

Days of Destiny

The most obvious use of the word **day** relates to a period of 24 hours, but we can also use it to describe a period or point in history. The Lord Jesus promised the thief on the cross "Today you will be with me in paradise" (Lk. 23:43). This promise was given in response to his request "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Lk. 24:42). What a promise, to be in paradise with the Lord within only a few hours, "today".

We can think back to the Garden of Eden, the entrance of sin and its terrible consequences for Adam and his descendants, when Adam and his wife Eve ate of the forbidden fruit, disobeying the command of the Lord; for God had told Adam regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil "in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die" (Gen. 2:17). Adam did not die physically on that day, but God's warning to him came into force; death was a certainty for "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

The word "day" or 'the day' is used in Scripture to stress something of great significance. Such is the case concerning two of the most significant days in the history of the world. The Lord Jesus saying "today" while on the cross, was confirming that it was precisely through His redeeming work, the sacrifice of Himself which took place on 'that day', that He could make His wonderful promise "today you will be with me in Paradise", and that is the hope of all those who put their trust in Him. How we look forward to that day when we will be with Him for an eternal day.

Lewis Milligan (Armagh)

**Summer Break:
Deadline for
October
Intelligence is
10 September**



**Armagh Assembly
Agricultural Show**

Saturday 10 June and the sun was shining! That was a great relief to the small team from Armagh Assembly in Northern Ireland who attended the annual agricultural show in a local park with a gazebo and stalls. It's a few years since we last attended and the Lord blessed the day with beautiful weather and crowds of people, young and old, out to enjoy the day.

A pitch on the entrance driveway was an ideal spot, and a bonus was the benefit of the shade of a tree on what was an extremely hot day. Whilst one couple distributed leaflets around the show field, others manned the gazebo. To attract visitors, we had one stall with hand-crafted wooden items, one stall with handmade pottery and a table with Christian books. The table for children encouraged some families to stop and chat whilst their children did some colouring. A small prize plus a Scripture bookmark and a children's leaflet was given to each. Meanwhile, we had another quiet corner where tea and refreshments were served which allowed catching up with some old friends whom we had not seen for some time and meeting new people.



Of course, the major goal in attending the show was to share the Gospel and to encourage other believers. It also encouraged us to be there as a witness. We trust that in some measure these goals were achieved. So, we thank God for His grace and pray over the sown seed.

On behalf of "The Team" (brothers and sisters)

*Gilbert Grierson; Lewis Milligan;
John Watts*

ROMFORD CONFERENCE

11.11.23

Our unchanging Saviour & Lord

10:45 COFFEE | 11:30 START | BUFFET LUNCH | 3:30 FINISH

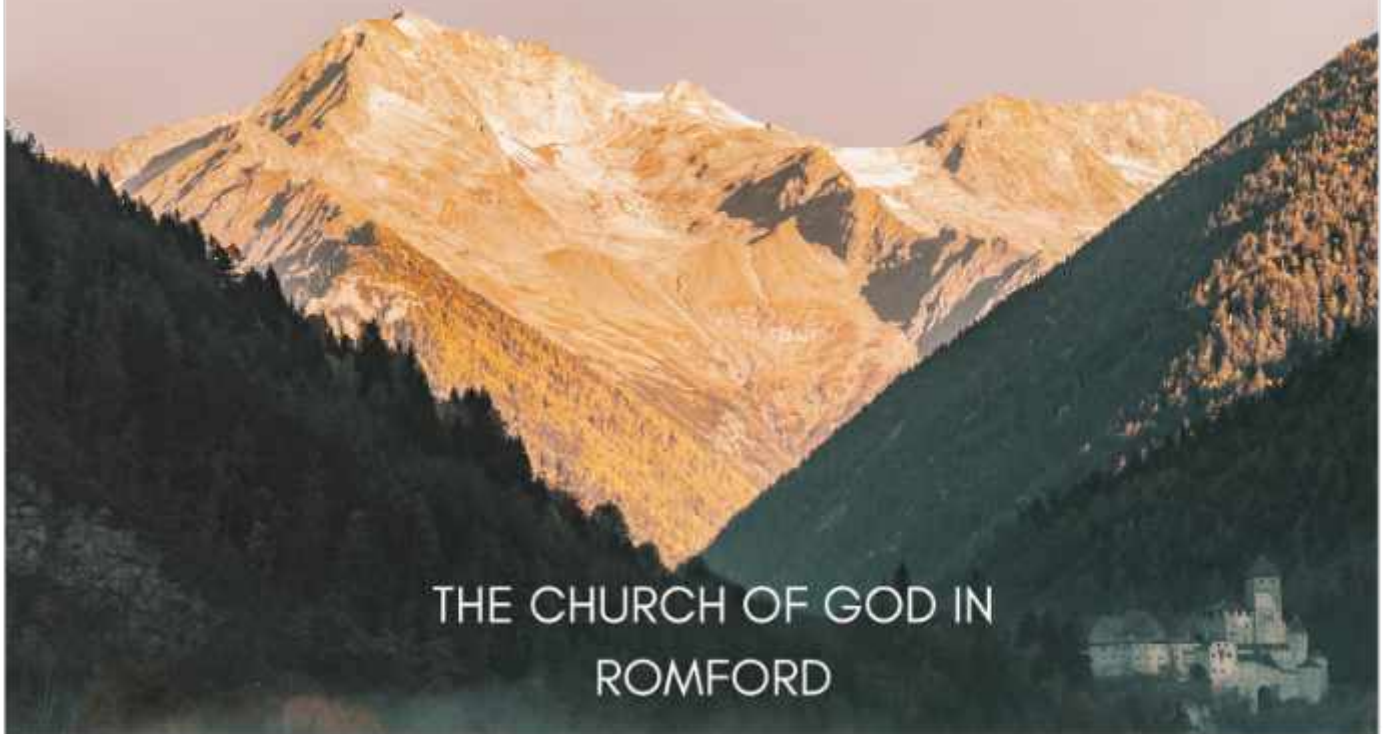
IVY HILL HOTEL, MARGARETTING, CM14 0EH

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

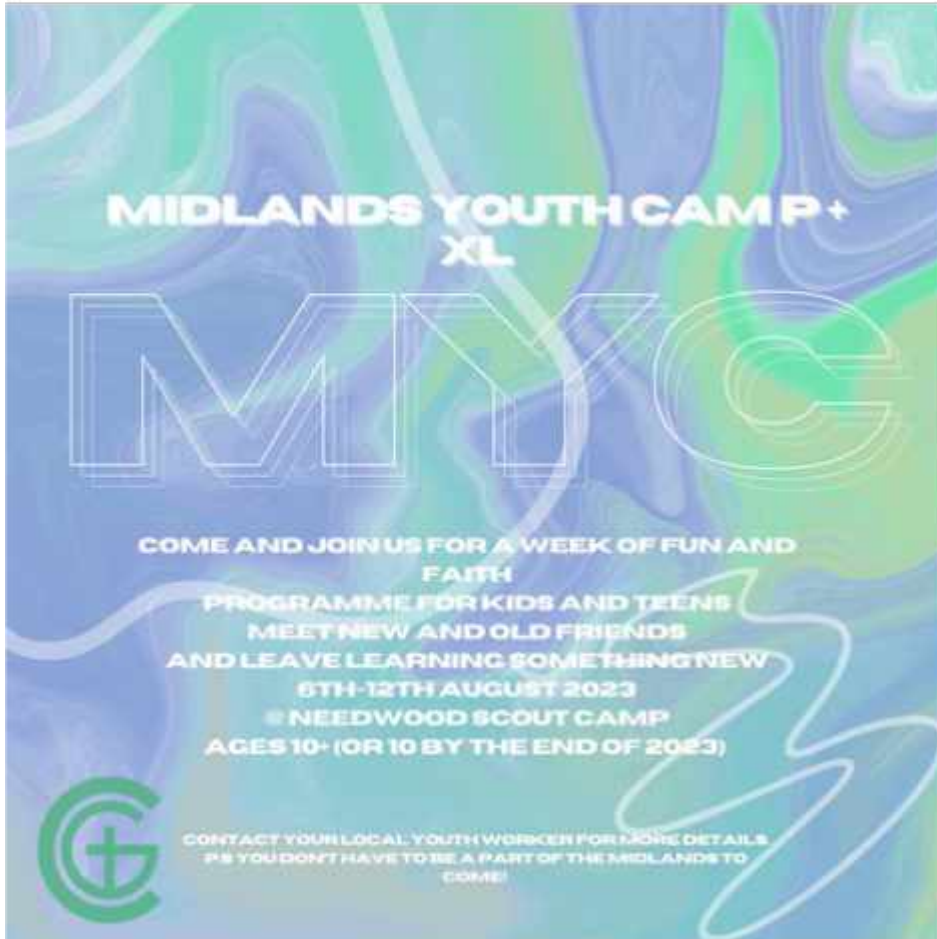
THE CHURCH OF GOD IN
ROMFORD





The Inside Story
Our experience of the Holy Spirit

North West Study Day
Manchester
Saturday 14th October
 More details to follow



MIDLANDS YOUTH CAMP + XL

MYC

COME AND JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF FUN AND FAITH
 PROGRAMME FOR KIDS AND TEENS
 MEET NEW AND OLD FRIENDS
 AND LEAVE LEARNING SOMETHING NEW
 6TH-12TH AUGUST 2023
 @ NEEDWOOD SCOUT CAMP
 AGES 10+ (OR 10 BY THE END OF 2023)

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL YOUTH WORKER FOR MORE DETAILS
 PS YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A PART OF THE MIDLANDS TO COME!

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)



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.

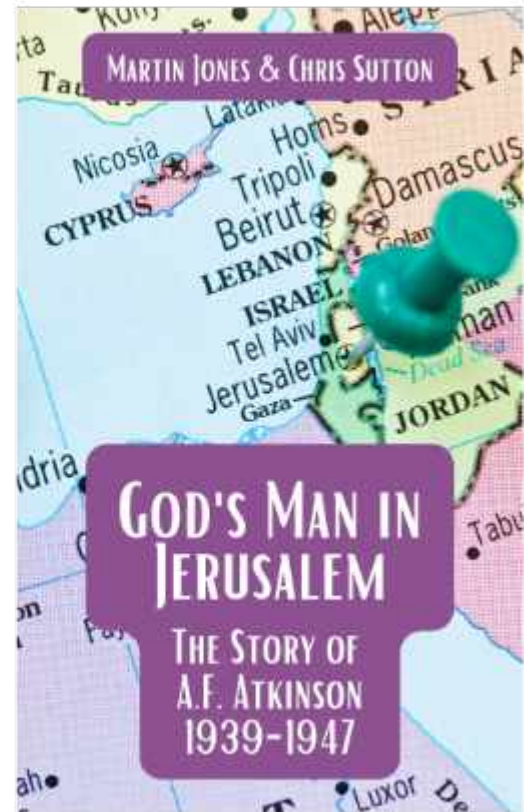
As it was for A.F. Atkinson, it may be a lonely work, it may be a costly work, it may be a challenging work which seems to bear relatively little fruit this side of heaven, but the call remains loud and clear nevertheless: "Go, labour on; spend, and be spent; Thy joy to do the Father's will; It is the 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/4j5Yni>

Or a free PDF version via this link:

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

Martin Jones; Chris Sutton

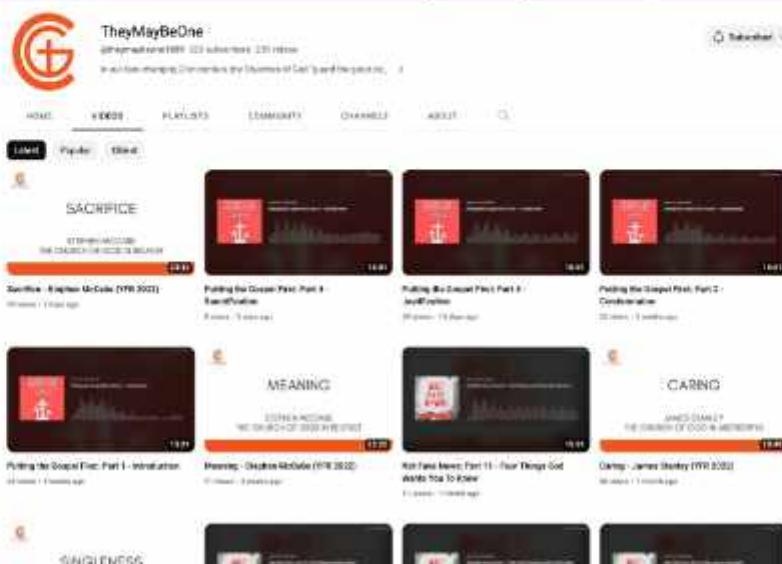


Have you listened online?

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:

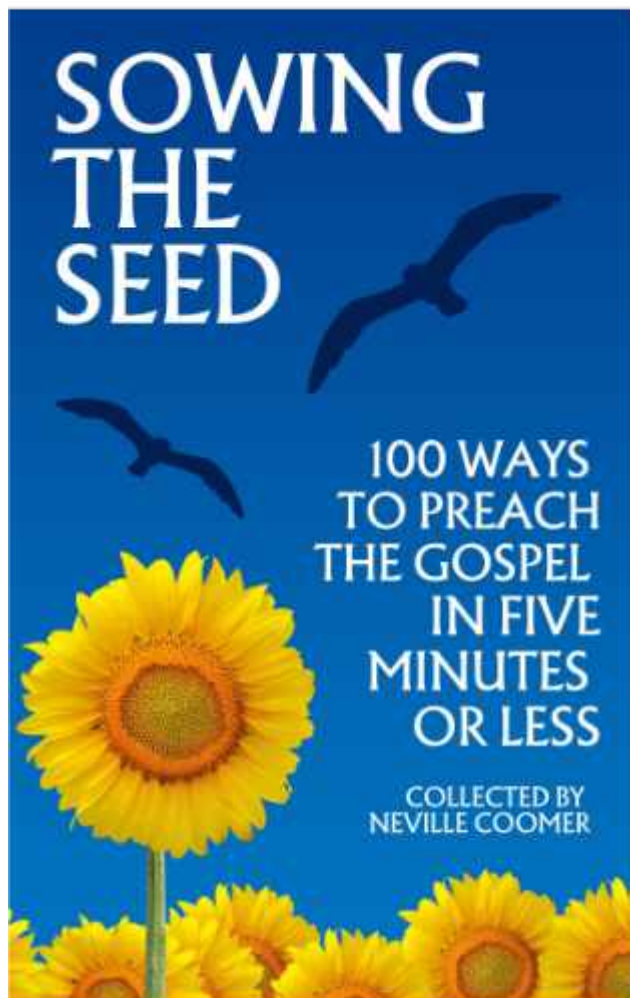
<https://www.youtube.com/@theymaybeone1889>

Content is added on a regular basis



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



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 to indicate you would like to receive emails about:

Email Address:

First Name:

Last Name:

Select which emails you would like to receive:

PrayerMail

Christian Gifts

Headset Truth

Search For Truth

At home with the Lord – Peggy Bennison, Wembley, England



On a cold, damp wintry morning in March, we gathered around a grave to lay to rest our dear sister Peggy Bennison. But Peggy was no stranger to cold, wet, wintry mornings. Well into her nineties, she had faithfully walked to the bus stop and travelled on two buses, whatever the weather – faithful in attendance at our Assembly meetings and faithful to her Lord in her daily life.

Peggy had come to know Jesus as her personal Saviour at the first UK mission conducted by the evangelist Billy Graham and had subsequently been baptised and later added to the Church of God in Wembley. Peggy loved children, and along with her father she held a weekly Sunday school at Maple Cross in Hertfordshire for many years. Once that was no longer viable, Peggy became involved in local Wembley youth work and continued for many decades. She took many young people from the local area to the South East camp at Shoreham, days when camping was significantly less sophisticated than it is today, and many nights one would hear a deep chuckle as her camp bed tipped over once again.

Peggy's life of prayer was an example to all who knew her. Peggy faithfully prayed by name for the young people who attended our clubs, for all in the Assembly, and for many more who will never know how much she yearned for their salvation and their growth as disciples.

Peggy loved to tell all she met about the Lord Jesus and loved to distribute tracts. It was a conversation with her former neighbour, Seby, which initially brought him to our Church meetings and his subsequent addition to the Church.

Peggy loved to sing and was on occasion the only soprano voice to hit the high notes. Around two years before her home call, Peggy had suffered a stroke and had lost the power of speech, but in the nursing home where she was subsequently cared for, Peggy still loved to hear hymns and choruses, attempting to join in. Around the grave, we sang - "Thank you, Jesus, thank you Lord for loving me" before John Archibald spoke of Peggy's love for her Lord and her faithfulness to Him.

Peggy had always shared a home with her sister Pauline, who has lost her dear sister. Please pray for Pauline and their brother George.

Alison Oxley, John Archibald

WANTED

Baptisms; Conference Reports; Births; Marriages; Obituaries; Camps; Adult Outreach; Youth Work



Intelligence is nothing without you. It can only exist if you use it to share news across the Fellowship. You may think that what you do in your Assembly is nothing out of the ordinary, but it could be a real inspiration to someone else. Or perhaps you're an Assembly that just struggles along and you think your story is unimportant, but a report of your faithfulness could be a great help to others in similar circumstances. After all, the Lord Himself shared with us the story of Philadelphia, a Church that none of us would consider to be thriving. "I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name" (Rev 2:8).

We all love to hear of the blessings of God, however big, however small. So please, look at your Assembly, or District, and let us know what's happening. Don't let anything go unreported. If you haven't yet done it, why not ask someone to be your Intelligence Correspondent?

If you're a social media user who posts news to Facebook, don't forget to send it to Intelligence too so that we can all read it.

Guy and Steve

At home with the Lord – Edna Wood, Aberdeen, Scotland



Our dearly loved sister Edna was called home, having suffered from a painful illness. She had sent an e-mail just the week before she was called home ...

"I have peace, and I just want the Lord to take me home, where there is no more suffering and pain ... I just want you to know how thankful I have been to be part of that little warm Church in Aberdeen. A thank you to you all. I may not see you again but will see you in the glory".

Her desire was realised on

14 May, by God's grace.

With her husband Robert, she was transferred from Birmingham to Aberdeen in early November 2004, coming north to care for her mother in Whitehills. Saved in early days and added to the former Church of God in Macduff on 25 June 1972, Edna loved the Gospel message and was very supportive of Robert in his work of outreach, in the city and further afield. She was blessed with a very caring nature, always thinking of others, and is a big loss to Robert, her family Jonathan, Stephen and Andrew, their respective wives and grandchildren, and her sister Irene whom she promised to her mother she would look after. Prov. 31: 10-31 is a fitting tribute to her.

The small Church in Aberdeen is poorer now and will miss Edna's faithful presence and input. We are thankful for her example of serving the Lord with a meek and quiet spirit and latterly for dealing with so many months of pain and suffering with such patience and fortitude. As a Church, we benefitted from, and valued, the hospitality shown by Edna on numerous occasions.

Len Burgoyne (Kilmarnock) gave comforting ministry at the private burial in Boyndie Cemetery, and this was followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at Banff Springs Hotel; Edna was well known locally and a large number of folk attended; there, Ian Lithgow (also Kilmarnock) brought a message of comfort from Ps. 147, noting the many ways our great and caring God builds up, gathers, heals and binds. His hand which created innumerable galaxies is also one of great gentleness and tenderness in dealing with the brokenhearted; we are not just a number to Him "who tells the number of the stars and gives them all their names": He knows our names and cares for us.

Leonard Ross; James Johnson

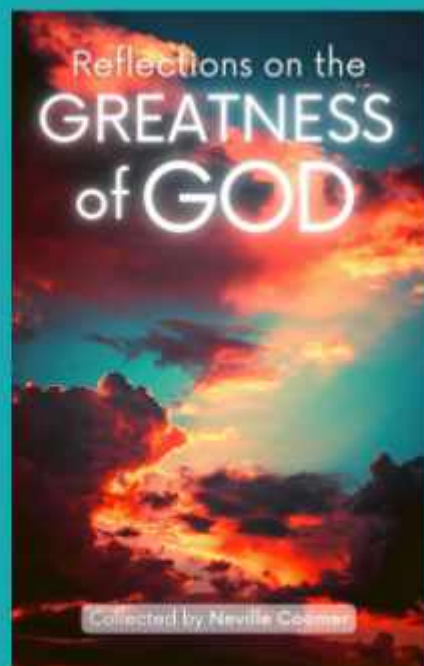
Thank You

Briefly, but sincerely, a thank you to all, both far and near, for cards, letters, emails and phone calls received in the recent loss of my dear wife Edna. Each one contains verses of comfort and strength from the word of God; every message conveys your love, support and concern and is received as sent by God Himself.

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart" (Ps73:26).

Appreciative warm love in the Lord to all.

Robert Wood



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

Ladies' Evening in Liverpool



A team of sisters and helpers in the Church of God in Liverpool run a Mums and Toddlers group that meets every Tuesday and Wednesday morning in the hall. They give generously of their time and enthusiasm to this important community work. It also gives further opportunities to witness and invite the mums and grandmas to special events.

One such event is the annual 'Ladies Evening' when they come to enjoy a meal together and have some time to relax and chat. This year, on Friday 30 June, the hall accommodated some 39 ladies and a team of 16 sisters and helpers. The team worked hard to prepare the food and make the ladies feel welcome. The programme included a quiz, video, talk and craft.

An important aspect of the evening is the opportunity to present the Gospel appealingly. A short video of Corrie Ten Boom telling her testimony of her time in the Auschwitz concentration camp was shown and how difficult it was for her to forgive those who inflicted such pain and suffering. This powerful and moving testimony was followed up by Elsie Tugwell sharing the powerful message of the Gospel of God's forgiveness through Jesus on the cross from Isa. 53:5.

From the words of a visitor: "Thank you so much for inviting me to a wonderful evening. The food was exceptional. Pass my thanks for all the hard work. Lovely company. I met new people and above all the message of forgiveness and the cross. It was perfect." We continue to pray that the good seed sown and kindness shown to these ladies will yet bear fruit to the glory of God as they think about how God forgives and loves each one of them.

On behalf of the M&Ts team

*Pam Schleyer;
Graham Schleyer*



Notice Board

August

- 04-07 North America Family Camp (MFC)
- 06-12 Elevate Camp (South East)
- 19-23 South Wales Camp
- 21-25 Belgium Camp
- 27-02 North America Teen Camp (MFC)

September

- 02 North West District Oversight
- 11-13 Conference of Overseers
- 16 South Wales DySGu
- 17 South Wales District Oversight
- 23 North America Harvest Day (MFC)

KEY:
MFC - Mount Forest Camp

Text for the Month

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

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in^telligence

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