

BILLY GRAHAM in Norwich 1984 Bob Barber (Stewarts Father)

I should have known, as an old soldier, never volunteer! When on the Friday night at Carrow Road they asked for 60 volunteers for gate duty, I went down. We were shown our duties at the end gate of the Barclay Stand it all looked so easy. We soon found out on the Saturday evening how wrong we were; ours was one of the coach party gates. People, a few at first, then thousands of them, with tickets held out and questions - Which stand? Which seat? Was Mr. Graham speaking this way or that? Where are the loos? Parties assembled with their little signs right in the middle of the entrance. There were old and young people, families, nuns, clergy, mods, punks, all with so many different attitudes. One dear lady asked . "please could I sit on Mr. Graham's right, about half-way down?" At that time the south stand was packed solid. A husband and wife arrived on Sunday afternoon, he, not wanting to go in, said he could not make the stairs up to the stand, only to be told by his wife that he did so at every one of the city's home games and he was going to this afternoon!

As we froze on Friday night, did any of us believe as Billy Graham dedicated the stadium to the glory of God, that we would witness so much answered prayer? At home, our workload had been very high for weeks before the Crusade, but over the five days everything went like clockwork-God overruled. The weather changed overnight. People were willing to talk and listen. There was a real sense of the Holy Spirit moving and challenging us all. How good it was to witness a family who went together to be counselled; to see the joy in a wife's face as, greeting friends afterwards, she said "Charles went forward tonight". A husband and wife going through divorce proceedings went forward separately, both unaware that the other was there, but went home together.

One of our customers made this comment when I collected his pigs recently, how after the people went forward he would have loved to sing the Hallelujah Chorus. I know how he felt.

As we took down signs, packed boxes, rolled carpets etc., on the Tuesday night it did not feel like an end but a glorious new beginning. It will be a long time before I forget when I joined the Barclay boys.

STATISTICS

Billy Graham led four Crusade Meetings at the Carrow Road Football Stadium, Saturday June 9th to Tuesday June 12th 1984. A Total of 62,720 people attended the rallies, with 3,702 going forward for counselling. Financially the cost of the crusade was £180,000.

Did you go to the crusade in 1984? Have you any memories? If so let me have them for the next issue of "CONTACT"



CONTACT

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“It’s very good now, thank you.”

“Yes thank you. There is no more pain. It’s wonderful.”

“Not immediately, perhaps later. It’s OK at the moment and not giving me too much of a problem.”

Those are the answers to these three very frequently asked questions...

“Hello Ian, how’s your hip?

“Was your operation a success?”

“When have you got to have the other one done?”

Isn’t it great when people care! I’ve lost count of the number of times I have been asked those questions by residents and staff at Eckling Grange. To be honest, I’ve been rather overcome by the frequent and genuine expressions of love and concern I’ve received over recent months. And that’s just how it should be. We love one another, and so we care for one another. When one part of the body hurts, we all hurt. It’s just one of the many blessings of living in a loving community like Eckling Grange.

Interestingly, the way God designed our bodies is a model to help us understand our lives together: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don’t, the parts we see and the parts we don’t. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance of it. Eckling Grange is a Christian Care Home. It’s in the title! We care. Even many of the staff are called ‘Carers’.

So many of the 'thank you' letters received here at The Grange from residents family members that I have read focus on the loving care that their loved one has received. It’s so important and so appreciated. We all need some TLC – tender loving care. And who cares for us more than any other? Jesus does. Jesus loves you deeply and He hurts when you hurt. Now that you’re older, your journey through life may be more difficult than you thought it would be and even lonely at times, but you are not alone and you are precious to Jesus. His love and His care is special. “Cast all your care on Him for He cares for you.” (1Peter 5:7)

Pastor Ian



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Genesis 1:1 - 3

THE CREATION OF THE WORLD

In the ^a beginning ^b God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was ^c without form, and void; and darkness ^d was on the face of the deep. ^e And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ ^f Then God said, "Let there be ^g light"; and there was light.



Genesis Chapter 1

The earth was not always the beautiful blue and green orb we inhabit. Initially it was an unformed mass of raw potential—a ghost planet, empty and dark. But God transformed it into this wonderful life-sustaining world. How? By His *Spirit* and His *Word*.

God did not banish chaos from the universe, but harnessed it. Nevertheless, in biblical times people avoided as much as possible untamed spaces such as the wilderness, mountains, and seas where chaos seemed to reign. The fear of being overtaken by chaos haunted the ancient mind.

We are not immune to haphazard circumstances that dissolve the glue by which our lives are normally held together. A couple poor choices or unpredictable events and everything could suddenly spin out of control, leaving us stunned and confused.

Nevertheless, our hope is unshakable. The order of our lives can be recovered or even taken to a higher level. Through His Spirit and Word, God forms our inner lives and directs our steps in the world. God puts the same forces to work in us that He used to cause the light to shine out of darkness, until everything makes sense and functions properly to His glory.

AFTERNOON OF FUN AND MUSIC with

FRANK

PLAYING PIANO, TRUMPET and HOSE PIPE
THURSDAY FEBUARY 8th 2.30 pm

AFTERNOON
WILLIAM A
AND HIS WIFE
SING-ALONG and JOKES
EVEN A DANCE
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15th 2.30PM

ZOOTASTIC
ALL THE LITTLE CREATURES &
BIRDS
THURSDAY MARCH 15th 2pm

GENTLE EXERCISES
EVERY TUESDAY 2.15pm
ALL IN THE MAIN LOUNGE

Everyone welcome



**CHRISTMAS
DINNER**



**CHRISTINGLE
SERVICE**

When the Trumpet of The Lord shall sound

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was leaving his surgery after paying a visit and said "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Please tell me what lies on the other side?"

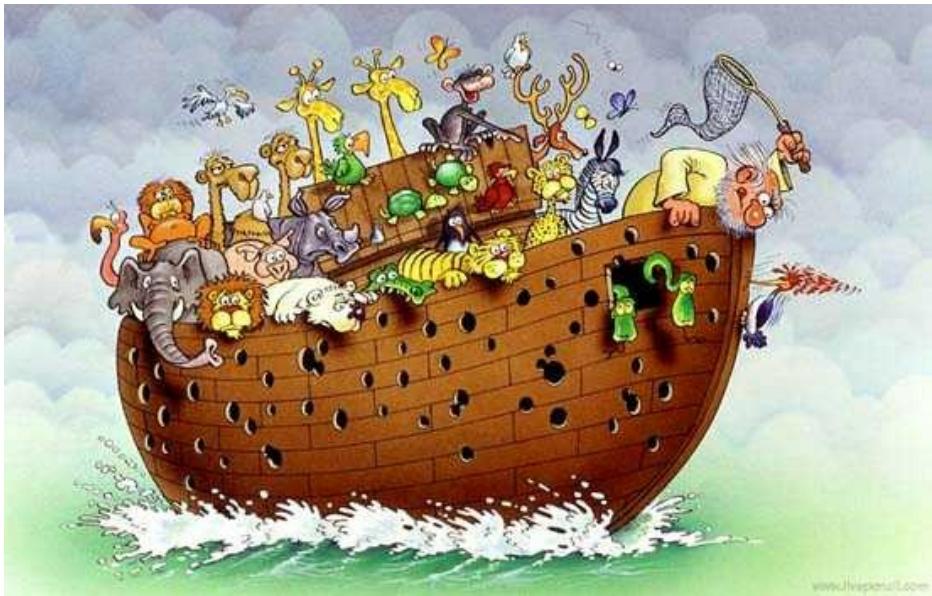
Very quietly and gently the Doctor said "I'm sorry, but I do not know"

"You don't know" the man said "But you are a Christian Doctor and yet you do not know?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the Doctor said, "did you notice my dog? He has never been in this room before. He did not know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but one thing I do know; I know my Master is there and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with aladness!"

FROM Dereham Salvation Army Corps Newsletter

AMAZING GENEROSITY The Christmas 2017 staff collection, each staff member received £50 gift voucher. A big thank you.

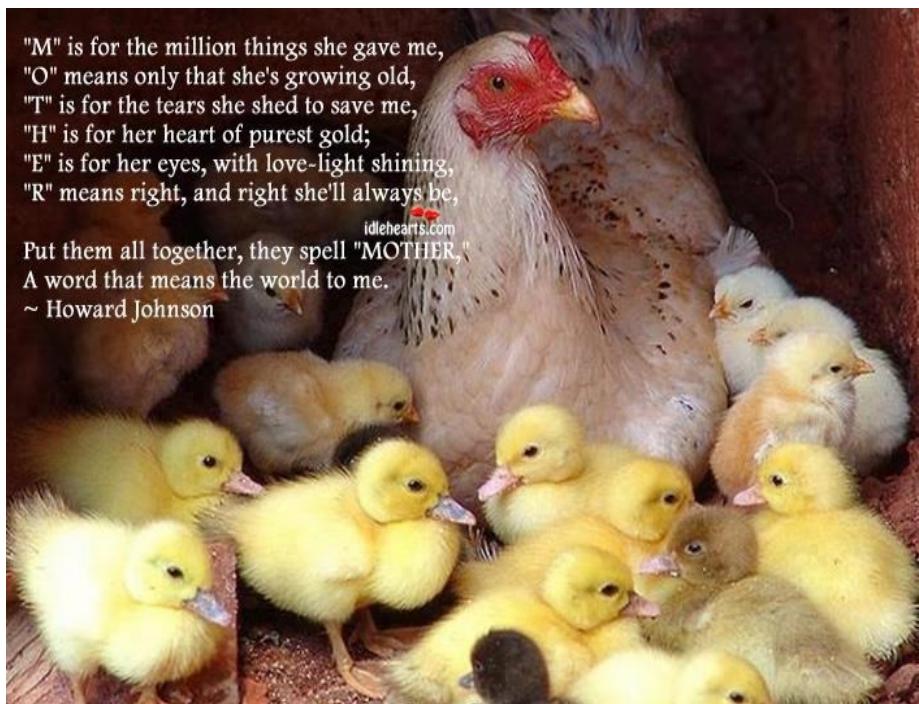


And God said the woodpecker might have to go

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
 "O" means only that she's growing old,
 "T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
 "H" is for her heart of purest gold;
 "E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
 "R" means right, and right she'll always be,

idlehearts.com
 Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
 A word that means the world to me.

~ Howard Johnson



GEORGE AND ROSEMARY WILLARD

Bungalow 23

We moved to Eckling Grange in October and Praise the Lord for His goodness to us in providing a bungalow. We are very happy here but do miss living in Uganda, we had to return back to the UK in August 2016 when George was taken ill and thought we would be returning, we are the Founders/Directors of a Charity, and we have worked in 9 different African countries in the past 29 years. However in 2007 the Lord opened up a door for us to buy land in Uganda which was completely desolate, but they now have a wonderful village where around 1000 children are educated of which 300 children Board at the village, we have a wonderful Health Centre, right in the middle of the Bush. Our nearest town is Masaka about 3 hours from the Capital Kampala. We are still actively involved and Rosemary will be travelling back to Uganda on the 7th February with a team of people from churches around the UK. We have been taking groups out there every February as well as taking many other people to other countries, so many people say what can we do, but just to sit and tell children a story or play games with them is a tonic, as sadly there is not much love and care for the children as most of them are orphans or suffer from AIDS. You are always welcome to join a team, you are never too old.

We have a wonderful Health Center with a complete Maternity Unit, even mothers from the town come to have their babies there, as our facilities are more up to date than the Hospital in Masaka. We have been blessed to have Doctors and Nurses from the UK join us and work in the Centre. On these days you can imagine hundreds of people turn up to receive free treatment. If anyone is interested we do have bi-monthly Newsletters, however being back in the UK and being in Eckling Grange it is so encouraging to talk with other Missionaries from around different countries and pray for each other. Blessings to you all .



These Tanka poems in memory Of

Cathy Street

Mary Welander's sister

Taken from her book
"A Thankful Heart"

Her daughter Joy wrote....

My wee bungalow

Is part of sheltered housing

For the elderly

Its like a little village

We're all good friends together

Why does squirrel

Bury nuts and then forget

Where he has put them

During the winter, they will

Take root and become nut trees

Outside, it's windy

And the rain is pouring down

But in my warm room

I sit by my cosy fire

And praise God for my wee home

Norwich is too far

For me to drive my scooter

But a free bus pass

Makes the the trip a real pleasure

Passing through the countryside.

I look forward to

The apples in the orchard

Being ready to pick

Some I shall store for the winter

And some I shall enjoy now

Directors Mail

This is the first letter of 2018 and I'd like to wish you all a happy new year. Thank for your support all through the previous year and we look

forward to journeying with you in the year to come, which I am hoping will be filled with hope and excitement. We live in a world where hope is not all that easy to come by and we want to reach young people with the hope that we believe Jesus has for them and see them flourish and grow. We all have a role to play in this aim and you as our supporters, friends and family are walking with us all the way; for which we are eternally grateful.

This term is a busy one leading into Easter with many large events in the near future. We have Spring Weekend at the beginning of May, SOAK and a return of Breckfest Radio during the Easter break. Both these events see us bringing together young people from across the whole area. For those of you who may not know SOAK stands for "social action" and it runs alongside our Radio station during the Easter Holidays. During SOAK we mobilise Young people dressed in sky blue t-shirts to do practical works for the community across North Breckland. In the past we have done gardens for people, washed road signs for the council, visited you our Friends at Eckling Grange and much more. The young people enjoy serving and we do it to bless the community because we believe it's a good way to share the love of Jesus

Breckfest Radio will be running at the same time as SOAK and will have young people involved in the technology and the programmes on the Radio. It will be a brilliant project and a great tribute to our faithful friend Dan Lawrence who is sadly no longer with us. This radio project was his idea and I hope that he would have been proud to see us take it on.



On 19th September 2014, a group of children, aged between 8 and 16 were due to travel to the UK to embark on a month long tour to raise funds for their village, Kyjubira in Uganda. Very sadly, on the day of their travel they were notified of the refusal of their visas all due to a Home Office administrative error requesting signatures from 2 parents when the majority of them only have one! Their once in a lifetime opportunity is lost. Devastated is an understatement for these children who had rehearsed for 18 months in preparation of this tour which included performances at Canterbury, York and Norwich cathedrals. Life has dealt these children a raw deal and now to be let down by our system

UGANDA VISIT - The yearly team visit to Uganda departs on Wednesday 7th February for two weeks, we are pleased that one of our sponsors who has not been before is joining us, and also a nurse for the first time. Many boxes of clothes, educational materials and shoes have already been shipped over for the team to distribute. There will also be a Jajja FEEDING PROGRAM we usually ask for around 100 people, of course there are more who would like to receive food, however if we receive more donations we can always increase the number. We give each Jajja Rice, Sugar, Flour, Tea, Beans and funds permitting we give Soap and Washing Powder, then our team from Barnsley donate clothes to them. Dr Ian will also be joining us again so the Health Centre will hold check up days for everyone, (free of charge).

WELL I'LL BE JIGGERED Rosemary Willard

I have been asked many times to write a book on our work in Africa over the past 29 years, above you will see a strange title which I will explain later, but I had always said this is what my book would be named. As you can imagine I have many stories to tell, so I will only be able to relate a few for the countries we have visited. We have worked in 9 African countries as well as putting our foot down in two other African countries when changing flights. I will give you some background on how Jajja George (as he is known, Jajja means Grandparent) and myself (Jajja Rosemary) commenced the work which is certainly not what we had in mind, as neither of us were really interested in going to Africa, but the Lord always has different plans to our own. I hope you will enjoy reading my story and perhaps one day I may write a book.

HOW THE WORK BEGAN

When I was a child one Christmas Father Christmas bought me a Black Doll, it had warm knitted clothes but for some reason I always took them off and played with the doll without any clothes on, at that time I did not know anything about Africa and never knew that seventy years ago most children and adults in Africa did not have many clothes to wear. However the following Christmas when I opened a small parcel there was a complete new set of clothes with a letter from Mrs Christmas explaining that my doll was from a very warm country and needed to be kept extra warm in England as it would feel the cold. After this those clothes never came off my doll and in fact they wore out completely with more holes in them than clothes, but now I understand this is what life in Africa was like, for thousands of people. So something had obviously been placed in my heart for the future which I had no idea about.

In 1981 Jajja George had the opportunity to attend Bible College which he never even thought of doing, it was far

from his plans for the future, but it was agreed that he should go, again not thinking that an opening would be made for him to go to Dallas, Texas for 1 year. While there he met many wonderful people who invited him into their homes and made him welcome. On return to England he was not sure what lay ahead but 5 years later we were attending a Church which had students from all over the world, and we noticed it was the African students that people found it difficult to communicate with.

One day we were speaking to an English student who we had got to know well and invited her to come to Sunday lunch after Church and bring another student with her. Lunch time came and Joanna from **BURKINO FASO** in West Africa arrived with Sharon the English student. This was the beginning of a year long friendship and we felt we should support her while at college, Joanna had only decided to be at Bible College for 1 year, but she became the top student of the year, so was invited back again for a second year. We were happy to see her back and said we would continue to support her for the second year. At this time both George and myself were in full time employment and never even gave any thought to visiting Africa, however again the Lord had different plans, when Joanna graduated in 1989 and was with us for Sunday lunch again, we were invited to visit her country, we said we would think about it and thought 1990 in August when we had our annual work leave we may visit, again Joanna said, no, I would like you to come for Christmas and the New Year, well we were surprised, however we prayed and felt it was right for us to go, so it was agreed we visited her for 1 month, both the companies George and I worked for granted us an extra two weeks leave, so we could visit for 1 month, at this time we had no idea what lay ahead of us.