

On 18 May, our beloved sister Helen Fullerton went home to be with her Lord.

She was in her 97th year. The Church in Melbourne will greatly miss her cheerfulness and kind-heartedness. A Glaswegian (and a McDonald) by birth in 1926, she was part of a loving Christian family (her young sister being Margaret, now Hope, in Bathgate Assembly, previously Musselburgh) all of whom greatly enjoyed family holidays on the island of Arran in the Firth of Clyde and elsewhere in the remote northwest of Scotland. Hill walking (such as Goat Fell on Arran) was a great favourite. Helen trusted in the Lord Jesus as her Saviour as a girl, was baptised as a teenager and added to the Church in Glasgow in the early 1940s. She remained in the Fellowship of God's Son for 8 decades. What an example of faithfulness to her Lord.



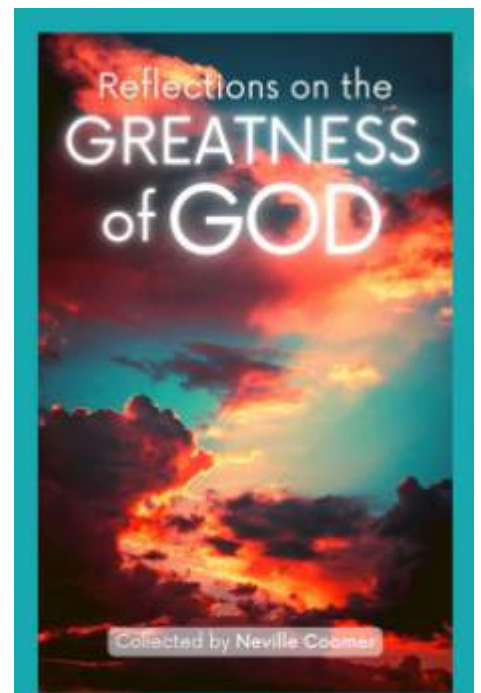
She trained at the Victoria Royal Infirmary in Glasgow as a nurse and then as a midwife. She often spoke of the strict discipline of hospital matrons in those early days, and also of the respect for nurses and midwives even in the "rougher" parts of the city when they were called out to deliver a baby. The midwife's uniform made all the difference. Care for people in need in every circumstance was her true calling, even in her youth.

Then, after exchange of letters with a young disciple in Australia, a builder by trade, Helen migrated as a £10 Pom in the post war years. The voyage through the Suez Canal and Red Sea was certainly an eye opener for a young woman, along with several other nurses responding to the call for nurses in Australia. She spent a year or so in a hospital in northern Victoria before moving to the suburbs of Melbourne. And sure enough, shortly after, she and the young builder, Bill Fullerton, married in 1955.

Family followed with the births of David and Janet but, very sadly, another son died just a few hours after birth. Over the years, how many Helen and Bill looked after in their home at 116 Mullum Road it would be impossible to recount, in addition to three elderly relatives. Evangelists, visitors, some who were in need of an Elisha-like room (2Ki. 4:10) for rest and recuperation, not to mention a stream of grandchildren, all benefitted from Helen and Bill's hospitality. She has been aptly described by one who experienced her kindness as resembling the woman of Shunem, "a notable woman" (NKJV). A favourite verse of hers was Isa. 33:17 "Your eyes will behold the King in His beauty; they will see a land that stretches afar". Following Bill's homecall in 2013, she moved into nursing care where she was looked after wonderfully by most attentive nursing staff.

At the funeral, grand-daughter Kyla spoke on behalf of all the grandchildren of their love for their grandma and all the fun they had had in her house, son David spoke of her life from accompanying her father to the market gardens of the Clyde Valley (which she loved) to the outer suburbs of Melbourne, daughter Janet spoke of her faith and love for the Scriptures and her characteristics now seen in each of the grandchildren. Ron Busby gave a warm Church tribute to her love for the Lord and her Christlike walk through all her days: also appealing to any who had not put faith in Christ to do so. At the graveside, Roy Dickson read verses from Ps. 16 and 19, and Jn. 14, pointing to the believer's hope in the resurrection. Please remember in prayer the family, including 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren, also her sister Margaret and the extended Hope family.

Ron Busby; Roy Dickson



AVAILABLE NOW!

"When I invited a wide variety of people to pen their thoughts on the greatness of God, they did so, willingly. As you read these beautiful meditations, may your mind be illumined to know and appreciate God."

Neville

"Be still, and know that I am God..." (Psalm 46:10)



Convention 242

My Peace

23 September 2023

New venue:
The Nest, Manchester, M23 9SP

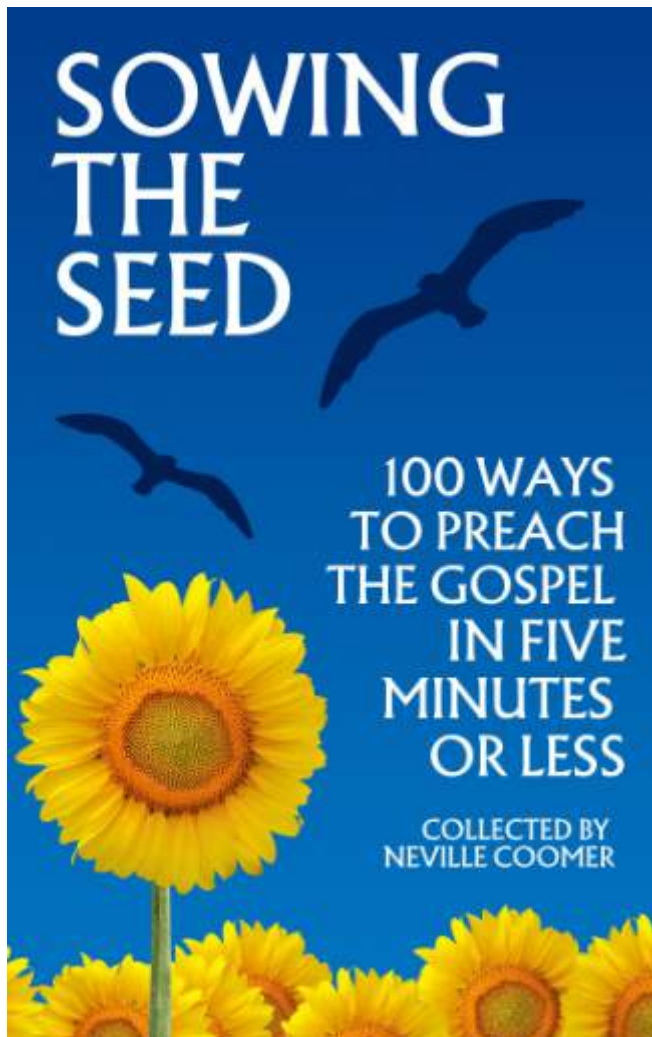
Doors open at 10 am.

Special focus

Sowing the Seed

Over many years, a hundred writers sat at their desks with the same aim - to write a few hundred words that would grab the reader's attention before telling them the Bible's wonderful, good news of salvation from the penalty of sin and certainty of new life with God. What they produced were published as Gospel leaflets and printed along with many others in their tens of thousands, to be distributed on the streets or posted through letter boxes. These 100 leaflets have been collated here in this new book for two main reasons. Firstly, to keep on 'sowing the seed' - our prayer is that many who need the good news of the Gospel will read this book carefully and that their lives will be transformed to fruitfulness as a result. Secondly, there are many 'seed-sowers' looking for ways to share the good news, and perhaps some of the illustrations used here, along with the key Bible verses and the clear explanation of salvation, will be helpful to you. If you would like to obtain printed versions for distribution, many of these leaflets are still available to purchase from Hayes Press.

Neville Coomer



Notice Board

July

- 02-08 North America Boys and Girls Camp (MFC)
- 02-08 Scotland Boys Camp
- 08 North West District Oversight
- 09 South Wales District Oversight
- 09-15 Scotland Girls Camp
- 10-15 Northern Ireland Summer Camp
- 16-22 Scotland Teen Camp
- 22 North West Barbecue (Wigan)
- 24-28 North West Holiday Club (Liverpool)
- 30-05 North West Teen Camp
- 30-04 South East Youth Camp

KEY:
MFC - Mount Forest Camp

Text for the Month

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

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in⁺telligence

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