



E-News



The General Conference of the New Church

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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/



The Hewer's Prayer

Rev'd Lynne Griffiths writes:

At the beginning of the ordination service at conference there was a piece of music played, recorded by Westoe Brass Band. This is my brass band that I've been a member of for the last 30 years and was honoured that, at my request, they agreed to record this piece of music. It's called The Hewer's Prayer and reflects the life of the Hewers who worked down the mines. For me however its a musical interpretation of the story of Hannah and her quest to

become a mother and praying to the Lord in her anguish- listen for the haunting opening melody on the Flugel as she prays followed by the movement of the Holy Spirit, some call and response moments as she speaks to the Lord and He responds, culminating in the triumphant birth of Samuel. Perhaps it will speak to you in a different way for as we know the Lord speaks to us all in different ways relevant to where we are in the moment.

It was a lovely way to start the service, and a few have asked about the music who were unable to be there. If you would like to watch the video of this recording played at the service and have access to Facebook, please click the following link. The video was recorded and edited by my uncle Ken Drew.



www.facebook.com/westoebrass/videos/731720305925845

As is customary the newly ordained minister leads the closing service at conference. For those unable to be there or those wishing to relive the moment in short simple video form please head to Seaburn Dene New Church Facebook page. From 4th-17th Aug we are sharing a short clip each day from the 'talk' given during the service. Between February and July of this year I sewed a new church kneeler, and the videos reflect the lessons I learned about how sewing and life are a lot alike and sewing links to angels.....



www.facebook.com/Seaburnnewchurch

The Late Garth Habgood 1935-2025

Revd Bruce Jarvis writes:

Members of Conference who attended the recent Annual Meeting at Swanwick, will have been saddened to receive the news that Garth passed into the spiritual world late in the evening of Saturday 2nd August, thankfully with his wife, Lynda, by his side to give him comfort in those last hours. In our sorrow, not for Garth but for Lynda, we rejoice that this Christian gentleman has now passed into that dimension where there is *no more death or mourning or crying or pain* (Revelation 21:4). He will have received a warm welcome from the angels whose job it is to make newcomers comfortable in their new environment.

We have got to know Garth over these last three conferences as he accompanied Lynda and therefore made it possible for her to be at Swanwick. His warm, open personality meant that he got to know members and engaged many people in conversation. This year he touched our hearts when, speaking as an evangelical Christian, he proclaimed during the closing session on Friday morning that it was his aim in life to tell his evangelical friends about the New Church, and to reassure them that there was nothing to be afraid of in its Teachings and worship. He also exhorted us to reach out and share our faith with other Christians and people wanting to hear the good news. That was an evocative moment for us all. Little were we to know that only a week or so later, he would have left this earthly dimension.

We send love and best wishes to Lynda, who is wonderfully accepting of what has happened. A lifetime of New Church Teaching gives her the faith, the conviction and the assurance that all is well in the Lord's hands, and that the death of the body is the prelude to what lies ahead. She is also immensely grateful for the many messages from her friends to help her through this sad period.

Well done, good and faithful servant. ... Enter now into the joy of your Lord. (Mt.25:21)

One Stich at a Time

Revd Lynne Griffiths writes:

For anybody who was unable to attend this year's annual conference at Swanwick I conducted the closing service around the theme of talents and told the story of how stitching a new church kneeler had taught me many things. The main point being taking life 'one stitch at a time' as we bid to spiritually regenerate and ultimately become angels. As a keepsake I made little tags with angels on which state GCNC 2025 and have a bit of my kneeler thread to remind us each to move 'one stitch at a time'. I have 11 of these tags left over. If anybody who was unable to be there would like one, please drop me an email with your details and I will pop it in the post. Please be mindful I'm technically on holidays so won't be checking email daily!!

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Seaburn Dene Grant

Revd Lynne Griffiths writes:

Seaburn Dene New Church has finally used the last of our refurbishment grant from Sunderland City Council's community chest grant to have the back stairs/doors repainted. The wait for good painters is long! The gloss work is back to brilliant white, and we have had wipeable magnolia added to the walls to help with the upkeep. This completes the majority of the downstairs renovations which we began last year, and the place is looking fresh and clean which is a benefit to all using the building.



We are also thrilled that Sunderland City Council's community chest has just awarded us a grant of just under £200 to begin a litter picking group. Since 18th April 2025 we have collected and disposed of 45 bags of rubbish from the local area and being able to buy extra litter pickers, bags, bag holders, gloves, hi viz vests and a first aid kit will enable us to offer this as a group activity and offer another form of outreach also. Caring for the Lord's creation is a job for each of us, and we can't wait to get going. First however is volunteer holidays.....

Upcoming Events

28 th – 31 st July	9 -13 Summer Camp – Wellspring House
30-31 st August	Dalton 200 th Anniversary
5 th – 7 th Sep	Swedenborg Weekend – Purley Chase
5 th – 7 th Sep	New Forest Family Bunkhouse Weekend
6 th Sep	Adventure into Lower Earth - Wellspring House
20 th Sep	Dream Workshop – Purley Chase
31 st Oct – 2 nd Nov	November Family Weekend – Purley Chase
17-18 th October	Leaders United
3 rd – 6 th Nov	Autumn Fellowship – Purley Chase
14 - 17 th Nov	Festival of Angels - Kearsley

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