



E-News



The General Conference of the New Church

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paul.crone@generalconference.org.uk

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Rise and Shine Radio Show

Rev'd Jack Dunion broadcasts his own online radio show every Sunday at 9am on Lomond Radio (formerly River Radio):
<https://lomondradio.co.uk/shows/rise-and-shine>

The link below allows you to catchup Rise & Shine programs:
www.mixcloud.com/RevJack/



Honorary Life Members of General Conference

The office of Honorary Life Member traces its roots back to the early days of our organisation in the 1800s. In those days the General Conference appointed 12 Trustees in whom was vested responsibility for the good order and management of the Conference. The Trustees were all laymen, six from north of the River Trent, and six from the southern part of the country. With the passing of the years and changes in company law the Trustees became persons to whom the Conference could look as experienced ambassadors, advisers, and guardians of good order.

During the 2004 Annual Meeting of General Conference the Members gave their approval to changes to the constitution. One such change was the re-designating of the existing Trustees as Honorary Life Members (HLMs). This change was necessitated by changes to the laws governing charities. From now on the people elected to serve and organise a charity were to be called Trustees. This meant that the title Trustee was reserved for those who were elected as members of the Conference Council.

For the next 12 years the Conference continued to appoint HLMs who were respected lay members appointed *to act in a consultative, advisory or representative capacity*. However, in 2016 the Conference Council recommended that, while the existing HLMs should continue in office for life, no more Honorary Life Members would be appointed. The Conference gave its approval to this change. At that point there were 10 HLMs; currently there are 5 remaining in office.

Since that time, some Members have expressed views regretting the change, so it was that last year Conference Council proposed that the office should be restored to our constitution with the new title of Elder. A change of title was considered necessary to avoid the impression that the office was an honour given to a few but not to the rest. While there was general approval for the principle, the suggested title was not popular. The matter was referred back to Conference Council with the intention of a different wording being proposed at the 2024 Conference. In the event, the Constitution Revision Group found itself heavily occupied dealing with other necessary revisions, and asked Conference Council if this could be raised again in 2025.

The purpose of this article is to invite Members of Conference to submit ideas and views, and particularly to suggest alternative titles for Conference Council to consider. The role performed over many years by Trustees/Honorary Life Members has been much appreciated, not least the ability to provide advice where needed, and the readiness to represent the Conference at official events. If you are someone who favours the reintroduction of HLMs under a different title, do please help Conference Council and the Constitution Revision Group by sending in suggestions to the Company Secretary, Natalie Welch, as soon as possible, and before the 19th October.



OCTOBER FAMILY WEEKEND

Friday 25 Oct to Sunday 27 Oct 2024

Purley Chase Centre
Purley Chase Lane
Mancetter
Atherstone
CV9 2 RQ

En-suite

Adults £78 pp
12-17 £68 pp
Under 11's Free

Standard

Adults £66 pp
12-17 £58 pp
Under 11's Free

These costs have been generously
subsidised by the Youth and Family Team.

Join us for a delightful family
weekend filled with joy and
togetherness as we explore
together the theme of
"Appearances" in the Word of
God, as described in the writings
of Emanuel Swedenborg!

Experience the peace and
serenity of Purley Chase Centre
as we come together to create
lasting memories and cherish
the love that binds us all.

Activities for Adults

Activities for Children and Young People

Delicious Food

Bonfire Evening

www.purleychasecentre.org.uk/event/october-family-weekend-24

Or contact 01827 712370



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Conference Service Report: Addendum

Gwendolen Rowe writes:

Thursday afternoon

First of all I want to apologise, particularly to Revd's Jack Dunion and Becky Jarratt, for the omission of the Conference Service in my earlier report. It was an honest oversight that should never have happened.

The Conference service was led by Revd Jack Dunion and Revd Becky Jarratt. The highlight of the service was the induction of Becky into office as Deputy Spiritual Leader. This, for me, was a very poignant part of the service for me. I am sure you will all wish to join me in wishing her well in her new appointment. I'm sure she will be a great support to Jack.

We sung some lovely hymns including 'Great is thy faithfulness', reminding us of the theme of faithfulness and Becky and Jack worked really well to create a beautiful act of worship.

Gwendolen Rowe

Upcoming Events

Saturday 14 th September	Divine Providence and the way of the spiritual bracelet
21-22 nd September	Kearsley Scarecrow Festival & Harvest Festival
Sunday 22 nd September	Zoom service of worship led by Revd Becky Jarratt
Sunday 6 th October	Harvest Service-Keighley
Saturday 2 nd November	Experiencing Awe and Wonder
Saturday 16 th November	Where am I headed after I die?
Saturday 16 th November	Christmas Fair-Keighley
Saturday 14 th December	Seaburn Dene-A Candle for Christmas

Full details www.generalconference.org.uk/new-church-events/

The next E-News will be published 20th September. Items by Wednesday 18th please.