



# nacukie news

Newsletter United Kingdom, Ireland and Isle of Man

May 2020



## Foreword

My Very Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Greetings from our apostle and each of your district ministers. For this month's soul care letter, our apostle has asked that I write to you a few words, which I gladly do. I also include a request for help.

### 'Soul-care,' what does that actually mean?

Maybe it rightly means different things to different members. It may be that the one who is sick and can attend divine services, is well known and receives lots of soul-care. Another may perhaps feel over-looked and under-valued.

### We need your help to address this.

No matter how many calls we ministers make, texts we send or prayers we pray, we shall always have the heartfelt wish and desire to reach everyone. This wishing and wanting to do more does not come about because of any job description but rather out of ministry. On our ordination we were asked by the Lord

through His apostle to love, care and feed the sheep and the lambs, similar to the ask of Peter.

So, why do we need your help? Because we are only imperfect men trying to do a perfect work. The bible also reminds us of the importance to seek help from our ministers. Jesus said to the lepers, 'Go, show yourself to the Priest.' This led to a better situation for them.

So, my dear loved ones, I ask you, show yourselves to us. We are here to pray and speak with you, to remember you especially. You are not to be lost in the multitudes or the crowds that followed Jesus. I paraphrase words from Isaiah 43.

*"Do not be afraid – I will save you. I have called you by name – you are mine. When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you."*

Feel free to contact your local minister or the apostle and myself. We will be delighted to hear from you:

David Heynes  
07384 763 655

David Middleton  
07813 270956

May our heavenly Father bless you and keep you, now and always, until we meet again,

With love,

David Middleton

## Interview

### With Sister Lisa Bates; essential worker.

#### Tell us a little about yourself.

*I was born into the New Apostolic faith. Mum, who was from Germany, testified to Dad who was later adopted and sealed. I remember as a young child walking into town to get the bus to Bradford congregation where Priest Salt was the rector. At the age of twelve we moved to Gloucester and attended services in a rented room, which wasn't at all like the lovely church building we have there today. I moved to Birmingham when I returned from living overseas and now attend the Birmingham congregation. >*





> As an adult, I lived in Germany for seven years where I married a British soldier. We also lived in Hong Kong for two years. I loved my time there.

Sadly, my sister Kathleen Cole passed away from cancer at the age of 47, which was a difficult time for me. She would do anything for anybody and always put others first. Kathleen was a member of the Gloucester congregation. In those days we had two services on a Sunday, and she used to cook a meal for the ministers who visited the congregation. She also took the Sunday school and did the flower decoration for the altar.

**Where do you work and what do you do?**

I work at Birmingham City Hospital as a Theatre Support Assistant. This involves meeting the patients and going through checks and questionnaires with them. When in theatre my main role is to support the Scrub Nurse by having the instruments and equipment ready for use.

There are ups and downs in the role as you can imagine, but I can honestly say I love my job because I feel I am helping

people. It is lovely to see patients come out and recover from their operation. I also love watching the operation, which is fascinating, and the human body is amazing.

You do, however, need a sense of humour and I work together with a great team of doctors and nurses.

**What is your outlook on life?**

Life is a wonderful gift from God, which should be enjoyed. It is too short to get stressed by it. I am also very thankful for my faith which gives me a goal and purpose in life.

My favourite hymn is, 'Beyond where clouds no more appear,' because I know I have a home I will go to, but not yet because I have a grandchild I want to see grow up!

**Any final thoughts?**

I just want to thank our Bishop David Middleton who has kept me going through this difficult period with his 'Thought for the Day.' These morning sessions have helped me so much and I urge anybody to listen in; it's food for the soul. ■



Robert Anderson

**Interview**

**With Robert and Rhoda Anderson.**

Our retired Deacon Anderson and his wife, Rhoda, who is a Sunday school teacher, tell us about life in isolation and how they are coping with lockdown. They live in Edinburgh and attend the Glasgow congregation.

**Tell us briefly about how you met and how long you have been married?**

We met on 10 June 1972, at the International Dance Hall in Princes Street, Edinburgh. Strangely, we both went there with friends whom we didn't normally go out with. We have been married for 46 years.

**How long were you in ministry Robert?**

I think it was 18 years. Until lockdown, I was an official photographer for the church and enjoyed travelling to district services and special events to take pictures. I belong to a camera club and really love taking pictures of nature as well as people. >



Sister Lisa Bates in scrubs



> **How are you both coping through this period of isolation?**

We are getting through lockdown together by doing our online exercise classes, reading and watching box sets on T.V. Robert is reduced to taking photos from the windows of our flat, such as of the local wildlife plus we are enjoying our coffee and cake in the afternoon.

**Who and what you do you miss?**

We miss seeing everyone in the congregation, our Tuesday outings to the Silver Cinema and for Robert, not being able to get to the gym and get out with his camera.

**Any observations about each other now that you are in lockdown?**

Robert is now multi-tasking watching a series on T.V. at the same time as doing a photography tutorial with a headset on! He says it's given him an insight to what it will be like when I retire and stay at home every day. Hopefully we can get out and about by then. ■



**Closing words**

**He Will Carry You Through.**

Maybe one day I will be asked what it was like to live through the Coronavirus back in 2020 as a minister in the New Apostolic Church.

Trying to answer the question today; the first thought I have is that in my experience we have grown even closer together despite living in a time of separation and isolation. I hope you also feel as I do, that we are blessed beyond measure by having faithful brothers and sisters by our side who we can pray for knowing they are also praying for us.

The Midweek Devotional has created an opportunity for an amazing few moments of prayer and fellowship. Many have opened their hearts to express concern and fear as well as to encourage and comfort us. It has been a delight to come under such a prayer.

The Lord Jesus once prayed: *'Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.'* (John 17:11.)

I continue to earnestly pray along with you, that we can all be, 'kept in His name,' and that we can continue to place our trust in our heavenly Father during this crisis. It is a time of suffering for many in our congregations, whether that is with health, loneliness, financial worries or an increased risk to health because of work, so our prayers of intercession are needed.

I assure you dear brother and sister, you are prayed for and I would like to thank our ministers and members who volunteer their time to call and connect with our brethren. They do so out of love and concern and each one makes a lasting impression in our hearts.

In conclusion, I hope to put a little tune in your head, for those who know the chorus of the hymn, 'Yield not to temptation,' number 168. I hope this will also carry you through in the coming days.

**Ask the Saviour to help you, Comfort, strengthen and keep you. He is willing to aid you: He'll carry you through.**

David Heynes, 07384 763655 ■



Rhoda Anderson