

Teamwork Edition No. 123 April 2011

www.comebacktgod.org • Come Back To God Campaign • 3 Nineyard St

• Saltcoats • KA21 5HS Charity No. 240168

ADELAIDE COLLEGE

A group of approximately 15 people, including men and women of various ages, are gathered in front of the stone archway entrance to Adelaide College. They are all wearing black graduation gowns with blue stoles. Many have their arms raised in the air, some holding diplomas or certificates. The scene is filled with joy and celebration. The stone archway above them is inscribed with 'ADELAIDE COLLEGE' in gold lettering. The background shows the stone walls of the building.

teamwork

in teamwork

The magazine of
The 'Come Back To God' Campaign

Come Back To God Campaign

3 Nineyard St
Saltcoats
Ayrshire
KA21 5HS

T: 01294 463911
F: 01294 463366
E: teamwork@comebacktogod.org

Websites

www.comebacktogod.org
www.adelaidecollege.com
www.campaignprint.biz
www.adelaidehouse.co.uk

Charity No. 240168

Teamwork 'Team'

Editor

Marilyn Paterson

Deputy Editor

Pat Dent

Editorial Assistants

Susan Adlum, Cathy Norman

Design

Stephen Muessig, Frank Paterson,
Stephanie Payne

No articles may be reproduced without the Editor's permission.

Further copies of this Teamwork magazine can be obtained for free from the address above.



Graduation

Join us as we celebrate the graduation of Stephen Muessig.



Cathy Johnston Eulogy

Find out all about the life of this woman of God recently called home.



Operation Exodus

Explore the work of Operation Exodus, an organisation dedicated to helping the Jewish people return to the land of Israel.



England Promotion Tour

We recently toured around England and renewed fellowship with many faithful prayer supporters of the Campaign.

Also in this edition of Teamwork: We find out about upcoming Easter events...

News

Latest news from the Campaign

Dear Friends,

As I pen this letter we are coming up to Palm Sunday and remember the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem, seated on a donkey, the crowd fighting to get a glimpse of Him. What a joy it is to all of us who love the Lord Jesus to know that He is coming again and we will behold Him, the Risen Saviour!

The team are as busy as always, although saddened, as I know you are, that our land is so far away from God. Every day we hear news that makes our hearts sink as we see children abused, teenagers finding comfort in drink, drugs and the lust of the flesh and the grown-ups (as we call them) so taken up with the idols of our land. The world-wide disasters that we are seeing in these days - earthquakes, plagues, volcanic eruptions - to name a few - are sure signs that the end time is nearing fast.

In this current edition of Teamwork we have included some of the positives towards the call of the Kingdom of God that the Campaign has been engaged in over the past few months. Over the next few months, the team have several children's work opportunities, with singers, drama, and Church mission appointments. We have several retreat guests coming to the College and several catering opportunities. This Saturday the 16th of April we are having a Bric-a-Brac sale at the College. We have never done this before! However we have lots of items in the College that we have not used for a long time and see this as an opportunity to welcome in the local people, offering them a filled roll and a drink for £1. If the weather holds we can put up a bouncy castle and offer a barbecue. Please pray with us that there may be opportunity to speak to many about the Lord Jesus.

Thank you for praying for us. We shall we praying and thinking of you all as we give thanks this Easter for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

May God's blessing attend you this day and always.

With love in Jesus,



Marilyn Paterson
(Administrator)

Graduation

By Patricia Dent

I remember Pastor Den once saying that sometimes God gives us a golden day, a day attended by such blessing and awareness of the blessing and favour of God that it is almost tangible and Stephen's graduation was one of those golden days.

For Stephen's family, his parents Ottmar and Janice and grandparents Cyril and Freda and brother Pastor Gary it was a day of celebration, but having known Stephen almost all his life it was a celebration for the Campaign family as well.

Guests included Pastor Michael Winch and Pastor Ernie and Cathy Norman, both Pastors having tutored Stephen during his College course. In warm spring sunshine the Graduation ceremony commenced with the entrance of the Faculty to the majestic piece 'Thanks be to God', played on the piano and sung by Roger.

Marilyn gave the College Report, explaining how Adelaide College differs from other Colleges. Apart from there

Pastor Ernie hands Stephen his certificate.



being no grants available, students find college years a time of heart searching, a time of facing up to one's personal need, a time of reflecting and a time of receiving spiritual help and healing where necessary. There is also the challenge of being 'RFA' - ready for anything - to do anything, go any place, at any time and to do it gracefully. The life of faith does not come naturally!

Hebrews ch.11 v 8-19 was the scripture the Lord gave to Pastor Michael for the occasion and this was read by Tim.

The Graduate's diploma was presented to Stephen by Pastor Ernie who prayed for our brother's future in God's service after which Stephen



Left: The Muessig family around the dinner table. Above: Sue Adlum and Stephen celebrate!

Stephen with his grandparents, Freda and Cyril Linney.



testified to God's saving grace and His goodness and guidance over the years.

The solo 'God is it true (Trust Me)' was rendered by Roger and the Graduation Word was brought by Pastor Michael from Hebrews chapter 11, majoring on the call of God, the faithfulness of God and the life of faith.

Following photographs, we lingered over a delicious meal prepared by Pastor Gary and cooked by him and Rachael. Stephen led the evening service and Pastor Ernie preached from Psalm 119 on the importance of daily Bible reading and prayer.

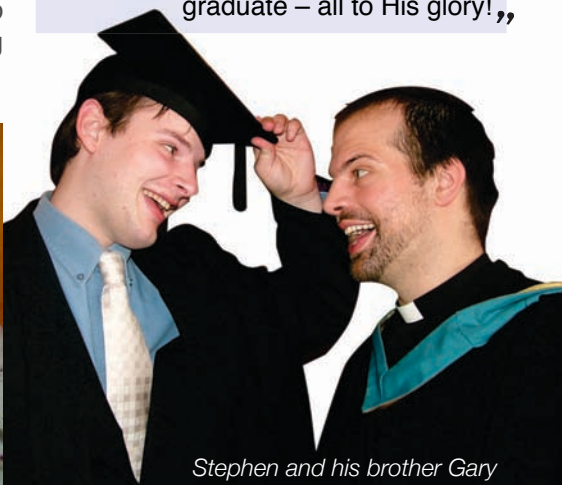
Supper and fellowship in the conservatory brought Graduation Day to an end but it was a day that will be long remembered in Campaign history.

The whole family pose for a photo



“ I was told before my graduation that no matter how the day went, it would feel surreal to graduate and that towards the end of the day I would have only just begun to realise how special the day had been. For me this has proven true. My family and the Trustees came up near the end of the week and before I knew it Sunday morning had come. It was a very strange experience to enter the Conference room with a black gown on and a Graduate's mortar board on my head. To say that I was nervous when it came to the point in the service where I had to receive the diploma, and then later testify, would be an understatement, but God undertook. Pastor Michael Winch spoke about Abraham's faith from Hebrews 11 and after the service we took some photos (pictured in this edition of Teamwork). We had a delicious lunch too!

I have enjoyed every second of my time here at Adelaide College and the 'Come Back to God' Campaign. Some days have been more challenging than others but God has been faithful throughout and enabled me to grow closer to Him day by day and even to graduate – all to His glory! „



Stephen and his brother Gary

Cathy Johnston Eulogy

By Pastor Alex Noble

One of our dear friends and prayer supporters recently went to be with the Lord.

The following Eulogy was given in a service in a local Church on the 25th February 2011.

Cathy – What was she like?

I am in a slightly difficult position today, torn in two because on the one hand you all want me to tell everyone else all the remarkable things Cathy did and how special she is. But on the other hand I can feel Cathy's breath on the back of my neck and hear her whispering: *"Don't you dare! It's confidential and I don't want any fuss or focus on me."*

Cathy loved to do good but as the Bible says, Cathy loved to do good secretly, imperceptibly and without blowing trumpets so if I spill the beans she will haunt me! But if I say nothing if won't be much of a funeral and she deserves better than that!

So... a compromise!

I will tell you some things but it will only be scratching the surface.

The beauty of Cathy was her delight in doing good secretly – it's a wonder she didn't wear a mask like Batman or Superman! Her best disguise was to look like an old lady bent over a trolley looking like she needed help herself

while all the time working like a Trojan to make a big difference in all our lives.

Cathy was a "Jim'll fix it" character. Her philosophy of life is summed up in the hymn: *"If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living will not be in vain."* Today, Jesus will fix it for Cathy to live with Him.

*In my Father's house are many rooms
I go to prepare a way for Cathy
And if I go and prepare a place for her.
I will come back and take her to Myself
So that where I am Cathy may be also.
(And He'll fix it for us to join Cathy one day!)*

Cathy is also very much like a lady in the Bible - Dorcas. Dorcas is only mentioned once, briefly – Acts 9:36-42. What was said of Dorcas can be said of Cathy:-

"She spent all her time doing good and helping the poor..."

Dorcas was good with her hands and did a lot of sewing and clothes-making. Cathy was good with her hands in all sorts of practical ways. In Acts 9, Dorcas dies, but by a miracle is raised to life again. Jesus will resurrect Cathy too.

Cathy served in a chip shop and chip van, as a waitress at the

Eglinton hotel, as a home help for twenty-five years, as a carer for her mother for fifteen years, as a church member and church Elder, and not least, as a friend and neighbour. Hers is a lifetime of service to others and to us.

So as she goes marching into Heaven, as the saints go marching in, no zimmers there, as she joins in the eternal "Hallelujah Chorus" we are all pretty sure that Cathy will hear Jesus say: *"Well done Cathy, you good and faithful servant, come in and enjoy your heavenly rest."*

So if Cathy is our inspiration and example, let's all *"go and do likewise!"*

Heavenly Father, we thank you for blessing us with the gift of the life of **Cathy Johnston**. We are grateful for all that Cathy means to each one of us gathered here now and to many others unable to be here with us this morning. We mourn in our loss, but we also rejoice at our gain in knowing Cathy. We are sad at the parting but we are glad for time together, shared experiences, precious memories as we look back in grateful and affectionate memory upon Cathy's life.

Cathy was born on the 6th of April 1937 at 24 Burnbank Street, Stevenston, the daughter of Cathy

Cathy was known as "Penelope Pitstop" as she rode around on her bike.

and Matt Johnston. She grew up with her two brothers, John and Matt. Her father worked in the building trade and the family also lived in Quay Street and a prefab at 3 Middlepark Crescent.

She was a pupil at Kylehill Primary School and at Saltcoats Public School, leaving at the age of fifteen to work in Scott's chip shop in Canal St. Later, while working at the Eglinton Hotel, Ardrossan, Cathy had to cook for two hundred people in an emergency. During her time as a home help for Ayrshire Council in Saltcoats, she went about on her pink bike named "The Pink Panther". She was known as "Penelope Pitstop". She always gave extra help to her clients, often washing and ironing. No time was inconvenient - both day and night. While doing all this, she looked after her mother for fifteen years, despite suffering ever since her forties with ill health.

Cathy liked 'Soor' plums and acid drops. She enjoyed ABBA'S music and was a



great fan of Elvis Presley. His photo was in the drawer beside her bed and she had many of his CDs and cassettes. On one occasion, she was thrilled to meet an Elvis impersonator in Blackpool. She had a sense of fun and even got a tattoo of a dolphin along with her niece Christine. She enjoyed holidaying at Pontins in Blackpool with John, Cathy and the kids. In the fairground, she thought nothing of crashing everyone on the bumper cars and was fearless on the ghost-train. Nor did the Pepsi Max rollercoaster, the biggest rollercoaster in Britain, daunt her and as an adult in her forties she enjoyed every minute of the ride in the very front seat. Even the birds did not miss out when she buttered two or three loaves at a time!

Cathy was outstanding as a woman of practical faith. The list is long. Nothing was beneath her whether it was working with the Gleam Team or the Friday Morning Team, cleaning the Church, hoovering and polishing or with the work party. She helped weed the garden and was known, even to folk who did not know her, as *“the woman who does the Church garden.”*

She helped with teas, jumble sales, coffee mornings, lunches, and handing out hymnbooks. She supported the CD ministry at her Church as well as umpteen charities. Osteo-Arthritis and other pain was no barrier to all her activity. People even

became scared to declare a need for Cathy would fix it in a flash!

Every Tuesday saw her at the prayer group. She was a member of the Congregational Board and of the Kirk Session and was ordained as an Elder on 13th June 2004. As an amazing District Elder, her pastoral and practical care were legendary, even to the detail of phoning widows monthly.

Described as ‘iconic’ and with a heart of gold her willpower was indomitable whether in youth or age, sickness or health, sorrow or joys.

Like the hands of Jesus, Cathy’s hands were kind hands doing good to all and with Jesus, she could say:

“I came to serve, not to be served.”

Lord God her Creator, we thank You for creating the life of Cathy Johnston. Lord God her Sustainer, we thank You for sustaining her these seventy-four years. Oh Lord, make it not so much our grief as our relief and privilege to release Cathy to You, for in Your merciful and tender hands we know that she is safe and secure.

Many graduates and ex-students of Adelaide College reading this tribute will remember her. Cathy regularly came into our bookshop and was the loving friend who left baskets of groceries, home-made cakes, pies, jellies and trifles on our doorstep, then rang the bell and slipped silently away.



Operation EXODUS™

A Ministry of Ebenezer Emergency Fund International

By Stephen Muessig

what they did and what they believed, so we went over and asked some questions. When we found out about their mission objectives and their heart for Israel we both immediately signed up to receive their literature and find out more regularly how Operation Exodus were doing and how we could support them in prayer.

Operation Exodus is the operational part of Ebenezer Emergency Fund International and was founded in 1991 by Gustav Scheller at an international prayer conference when God said "Now is the time to help my people go home." Ever since, the focus of Operation Exodus has been to locate Jews scattered abroad all over the world and to return them to their homeland of Israel. This is called making aliyah. The ministry is still growing and thousands of people have made aliyah due to the work of Operation Exodus.

Fast forward to this year in March when we had a visit from some of the Operation Exodus representatives for the U.K. – a time that God used to remind us of the importance of His people set apart for Him in the land of Israel.

A couple of years ago when the Campaign went to a Christian Resources Exhibition in the summer, I went along to help out and tell others about the work of the Campaign. On one of the days Roger and I went to look around the exhibition and stumbled across a stall about Operation Exodus. We hadn't heard of them before and were curious about

Some of the representatives came up on the Friday evening to stay overnight and the other half of the team came on the Saturday morning to set up for the meeting. Ten o'clock came along quickly and so did the support from the local area! A good 45-50 people must have turned up for the meeting to have tea and coffee beforehand and then to either find out what it was that Operation Exodus did, or to renew fellowship.

The meeting started with a time of praise and worship to God as the team from Operation



Above: Marilyn and Sue around the table with the Operation Exodus Team.

Exodus led. The Presence of God was really felt by all who attended and we all sat to hear the preached word, giving us a background to the work of Operation Exodus and the theological standpoint of their ministry, starting in Acts chapter 1 and talking about the times of Israel's return to the Promised Land.

We were reminded that we have a responsibility to pray for God's people and just how special they are to Him. It is important to remember that Jesus was a Jew and the Bible is a Jewish book. God makes it clear in His Word that He has set them apart for a special purpose through the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and how God will use both Jews and Gentiles to bring His people back into the Promised Land (Isaiah 14:1-2). It was a wonderful word and everyone there could have listened on but time got in the way and the meeting started to focus more about the work and ministry of Operation Exodus itself.

We were talked through the process of what it actually means to make aliyah for a Jew. The representatives from Operation Exodus visit Jewish people from all over the world, be it in Brazil, Russia, South East Asia, U.S.A, U.K. or even South Africa! We were shown the journey from a Jewish family's home, packing up their luggage and how the people from Operation Exodus help to get the paperwork needed, help them to carry their luggage, then help the people to settle into new homes and life in Israel. It was made clear just how much God is undertaking for the ministry, with over 125,000 people being helped by those at Operation Exodus since the birth of the work in 1991 through land, sea and air.

The Jewish authorities themselves are also helping the work of Operation Exodus,



Above: Praising God together.

helping to provide the passports and other bits and pieces of paperwork that every person making aliyah needs. When the Jewish people returning to Israel enter the land, they are met with a small group of stalls where people help them to get Post Office accounts, life insurance, mobile phones and other such amenities that they will need as they look to establish a new life in Israel.

Operation Exodus seek to witness to the people they are helping through showing Christian love. It was said to me once that the best kind of witness can often be a silent witness: that is, a witness where you show God through your actions rather than challenging someone's views verbally. In the case of Operation Exodus the way they help the Jewish people often leads those same people to ask "Why are you helping us?" at which point they can tell them the Gospel message of how they are serving God's people and fulfilling the call that Jesus has placed on their lives.

Operation Exodus is a ministry similar to the work of the 'Come Back to God' Campaign in that it needs prayer to survive. It has a worldwide network of prayer supporters and is always interested in getting new members just like we are! They are arranging a conference specifically for youth called "engage:uk" which challenges people aged from 18-35 in the U.K. as to "Why should I care?" This takes place in Lea Park in Wales from the 6th to 8th of May.

Promotion Tour Report

By Roger Paterson

Gary and I had a blessed time last November as we travelled round certain parts of England promoting the work of the 'Come Back To God' Campaign. It is encouraging and consoling to meet with the Lord's people who support the work that we do. We cherish all our prayer supporters and pray for all of them so when there is the opportunity for us to meet and minister to them we are delighted to take it.

Sheila Taylor is a tremendous example of God's miracle working power. She is so Spirit-filled and enthusiastic for the Lord that it can put many of us to shame. I witnessed Sheila's heart for her friends and Church and her longing for God to work in their lives. The evening that we arrived with Sheila she had a Minister visiting her and she'd hoped we could spend some time praying together which we did and then I was slightly put on the spot and asked to sing a song. I did so unaccompanied and it was an amazing experience to have the Holy Spirit truly confirm His word that, "*where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them*". (Matthew 18 verse 20)



Above: Lucy and Marjorie Weekes.

Our time with Eric Macrow was fascinating because he was there at the very beginning of the 'Come Back To God' Campaign and he was also a good friend of my dad's. I found this very comforting, refreshing and yet difficult personally because there was so much of Eric's presence and spiritual authority that was very similar to my father's.

We were received very warmly in Spalding with a good number of people attending the meeting. Among the congregation were cherished supporters of our work such as Bert and Ann Whybra, Kevin and Jan Merritt and Veronica Baker, an Adelaide College graduate. Thank you Pastor Anthony, elders and deacons for the love shown to Gary and myself while at your church.

One of the greatest blessings of the promotion tour was to visit Lucy and Marjorie Weekes, who have supported the 'Come Back To God' Campaign for over fifty years and yet, they had never met anyone from the Campaign until Gary and I met them that November! It shows a depth of faith and commitment to the work of the Lord which I find very humbling. We returned home joyful and greatly encouraged.



Above: Pastor Gary with Joan Marlow.

Visiting on Promotion Tour



Above: Pastor Gary with Veronica in Spalding.
Top left: Dennis and Cynthia Robinson in Grimsby.
Left: Roger and Pastor Gary visit Margaret Budd in Rochdale.

Bottom Left: Peter Paterson in Rickmansworth.
Below: David and Lesley Restall in Kings Lynn.

