

# Sounding Out



**A lot has happened in the UK since the last edition of our newsletter...**

... Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has passed on to glory and we have had two new chancellors and two new prime ministers - that is how things currently stand as I write this!

The Queen was a wonderful Christian leader who had been such a stable part of the nation that it was rather surprising when she died, even though she was 96 years old. One royal reporter said, slightly tongue in cheek, that he had thought she would basically live forever. But things change, and when change comes we can often feel uncertain about what the future will hold. But the good news is that, although everything around seems to change, God doesn't. He never will. He can't. He always has been and always will be the faithful God who loves us and cares for us.



GNBA continues to rely on God to provide us with the opportunities to spread His word through media and the finances needed to do that. James 1:17 sums this up beautifully:

*"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."*

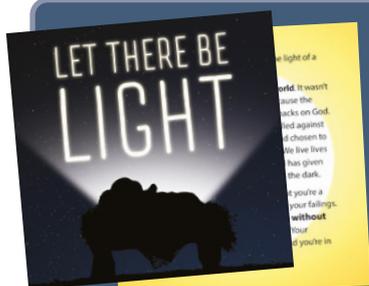
The way that God provides for this ministry is through you. As we head into winter we are aware of the cost of living crisis that will impact all of us to different degrees. From energy bill increases to fluctuating fuel costs, from mortgage and rent rises to the average weekly shop, things are changing and life is getting more expensive. This is also true for Good News Broadcasting. Aside from the expected increases, one of our main broadcasters has already informed us they are raising their rates by 7% and this trend is likely to continue with other stations. Our rent was also set to increase by almost 50% but after

negotiations Bizspace agreed to decrease this because we are a charity. So for now we will stay in our current office.

I want to say a huge thank you for your support over the years and although I recognise times are hard, I would very much appreciate your continued prayerful and financial help over the coming months and years. As you know, God has intervened miraculously in recent times to sustain this ministry, through legacies from GNBA supporters, and I would love to build up the ministry with new staff, new resources, new initiatives and new broadcasting outlets. Your continued support will help me do this.

If you don't already give to GNBA but would like to, the best way is to become a Ministry Partner. You automatically become a Ministry Partner when you make a donation of £60 or more annually, or by setting up a monthly Standing Order for any amount, no matter how small. Contact us for more help or information.

Thanks again and may God bless you!



**We're happy to enclose a copy of our tract for Christmas 2022 - 'Let there be light'.** We hope you can use it to help point friends and family to Jesus the light of the world.

The tracts are available on request free of charge but we would be grateful for donations towards the cost of printing and posting.

If you're reading this issue of *Sounding Out* online then you can find the tract here [www.gnba.net/literature](http://www.gnba.net/literature) and read before ordering.

## Save the date!

We're excited to announce that we're planning a GNBA Conference at The Hayes Centre to celebrate our 70 year anniversary!

**11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

We know it's a way off but keep it free and watch this space for more details.

# A visit to Poland



My wife Eleanor and I recently visited Warsaw for a few days along with GNBA board member, Stephen Hall. We were there to attend the Voice Of The Gospel board meeting but also had the privilege of seeing many of the sights of Warsaw with unofficial tour guide, Henryk Dedo!

We enjoyed wonderful fellowship and excellent hospitality at Henryk and Dina's beautiful new home on

the outskirts of Warsaw. Dina is recovering well from an accident she had earlier this year though she will continue to wear a pressure glove for the next 12 months to treat some burns on her hand and arm.

As we were driving to Majdanek, Henryk turned on the radio just in time for us to hear his feature, *A drop of eternity*, being broadcast on one of the 64 stations that carry VOTG programmes. Obviously I couldn't understand what was said but it was great to experience firsthand the reach that VOTG has. Henryk then played us an English version of a documentary all about the concentration camp we were on the way to visit. It was informative, moving and very well edited.

Documentaries are produced every week covering a variety of topics through amazing stories and testimonies. Sixteen of the best documentaries each year are compiled on CD for promotional purposes.

Another highlight for me was hearing about the youth camp held each summer. This year almost a hundred young people attended and

were kept busy with team games, sports, worship and Bible teaching. Many of the young people come from dysfunctional families, care centres and orphanages. It was lovely to watch some video content of the camp and to see so many happy faces.

*Voice Of The Gospel* accountant, Tomasz, shared that 2021 had been a difficult year financially for the ministry but so far 2022 had been much better and they were likely to recoup the losses from last year. This meant that we were able to agree to a wage increase for the six members of staff as inflation is currently close to 10% in Poland.

It was a wonderful trip and I came home encouraged and inspired by Henryk and his team. I know that the VOTG team would appreciate your prayers as they continue to produce documentaries and radio spots each week.



## CURRENT PROGRAMMES



Tom continues his series, *Pure and Simple*, taking a verse by verse look at Mark's gospel. If you're not able to tune in each week, why not subscribe to the podcast?



On *Bible Focus* Tom has recently started a new series exploring 1 John which is paradoxically known for both its simplicity and its depth.



Tom and Stuart meet up for another interesting discussion in *1st Friday* as they look at the subject of women in ministry 'through the lens of the Bible'.



Rob Parsons of *Care For The Family* is one of the recent guests on the *Sermonise* podcast, talking about the dangers of pride and sermons that are too interesting.



Tom thinks about what it means to be 'home' in this episode on *The Everlasting Way*. You can find more of these short evangelistic programmes on the website.



# In other news...

## Legacies

Legacies have been a great blessing to GNBA for decades. Over the last two years we have received five legacies - we are thankful for each one, large or small. It is humbling to think that this ministry could bless someone so much they would want to leave money to help us continue the work. Often we know very little about the person who chooses to help GNBA in this way. This is true in the case of two large legacies we received recently from Moira Anne Botham and Peter Cooper.

Moira was a *Ministry Partner* but that is all we know of her - we aren't sure how she came into contact with GNBA. Peter was introduced to the ministry by his sister Pauline. When she died over a decade ago she left us a legacy, but Peter wasn't a supporter or even on our database. We were very surprised to be contacted by his brother Neil to be informed that Peter had left his entire estate to us which included his house (pictured).



As much as it would be nice to know and to share more with you about these individuals, we rest in the truth of 2 Timothy 2:19 which tells us, 'The Lord knows those who are His.' We are truly grateful to God for each person who remembers us in this way and we know that God knows each one of them completely.

## Your last chance!

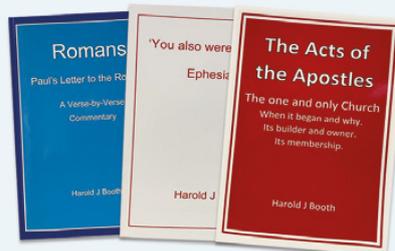
Back in March 2021 many of you made the switch to a digital version of *Sounding Out* rather than a printed copy. At a difficult time financially, this saved (and continues to save) GNBA a great deal in both printing and postage costs. Of course we have been happy to send a printed copy to those who did not have easy access to the internet and we continue to do so.

However, there were some who didn't contact us with their preference so, rather than lose touch completely, we sent a Christmas letter last year and a Winter edition of *Sounding Out* (yes, this one) this year to everyone on our mailing list.

In order to continue stewarding GNBA finances wisely, and in accordance with GDPR guidelines, this copy of *Sounding Out* will be the last time we mail *everyone* on our list. If you haven't been in touch for a while but would still like to receive news from us then please do let us know. You can subscribe to the digital version on our website or if you'd prefer to receive a printed copy in the post then please contact us and let us know. If we haven't heard from you by the time of our next mailing at the end of March then we'll assume you are happy for us to remove you from our database.

## Books!

One of Good News Broadcasting Association's long term supporters is author Harold Booth. He has kindly donated some of his Bible commentaries to GNBA. We have copies of each title. If you'd like a copy of one or more of them then please email or phone in with a small donation. The titles are: Romans; Is your name in the Book of Life?; Genesis; The Word from John; You also were included (Ephesians); The Acts of the Apostles.



# RADIO GUIDE

**Tune in on your radio or TV or listen any time at [www.gnba/listen-now](http://www.gnba/listen-now)**

### Premier Christian Radio

Digital Radio: DAB Premier  
TV: Freeview 725 or Sky 0123  
Radio: MW 1305, 1332, 1413, 1566  
**Word Alive:** Sunday 6.30am

### Trans World Radio

TV: Freeview HD Channel 733, Sky 0138 or Freesat 790  
**Word Alive:** Saturday 6.00am  
Sunday 6.00pm

### Radio North

Radio: 846 AM  
**Bible Focus:** Weekdays 8.45am

### Radio Star Country

Radio: MW 981  
**Word Alive:** Wednesday 5.30pm

### Branch FM

Radio: 101.8 FM  
**Word Alive:** Sunday 6.00pm  
**Bible Focus:** Weekdays from 12 noon

### Hope FM

Radio: 90.1 FM  
**Word Alive:** Sunday 7.30am

### Flame CCR

Radio: MW 1521 or Internet DAB  
GNBA Show: Weekdays 10.30am

### Gospel 4 Grampian

Internet: [www.g4g.org.uk](http://www.g4g.org.uk)

Join us for  
**MINISTRY PARTNERS LIVE!**

Join us on Zoom to hear the very latest news and to pray together for the work of GNBA.

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm**  
Zoom meeting ID: 910 262 9144

More details at [www.gnba.net](http://www.gnba.net)

# Home is where the heart is

**He has also set eternity in the human heart ... Ecclesiastes 3:11**

As you have already read, I recently visited Warsaw for the *Voice Of The Gospel* board meeting. When I landed back in Manchester and exited the plane I was rather depressed to see how long the queue was for getting through the passport check but I waited patiently, as the British are famous for doing. As I finally approached the desk I handed my passport over to a fairly serious-looking man. He glanced at me and then at my photo and back at me again. I was worried for a moment that he wasn't going to let me through. That picture is a number of years old and I do look rather different today - the hair that was once on top of my head seems to have migrated to my face - but with one final look the man handed back my passport and said, 'Welcome home, Thomas'.

It felt slightly strange because nobody calls me 'Thomas' except my doctor, but it also felt nice to hear. I've travelled back into England a number of times but no one has ever said 'welcome home' to me.

The apostle Paul tells us, in Philippians 3:20, that there is an even better home than Manchester for all those who follow Jesus Christ. We are citizens of Heaven. This is a mind-blowing thought. Not that we will be in Heaven in the future but that we are already citizens of Heaven. In this world we are foreigners in a foreign land, waiting to go home. Sometimes we can be so caught up in

the here-and-now that we forget this truth. The busyness of life and the cares of this world keep us from focusing on the glory of Heaven and remembering that it is our home.

Earlier in the book of Philippians (1:21-26) Paul wrestles with his desire to go straight to Heaven on the one hand and his desire to remain and serve others on the other. He wanted to be in Heaven because that is where Christ is. He was homesick for Heaven because Christ had saved him and had changed his heart for good. We should feel the same way.

When we see a society that is so broken by sin, yes, we should want to share the gospel with lost people but there should also be a longing in us for Christ to return quickly because this is not our true home.

There is an old phrase that says we can be 'so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly good'. I think the complete opposite is true. The more we focus on our eternal home and on Christ who reigns there, the more useful we will be in living for Him on earth.

With Christ in mind we can live lives of bold faith knowing that He has set us the perfect example to follow in His earthly ministry. With Christ in mind we can come to Him when we fail, as we all do, and be reminded of His sacrificial death on the cross for our sins. With Christ in mind we can face the difficult times in life knowing that He is interceding on our behalf. We can never fix our eyes on Jesus too long. So we press on longing for Heaven and living for Christ, and I for one cannot wait for the day when Jesus will say to me 'Welcome home, Thomas'.

**Tom Ward**



Your printer-friendly

# Prayer Diary

NOVEMBER 2022 - FEBRUARY 2023

## NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER

## JANUARY

## FEBRUARY

Sunday

Praise God for all His provision for GNBA and particularly for the recent legacies.

Sunday

Please pray that *Word Alive* would be a blessing to many listeners today.

Sunday

Pray for Tom as he ministers this Sunday.

Sunday

Pray that God would speak to non-Christians through *Word Alive* today.

Monday

Pray for a good Ministry Partners Live meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Monday

Pray for Mel in the day to day administration tasks.

Monday

Please pray for an increase in our supporter base.

Monday

Please pray for Tom as he writes *Sounding Out*.

Tuesday

Continue to pray for a new staff member to oversee GNBA finances.

Tuesday

Pray that staff would have a restful break over the Christmas period.

Tuesday

Pray for the continued and increased popularity of the *Sermonise* podcast.

Tuesday

Please pray that more would feel able to become Ministry Partners.

Wednesday

Pray that God would bless our *Bible Focus* listeners.

Wednesday

Pray that the Christmas tract would be well used and received this month.

Wednesday

Pray for wisdom for Tom as he plans future programming.

Wednesday

Pray for Mel designing and mailing *Sounding Out* this month.

Thursday

Please pray for wisdom as we meet the general challenges of increasing costs.

Thursday

Pray that God would lead and guide the Board of Directors in all their decisions.

Thursday

Please pray that many would attend the *Ministry Partners Live* meeting this month (see website for date).

Thursday

Please pray that our *Word Alive* listeners would become supporters of GNBA.

Friday

Pray for Tom and Stuart as they record the last episode of *1st Friday* this month.

Friday

Please pray that Konnect Radio listeners would respond to *The Everlasting Way*.

Friday

Pray for more broadcasting opportunities for *Word Alive* in the UK and abroad.

Friday

Give thanks for all the supporters of GNBA.

Saturday

Please pray for Tom as he prepares Bible teaching for all of the programmes.

Saturday

Pray for Tom as he prepares preaching for Sunday.

Saturday

Pray for responses to our broadcasting in Africa.

Saturday

Thank God for enabling GNBA to broadcast Bible teaching week by week.

Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Nehemiah 1:11