



# STANBOROUGH PRESS

**140 Years  
of Service**

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Stanborough Press celebration! We are celebrating 140 years of ministry with grateful hearts and a strong faith.

The Stanborough Press Ltd. is the official publisher of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, and it is owned by the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Also, it was the first Adventist institution established in Great Britain, and it's one of the oldest Adventist publishing houses in the world.



The Adventist passion for the printing and distribution of uplifting Christian literature predates the official formation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1863 by more than a decade. In fact, the 'publishing ministry', as it became known, is regarded as the Church's founding method of witness, and it still plays a defining role in the outreach and nurture of our members. As we learn from and build on the labours of our pioneers, we're looking to the future.

Over the years, the Stanborough Press Ltd. has changed its main emphasis from both printing and publishing to the publishing and distribution of Christian literature, both in the UK and abroad.

Globally, the Adventist Church retails a large portion of its literature and related products through Adventist Book Centre outlets, and those operating in the UK are run by the Stanborough Press under the banner of LifeSource.

It has been 140 years since the first periodical, *Present Truth*, began to be published in Britain under the editorship of M. C. Wilcox. We had not yet been born when it all began, but we have

all witnessed the impact and influence that this publishing house has had and continues to have.

We believe that the printed word still matters, and that has been the case since the Stanborough Press was established in 1884 . . . and the Stanborough Press is all of us. We publish; you distribute; God changes lives. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

May God bless all of us in our ministry for Him.


Dušana Rancić,  
Editor: 2023-present





# CONTENTS

---



*‘So shall My word be that  
goes forth from My mouth;  
It shall not return to Me void,  
But it shall accomplish what I please,  
And it shall prosper in the  
thing for which I sent it.’*

Isaiah 55:11

- 04** OPEN DAY
  - 07** CELEBRATION PROGRAMME
  - 08** OUR HERITAGE
  - 18** I REMEMBER . . .
  - 24** STANBOROUGH PRESS TIMELINE
  - 26** OUR PURPOSE
  - 36** OUR VISION
  - 40** OUR PUBLICATIONS
  - 52** STANBOROUGH PRESS  
MANAGERS, EDITORS and  
CURRENT TEAM
-



The Stanborough Press Open Day, 1979



# OPEN DAY

Along with camp meetings, over the years since the Press moved to Grantham, there has been one big event on our yearly calendar – the much-celebrated Stanborough Press Open Day!



The Stanborough Press started to hold an annual Open Day in the 1970s after the new Press building was completed in Grantham, so that people could come and see for themselves the daily operation of the printing and binding machinery, giving them a glimpse of how their literature is produced. This would be an unforgettable experience for curious young children; although, as Graphic Designer David Bell notes, in those days safety considerations weren't given as much thought as they are today! These days, the printing and binding are done elsewhere, but

other much-loved aspects of Open Day remain. The Press has always invited a well-known speaker or author, and over the years we've had Ben Carson, George Knight, Jan Paulsen and Mark Finley. There have been bouncy castles, face painting, and other children's entertainments, and one year there was a life-size statue from Daniel 2, courtesy of Austin James. A variety of food has always been provided, and the music is always inspiring.

Until lockdown, the main meetings were held in a big marquee, giving the event a Camp Meeting feel, reinforced by seeing familiar faces from across the country. Every year, those who come are tremendously blessed. Where better to meet friends and buy a whole library of life-changing books?

*Andrew Puckering, Assistant Editor*



Open Day, 1980

## *I remember . . .* **Stanborough Press Open Day**

Fond memories of childhood visits to the annual Stanborough Press Open Day came flooding back when I was asked to write a contributory article celebrating their 140 years of existence as the official publishing house of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. As a child, Press Open Day was an adventure for our family as we awoke early Sunday morning to make the long trip for what we considered to be a highlight of the year. At the end of the day's event I would be clutching a copy of the latest *Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories*, which I almost completed reading on the journey home!

*Sharon Platt-McDonald, BUC Director for Health, Women's Ministries and Adventist Community Services*





### Leaves of autumn

Autumn is a time of harvest; but it is also a time of renewal. The leaves of deciduous trees change colour, usually from green to a variety of gold, before falling to the ground. And if you have ever tried to clear these leaves, it is a mammoth task.

As I walk through parks on autumn days, I hear the crunch of these leaves underfoot, and I gaze on the beautiful variety of colours that emerge during this special season, my mind is drawn to this quote: 'Publications must be multiplied, and scattered like the leaves of autumn.'

#### The past

For the past 140 years, the Stanborough Press has produced a variety of publications. Currently, they not only produce the monthly *MESSENGER* that is delivered to churches and individual homes and is available for online reading, but they are also responsible for the quarterly *FOCUS* magazine, an outreach tool that is available for a small cost. In addition to creating literature that nurtures the members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and other Christians, the Press also commissions material that can be used directly for evangelism.

#### Literature evangelists

I had the privilege to work more closely with the Stanborough Press when I was the British Union Conference (BUC) Evangelism Director. One of my responsibilities was for the literature evangelists who earned their living through the distribution and sales of Adventist literature. Together with Elisabeth Sangüesa, Stanborough Press General Manager, we not only held training for them, but were able to put in place policies to support them in their ministry.

The joy and delight of literature evangelists was evident as they told story after story of how the books produced by the Stanborough Press had made a difference in the lives of the people they had encountered.

#### Governance

In my current role, I have the privilege to chair the Stanborough Press Board. The trustees are a group of dedicated volunteers who are passionate about the work of literature in spreading the Gospel. It is a blessing to work with such committed people.

Our remit as a governing body is to guide the Press to ensure that it fulfils its mission, as well as encouraging its alignment with the strategic objectives of the British Union Conference as an institution within our territory.

#### Reflecting Hope

From January 2023, a small team of directors and leaders from our head office have worked collaboratively with the Stanborough Press on the Reflecting Hope initiative. Two special editions of *FOCUS* magazine have been produced: one focused specifically on hope,



Open Day, 2019

and the other on compassion.

Stanborough Press staff have also partnered with us in our 2024 '1 Million Reasons' literature campaign to produce 20 leaflets for distribution across the territory. The leaflets were commissioned by the Adventist Discovery Centre (ADC), written by UK-based writers, edited by Stanborough Press staff, and subsidised by Adventist World Radio (AWR) and the BUC.

#### Like the leaves of autumn . . .

Whatever the future holds for the Stanborough Press, whether through the printed page or the digital platform, I believe that the literature work is vital at this time in Earth's history. Millions are reading literature on their phones, Kindles and other devices; but there are also millions who love to turn the pages of a real book for enjoyment.

Let us keep on supporting the work of the Stanborough Press. It is our publishing house in this territory. Together, let us spread the Gospel message through literature 'like the leaves of autumn'.

<sup>1</sup>Ellen G. White, *Colporteur Ministry*, p. 5

*Pastor Eglan Brooks*, President of the British Union Conference



Sale starts at 9am • Programme starts at 11am

Welcome

Music

Presentation

Music

GC President's Address

Recognition

'Building on the past'

Music

Closing remarks

#### Guest Speaker: Kevin Burton

Kevin M. Burton, PhD is the Director of the Centre for Adventist Research and Assistant Professor in the Church History Department at Andrews University. Kevin has done mission work in the Czech Republic and South Korea. He has taught at both Florida State and Southern Adventist University, now concentrating his research on American religious history.



Scan here to subscribe to *MESSENGER* – for all the latest information, special offers and more!

**Messenger**  
Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church  
in the United Kingdom and Ireland

#### Guest Music London Adventist Choral



#### Special Guests

**Steve Apola**, GC Associate Publishing Director

**Dale Galusha**, Pacific Press Publishing Association President

**Dr Philip Baptiste**, ASI Liaison to the North American Division

**Dr Herma Percy**, Director of the International Humanitarian Advocacy Unit, ADRA International

**Marcos Passegi**, *Adventist World*

**Karen Holford**, TED Family Life, Women's and Children's Director

**Pastor David Neal**, TED Communications Director

**Vanesa Pizzuto**, TED Communications and Publishing Director

**Dr Steve Currow**, Newbold Principal

**Paul Hammond**, Retired Stanborough Press Manager 1984-2015

**Graham Barham**, Retired Stanborough Press Chief Financial Officer 2000-2010

**Paul Poddar**, Retired Stanborough Press Bindery Foreman, Production Manager and ABC Manager, 1965-2014

**Stephen Holden**, Retired Stanborough Press Photo Litho Manager, Production Manager and Assistant General Manager 1992-2019

**Pastor Don MacFarlane**, Retired Stanborough Press Board Chairman and BUC President 2006-2011

**Victor Pilmoor**, Retired Stanborough Press Chief Financial Officer 2017-2020

#### Follow us on our social media pages:



[www.facebook.com/stanboroughpress](http://www.facebook.com/stanboroughpress)



[www.instagram.com/stanboroughpress](http://www.instagram.com/stanboroughpress)



[www.youtube.com/@stanboroughpress8964](http://www.youtube.com/@stanboroughpress8964)





Except where otherwise indicated, material in this section has been adapted from David R. Neal, 'Stanborough Press Limited', encyclopedia.adventist.org and David Marshall, 'Stanborough Press: 120 years of service', MESSENGER, August 2014.



The Stanborough Press, Watford

# OUR HERITAGE

Exactly 140 years ago, in 1884, the Stanborough Press was born when the first issue of the periodical *Present Truth* was published in Britain. Ten years later, it was registered under the Companies Act as the International Tract Society, to be renamed the Stanborough Press Ltd. in 1919.



William Ings

**A new mission field:** One cannot understand the history of the Stanborough Press without knowing the story of Seventh-day Adventist literature evangelism in the UK, which began with William Ings. Originally from Dorset, England, Ings became an Adventist in the USA and began to work in Battle Creek, Michigan. Ings initially meant his return to Britain in May 1878 to be a two-week holiday. But Adventism in those days was recognised to be a full-time thing – including holidays! Accordingly, Ings had come armed with a large number of denominational periodicals and tracts. Each had a local four-page supplement, run off by a local printer. About 1,000 copies of them would be circulated each year for two years. First Ings passed them out among the ships in Southampton, and then door-to-door in the city. Even though his work generated results, it would take until 1884 before Adventists set up the first small printing plant in Ravenswood, Southampton, and then only for a brief time.

With Ings arousing so much interest, he felt it appropriate to write to the General Conference (GC), requesting them to send over the most able evangelist they could find. That came as a surprise to the church leadership, because the only Adventist to visit Britain thus far, J. N. Andrews, had done so briefly en route to Switzerland, and had only contacted a few Seventh Day

Baptists. By contrast, Ings had hit the ground running!

Impressed by Ings' appeal, GC president James White decided that it had been a mistake to neglect England. The GC committee, on 27 June 1878, agreed to prioritise a mission to England and chose the best man they could find. John Loughborough, who already had 30 successful years as a preacher behind him, arrived in Southampton on 30 December 1878. By the time Loughborough began his tent meetings, colporteur William Ings had done four months of solid door-to-door work in the city in preparation. Weeks before the tent series began, Ings had already reported that there were 10 Sabbath-keepers in Southampton.

John Loughborough did not need any convincing of the evangelistic potential of publications. He made use of thousands of copies of the American *Signs of the Times* magazine. However, not long after beginning his evangelism, he grasped the importance of putting the Adventist message into an English context for English readers: hence the addition of the four-page local supplement targeting local concerns. However, it was not until the Seventh-day Adventist headquarters moved north to Grimsby in 1884 that the publishing programme really got underway.

A. A. John led the second wave of Adventist pioneers and established the British headquarters at Heneage Road, Grimsby. There, working in a small double-fronted house, M. C. Wilcox issued the first number of copies of *Present Truth* in May 1884.



A lack of type limited it to only four pages.

*Present Truth* began as a fortnightly publication. By the time it became a 16-page weekly in 1885, Adventists had acquired more type and their own printing press. They printed 5,000 copies of each issue and distributed them nationwide by railway between October 1884 and September 1885.

In 1887, the church headquarters and its printing press moved to 451 Holloway Road, London. By the time the leadership had registered the International Tract Society under the Companies Act on 23 August 1894, they had a city office in Paternoster Row with J. I. Gibson as manager. The first home-produced subscription books came off the press in 1892, and George Drew was one of a growing band of literature evangelists. The pattern of evangelism in the 1890s was that the literature evangelists moved in for a minimum of six months before the public evangelist and his team began their work.

As the twentieth century dawned, the Seventh-day Adventist Church embedded itself in the UK. In 1902 the British Union was formally organised, and by 1907 it employed 31 ministers and 19 Bible instructors. But the backbone of the mission outreach was the colporteurs, whose numbers between 1894 and 1914 remained a constant 75. By this time, the most visible sign that the Adventists were in the UK to stay was the purchase in December 1906 of the Stanborough Park estate near Watford, about 20 miles (32 kilometres) from London. The church built a publishing house and food factory in 1907. The new publishing house building on the Park, designed by W. C. Sisley, commenced full production in 1909.

Since the publishing facilities had grown from a humble front room to a large factory, it would be natural to assume that the sales trajectory for the Press was always upward. In reality, the economy then, as now, experienced peaks and troughs. While the British church had built a fit-for-purpose factory, something little more than a dream for the early workers such as Ings, Loughborough, and Wilcox, little did anyone know that, within a few years of the relocation to Stanborough Park, World War I would commence.

With the war breaking out in 1914, the world of printing and publishing changed. The government restricted paper supplies, literature workers were conscripted for national service, and sales fell. And yet the publishing house produced more than the colporteurs were selling.



Ravenswood



Holloway Publishing House Group

## The legacy of Mary Haskell

'The Gospel to the whole world' captured the imagination of early Adventists 10 years before telephones were invented, 20 years before the first radio, 30 years before the first TV, 110 years before the world-wide web. It was an era of weak postal services and economies when bookshops were few and far between. How was it to be done? With a handful of missionaries? They too had limitations.

A home-restricted invalid, Mary E. Haskell of South Lancaster, Massachusetts, imagined how she could contribute to this inspiring goal. At the time, 'tracts' were ascendant tools of media, through which she conceived of sharing the Advent message. To achieve this she established a 'Tract Society', distributing thought-provoking pithy concepts by the tens of thousands. Branches were established in every church, with women taking ownership. The idea grew and was formalised by her husband, Stephen N. Haskell, a church leader who eventually exported it to England in the 1880s as the International Tract Society, a hub for the English-reading world. It was established in Holloway, from which the Stanborough Press, its successor, emerged. Mary was thus more than a lady with simplistic ideas – she was an influencer to be acknowledged by future generations. One hundred and forty years on, the quest for creative opportunities, relevant messages and attractive layout still captures our imagination. Even the BUC's recently announced initiative to share 1 million tracts this year validates our confidence in ink on paper.

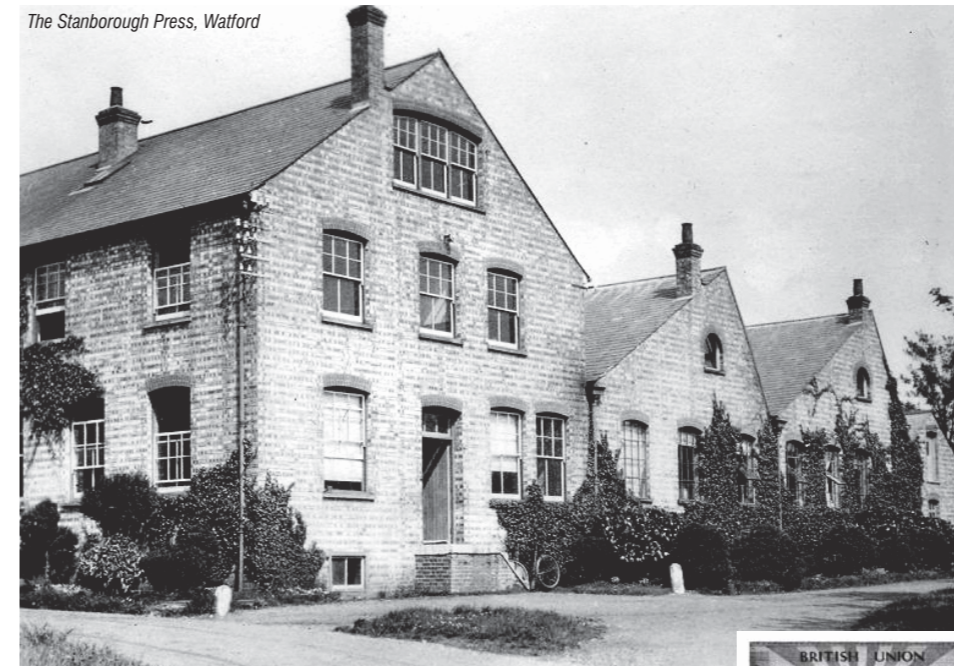
While the good news of Christ's return has always been the headline message, alongside it is the question posed by New Testament writers quoting Ezekiel: 'How then shall we live?' As a consequence, Adventist publishing embraces the literature of peace, loving relationships, equality, justice, education & nurture, and health & temperance.

Mary Haskell's contribution was a ripple, but her legacy of inventiveness has become a wave of creativity, deep reflection, and Christian witness for taking the Gospel to the world in our generation.

Victor Pilmoor  
Treasurer: 2017-2020  
Board Member: 1992, 1993, 2001-2020



Mary Haskell



The Stanborough Press, Watford

**A new name:** Shortly after the First World War ended, the church administration changed the name of the publishing house to The Stanborough Press Limited. The books then being printed for sale by literature evangelists in Britain were *Christ Our Saviour*, *The Great Controversy*, and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, all by Ellen White; *Bible Readings*; and Uriah Smith's *Daniel and the Revelation*. On the magazine front, sales of *Present Truth* had reached 35,000 per fortnight, while *Good Health* sales stood at 25,000 monthly.

In 1922 the publishing house inaugurated a new series of inexpensive stitched books to immediate success. Nearly a quarter of a million sold during the two years 1922 and 1923.

In 1924 the first volume of *Bedtime Stories* by Arthur S. Maxwell came off the press and became an instant bestseller. The Great Crash of 1929 made door-to-door selling extremely difficult, and things flatlined for a time. However, church members continued to distribute the magazines and tracts. The production of paperbacks was ahead of the national publishing trend, and represented one of many initiatives taken by the



progressive and imaginative Arthur Maxwell, who had been Editor since 1920.

Photographs appearing in the *Missionary Worker* (now *MESSENGER*) for 1929 show 32 South Conference (SEC) and 19 North Conference (NEC) colporteurs. The Press had 36 employees in total that year. Alfred Warren (Press Manager) spoke of the success of the Maxwell paperbacks in the British market, and of exports to Australia and Canada. The hardcover bestsellers included *Christ Our Saviour* and *Bible Readings*. They, together with *Bedtime Stories* and *Health and Happiness*, were being exported to South Africa, Mauritius, Newfoundland, Egypt, Trinidad, Bermuda, and Turkey.

Each issue of *Missionary Worker* for 1929 featured conversions resulting from literature evangelism. A 'Colporteurs' Corner' would feature the profile of a successful full-timer. Among them was 18-year-old Bernard Kinman, who would become one of the most outstanding Adventist leaders and preachers in his century.

Sadly, the Britain of the Great Depression and mass unemployment proved calamitous for the colporteur programme, as for much else. During the depression years of the 1930s progress slowed, and by the outbreak of World War II sales had dropped.

The church paper received a new name as the *British Advent Messenger* in 1936. That same year, Arthur Maxwell moved to become the Senior Editor at Pacific Press Publishing Association, then based in California. Leslie Emmerson replaced him and held the Chief Editor's position for 30 years. His *Bible Certainties*, published in 1939, became even more timely when the Blitz began.

Perhaps providentially, during World War II, as in the 1914-1918 conflict, the Stanborough Press continued to operate. Inescapably, it did experience problems with both supply and demand, especially towards the conclusion of the conflict. But British Union President H. W. Lowe, aware that people were reluctant to attend evangelistic meetings during the blackout, urged: 'We must change our methods with the times. . . . Even evangelists and Bible workers must get back to a larger door-to-door work with literature.'

By the end of the war most Stanborough Press publications contained invitations to apply for Bible correspondence courses. The Editor marked the lessons until the BUC transferred the correspondence school to its own office in 1947. That same year saw the appointment of a new associate editor. He signed himself 'Ray D. Vine' and had made his contribution to war-time evangelism by conducting evangelistic meetings in members' homes. First in association with W. L. Emmerson, and, after 1966, as Chief Editor, he brought his grasp of the structure of language and knowledge of contemporary affairs to the service of Adventist publishing. In common with his friend and colleague, Emmerson, Vine would give more than 30 years to the publishing ministry. The 1950s saw an upturn in the economy.

Then, as Press employees walked through the gates of Stanborough Park on 3 January 1964, expecting the usual Press worship at 7.30am, they saw huge flames leaping into the sky. As they rounded the bend in the road, they made the heart-stopping discovery that the Press (in the words of Vine) 'was in the throes of a raging inferno'.



Having 'reduced the shipping department, the art department, the editorial department, the chapel, and the paper store to ashes', the venom of the fire visibly collapsed. Some thought it miraculous that 'the engraving, photo-litho, silkscreen, composing and parts of the press room' survived. On 17 January 1964, *MESSENGER* told colporteurs, 'It's business as usual.' The strongly pro-publishing Union president, J. A. McMillan, presciently told his constituency, 'I am confident that from the ruins of the old Stanborough Press will come a better, more efficient institution, more adequate to cope with the growing demands of the work.'

The fire was not the only tragedy the Press faced in 1964. Adventist publishing in the British Isles produced a number of truly magnificent characters. One of the greatest was Joe Craven, a chartered accountant with considerable expertise in legal matters. In 1949 he succeeded his brother Jack Craven as Press General Manager. He became acquainted with the working details of every department, being himself a capable printer, typesetter and photo-engraver. R. D. Vine wrote, 'Under him the Press acquired new departments which lifted it to vastly higher levels of technical skill and productivity.' A new generation of men joined the staff of the Press under his management. Among the new generation was Mervyn Whiting. The Press would benefit from his expertise for almost half a century.

Craven himself, however, was already suffering from cancer. At one Union session the President said that the Press was Joe Craven's life. But the work of management was not easy. Some of the problems that brought the institution to a crisis point in the later 1960s were already surfacing before fire struck. But the Manager received the news as heartbreaking. Craven's death was announced on 3 July. The editors said it was 'a grievous loss'. As Vine commented, it was 'for forty years, with unflagging energy and with an application that far exceeded the limit of normal duty', that Joe Craven had faithfully served his church.



Joe Craven



The Stanborough Press after the fire had been extinguished

*I remember . . .*  
**The Stanborough Press fire**

On that dark winter's morning, around 7.15am, I was cycling to work as usual with Graham Cox, a friend and fellow printing apprentice, when we first saw flames, which were several metres high, lighting up the dark sky as we entered Stanborough Park from Garston Road. At first sight we thought it was the back of the original school that was on fire, but as we got further up the drive we started to think it was the Granose food factory; however, as we got nearer to the Stanborough Press, we realised to our dismay and horror that it was our building that was going up in flames.

It was later said that someone had walked past the building around 6.30am on their way up to the Granose food factory and everything seemed normal, but within 20-30 minutes part of the building was a raging inferno. By the time we arrived, fire crews were in attendance. It transpired that it was the paper store on the ground floor, plus the offices and worship room above the paper store, at the front of the building, which were on fire and bore the brunt of the damage. The printing area was doused with water to limit fire damage. The bindery also suffered some damage from what I recollect. At first Graham and I couldn't take in what we were seeing; then reality hit us.

After several hours, the fire was finally put out. When the building was made safe, staff were permitted back in, and work started immediately to get the fire damage cleaned up. Most of the printing machinery had rusted up with all the water used to quench the fire. The order book was full of titles for the African market, so our priority was to get the printing presses up and running. Apart from one single colour litho press, which was hastily refurbished so that we could print the regular *MESSENGER* and some other smaller materials, the other large presses were refurbished by machinery professionals as quickly as possible.

During the cleaning-up months we were able to use the estate hall to store paper and have morning worship.

One good thing to come out of this tragedy was that the move to Grantham enabled us to have a new building and allowed staff to eventually purchase their own homes, which they would not have been able to afford if they had stayed in Watford. The Grantham Council were very accommodating in supplying council housing for the staff when they first moved from Watford. We could see God's leading and guiding in this move.

*Ian Thompson*  
Printing Apprentice, Lithographic Printer Journeyman, Litho Department Charge Hand: 1962-2001



The Stanborough Press on fire

The Stanborough Press, newly completed, 1966



Arthur Maxwell

**A new location:** When the new Stanborough Press officially reopened on 30 September, 1966, it was in Grantham, Lincolnshire. At the time of the fire, few, if any, would have forecast or indeed wanted such a move. Watford had developed as a major centre of the printing industry, notwithstanding that it was only 20 minutes by rail from London, the centre of the national publishing industry. Why then relocate to Grantham, and how did it happen?

First, perhaps, it was hard to resist the claim that it was high time that at least one denominational institution be based in the North Conference. Second, the Government was offering financial incentives for companies to move to certain 'development areas' in the north. Early investigations into some of those areas by the Union officers and Press management had not been encouraging. By comparison, the ancient Lincolnshire market town of Grantham looked like a desirable place to live. The low price of housing and the quality of life it offered (by comparison with the increasingly gridlocked Watford) made it appear a desirable place in which to establish a church presence and build the publishing house.

The move to Grantham felt like a bright new dawn. But it was not as bright as hoped. During 1969 the Press management discussed with the Union officers the idea that 'joining forces with an American publishing house' might be a solution to their problems. They explored the idea with the Northern European Division and the General Conference. Word came back that the Review and Herald Publishing Association (R&H) 'would be interested in forging a closer relationship with our Press' (*MESSENGER*, 27 March 1970). In

November 1969 C. E. Palmer, the Manager of R&H, met with the Press officers and negotiated a contract. By February 1970 the two parties had reached what they termed a 'merger agreement', its date set as 1 April 1970. The success of the Press both before and after the merger was still conditional 'upon a much larger corps of literature evangelists'. The Review now felt they had a base in Britain, while the Stanborough Press felt a little more financially secure. The feeling that it was the end of an era increased when news arrived of the death of Arthur Maxwell, 'the dean of editors'. Maxwell had been the Editor in Britain for 16 years, the Editor of the US *Signs* for 34 years, and had written 110 books that had been circulated around the world. The terms of the merger agreement infused trans-Atlantic capital into the Stanborough Press; certain American books could now be printed there; and the monthly edition of *Adventist Review* began to roll off the presses.

The backdrop against which the new Press manager worked was one of political instability. The British government declared a series of states of emergency to deal with



Press General Manager Dennis Archer shows Ron Appenzeller and E. H. Foster the new bindery line

*I remember . . .*  
**Disaster strikes**

In 1964 a fire broke out which almost caused the collapse of the Stanborough Press. Once the fire had been extinguished, they cleaned it all up and within three days they were printing again.

However, the capacity was reduced, and they could not keep up with the demand. They had been exporting books to Africa, and, of course, as soon as production ceased, there were no books to export. They could have rebuilt on Stanborough Park, but they would have been confined to rebuilding more or less what they had lost, and the Press building was no longer really adequate. So they decided to look around and relocate.

*Pastor L. Philip Anderson*  
SP Chaplain: 1967-1972  
ABC Manager: 1979-1984



Staff standing in the charred remains of the Press building



major strikes. They coincided with a power crisis, the result of an explosion in Middle Eastern oil prices. The power cuts caused by this crisis necessitated a three-day working week. But that brought the very best out of the Press's highly skilled and committed workforce. They proved that they could produce more in three long days than in four and a half shorter days. But at the same time, once again, the Stanborough Press experienced plummeting circulations and economic pressures, leading to combining the two signature magazines *Our Times* and *Good Health* under the title *Life and Health* in 1974. The same economic pressures forced the termination of *Life and Health* in 1976.

In 1975, Dennis H. Archer, who had begun as a printer and risen through the ranks, became General Manager. He had a good grasp of the business, and was noted for his collegiate management style. With the national market continuing to pose a problem, W. J. Arthur and his team of publishing directors took many bold initiatives and enjoyed a significant degree of success.

One of the success stories involved Roy Chisholm. Roy and his family were among the many who had migrated from the West Indies to make an excellent contribution to literature ministry in Britain. Based in the flat above the Barnsley church, his work involved souls as well as sales. Many of those baptised at Barnsley during the 1970s represented the fruitage of his ministry. After a successful period as Publishing Director, the leadership ordained Roy to the ministry, and he went on to pastor some of London's larger congregations.

Despite the efforts of some outstanding literature evangelists – David Ahwan, N. A. Burton, William Harper, Arthur Morgan, and G. C. Noel, to name a few – the literature



Roy Warren and Ian Thompson checking the printed sheets coming off the back of the new Heidelberg four-colour press

ministry faced a formidable barrier. The door-to-door approach on which they had always relied was in danger of becoming an obsolete method of marketing. People were apt to feel resentful about someone knocking on their doors to sell something.

While sales at home were weak, through the dedicated support of the Division Publishing Director of the time, Ron Appenzeller (later to become the General Conference Publishing Director), D. H. Archer was able to export books to Nigeria and Ghana, at the time part of the Northern Europe West Africa Division. For a period of eight years such sales to West Africa helped transform the fortunes of the Stanborough Press.

Improved profitability made possible the installation of a fully mechanised bindery line and a state-of-the-art Heidelberg four-colour printing press. Archer also oversaw the change from hot metal to computer typesetting. The Press employees made a major transition to new skills and a new approach to publishing, which in the nation generally had led to strikes and stoppages. Since their arrival in Grantham, the majority of Press employees had become homeowners. However, they had more than just a stake in society. Archer's management skills had given them a sense of partnership in a successful publishing enterprise.

*I remember . . .*

### Transferred to care for the Press family

The Press began functioning in Grantham in 1966. Unfortunately, subsequent to the move there were quite a few redundancies, and the atmosphere at the Press was terrible. Some 140+ people had transitioned to Grantham, and everybody was so discouraged – they had made the move, spent money, acquired mortgages – and no one knew if the Press had a future or not. The redundancies had been necessary due to the loss of the overseas market, because of which fewer books needed printing.

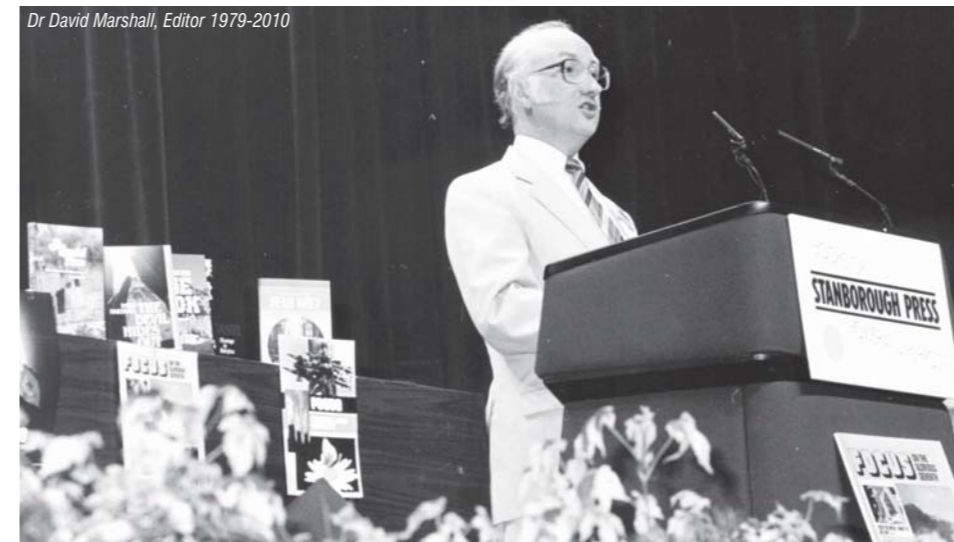
I was asked to serve as Chaplain to the Press at this difficult time. As far as I'm aware, I was the only person ever appointed to this role, as it was traditionally fulfilled by the Press Manager. In view of the delicate situation, Pastor Ken Elias wanted to appoint someone who was completely independent.

One of my duties was to lead out in worship once a week. Every Friday morning, I used to trek up to the Press at 7.30am to conduct worship, and then I would spend a couple of hours in the factory, just going around talking to people. I was there for five years.

Pastor L. Philip Anderson, SP Chaplain: 1967-1972, ABC Manager: 1979-1984



The Stanborough Press staff, 1968



**A new editor:** After a period of almost two years without a full-time editor, Dr David Marshall arrived in January 1979, charged to edit the Union paper (*British Advent Messenger*) and revive a magazine and book programme. In his early 30s, he had spent 11 years combining full-time teaching with PhD research. By the time of his arrival, the Composing Department had retrained its staff in computer typesetting and graphics.

Marshall's instructions were to minimise the time spent on the *MESSENGER* (as it was now called) to one day in a fortnight. Eventually he realised that, with a little more time and creativity, the Union paper could be the Press's flagship publication. By September 1979, with the help of Barry Alen, the Art Editor, he was able to publish the pilot issues of two new periodicals, bringing back to life the magazine programme.

Eager to appeal to a wider readership than 'the religious', he followed W. J. Arthur's suggestion and titled the message magazine *Focus*. In the belief that a first-approach magazine was also required, he persuaded the publishing fraternity to produce *Family Life*. The idea was that each issue would contain an interview with a well-known person who was either a Christian or committed to vegetarianism and healthy living. He sought to aim the magazine at secular people concerned about health and family issues.

The 1979 pilot issue of *Focus* sold 100,000 copies in seven weeks. *Family Life* took the remainder of the year to sell its 32,000-print run. The Press management chose to continue with both magazines – *Focus* on a quarterly basis, and *Family Life* as bi-monthly. Philip Anderson, the Marketing Director, took on responsibility for circulation. Both magazines depended for their success on the goodwill of the church membership.

Since the early 1970s the publishing house had held an annual Press Open Day in September. A well-known speaker was one of many attractions for a sizeable proportion of the Adventist constituency to turn out and buy magazines, books, and health foods. Press employees marvelled at the numbers and spending power of their fellow believers. Each year, beginning in 1982, those who manned the Press supermarket at annual camp meetings had additional opportunities to marvel.

Both British conferences held camp meetings. They were essential to the Press's survival, as was the support of Personal Ministries teams throughout the British Isles and the faithfulness of the mainly ageing force of literature evangelists. The management suspected, however, that, as in the recent past, the publishing house in its current form ever more depended on finding overseas markets for its products.

One cannot underestimate David Marshall's impact on the life and work of the Stanborough Press from 1979 to 2010. Marshall's gift was communicating the Gospel through the written word, but greatly influenced by his love of history. Beginning with *Where Jesus Walked*, for the next 25 years he wrote and published one book a year.

Deeply rooted in the heritage of British Adventism (born in Ulceby, close to Grimsby, the location of the first UK publishing house), his enthusiasm for the UK church to grow was a constant in his writing. As interested as he was about its numerical growth, particularly in reaching the indigenous British and Irish, his even greater concern was that his fellow believers should enjoy the full and abounding joy of the Gospel of Christ. It was critical for Marshall that contemporary Adventism understood its mission to continue the Reformation with its reawakened essentials of the Christian faith: *Sola*

*I remember . . .*

### Prayer and books

It has been written: 'The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless study, prayerless works. . . . He laughs at our toil, mocks our "wisdom", but he trembles when we pray.' *Prayer and books* have been important for me. Indeed, I have built a lifetime around this conviction: *We are what we read.*

David Marshall, Editor: 1979-2010



Alison Jeins running the Stanborough Press stand at CBC 1989



*Scriptura* (Scripture alone), *Sola Fide* (faith alone), *Sola Gratia* (grace alone), *Solus Christus* (Christ alone), and *Soli Deo Gloria* (to the glory of God alone). His writings shone with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ as the antidote to legalistic works as the basis for righteousness.

During the mid-1980s the Press management team made annual visits to the Christian Booksellers Convention. By the late 1980s the publishing house had created the 'Autumn House' range of books and showcased them in an impressive booth at the Christian Booksellers Convention. As a result, Stanborough Press books (traded as Autumn House books) appeared for sale in Christian bookshops throughout the UK and in most of Ireland. It had a positive effect on the way other Christians viewed Adventists.

Orders for the Autumn House series also came from North America and Australia. Overseas authors presented Marshall with manuscripts. Between half a dozen and 25 new titles came off the Press each year between 1990 and 2012. However, such a visionary evangelistic venture would not have been possible had the General Manager of the time, Paul Hammond, not been successful in his search for overseas markets.

At first, overseas orders arrived from the Inter-American Division. However, Paul Hammond's visits to the African continent produced sales beginning in the early 1990s on which the current viability of the publishing house rests. Only the constant travels of Paul Hammond and, since 2015,



Barry Bell, John Sutton, E. H. Foster and Dennis Archer with the Linotype-Paul typesetting system around 1979



Ian Thompson and Roy Warren running the new Heidelberg Speedmaster four-colour press

the current general manager, Elisabeth Sangüesa, ensured repeat customers. In countries like Kenya and Zambia there continued to be vast armies of literature evangelists who needed constant supplies of suitable publications. The quality of Stanborough Press products and the excellent relationships Hammond made created great demand across the English-reading countries of Africa.

As the printing industry during the 1970s to the 1990s experienced massive technological advances, the Press moved with the times. Hot-metal typesetting was phased out in 1979 with the introduction of computer typesetting, first with a new Linotype-Paul system, and then in 1987 the house installed a Compugraphic system. The year 1990 saw the replacement of the Crabtree Sovereign with a new Heidelberg Speedmaster VP102, CPC Tronic four-colour press.

**A new crisis:** During the late 1990s the General Conference took steps to introduce a free market internationally. The publishing houses that could compete on both price and quality of product would succeed, and those that could not would go to the wall. The result was that the Stanborough Press found itself in stiff competition with other publishing houses, not least for the export markets of Africa.

Since the early 1980s the Stanborough Press management team had been aware that the publishing houses that succeeded were not those that did their own printing and finishing. In the world in general, as well as in the denomination, publishing houses began to outsource such functions to specialist companies which, because of their volume of work, could significantly cut unit costs.

The harsh realities of stiff competition for exports led to the decision of the Stanborough Press Board in October 2001 to vote the closure of the production unit starting in June 2002, and to make the Stanborough Press a publisher (as opposed to a printer and publisher). Printing and binding would be outsourced. This decision that resulted in redundancies was not taken lightly. It was a serious blow to the morale of the staff, particularly those who had relocated from Watford in the 1960s. But it was this action of major rationalisation that enabled the Stanborough Press to stay in business as a viable, mission-driven publisher. In 2002, none could see the looming global 'Credit Crunch' of 2008 and the worldwide recession that resulted from it. If the changes hadn't taken place, the Press may have closed. The General Manager's report to the Press Board for 2010-2013 indicated that, given the international economic scene, the Press had weathered the recession.



Despite the upset and trauma of the fire and the move, the staff still maintained a sense of humour. Here, Martin Bell, Barry Bell and Peter Howard, dressed as company executives, pretend to strike a deal and sign contracts.

**A new era:** Just as things were beginning to settle and the Press seemed to be gaining strength once again after the recession, another wave of changes came along. After many decades of service, a number of senior members of management and staff gradually retired or moved on to other responsibilities in different institutions around the world, which meant that a new team had to be put in place.

Although the number and composition of the team changed, what remained the same, and continues to do so, is the commitment and professionalism of our team, despite the different challenges in recent years. Despite a global health crisis without precedent; ongoing wars over the last few years in several of the territories we serve; currency volatility among most of our export customers; the change in demographics within our church in the UK; shifts in purchasing patterns, especially after the pandemic; increased competition from other publishing houses; and the cost-of-living crisis . . . the Lord has provided renewed opportunities every step of the way in order for us to be able to fulfil our mission.

With the arrival of a younger diverse team, the Press was able to continue its expansion in the export market, reaching previously unentered territories while continuing with our traditional booksales in churches around the country and now in Europe as well, manning our stores, serving the international HHES, attending events, and hosting our annual Open Day.

Publishing and distributing titles in other languages than English has helped us not only to reach other European, American, African and Far-Eastern countries, but also to cater for the growing multicultural membership in the UK and Ireland.

During this period, and following the re-structure of our longstanding partner the Review and Herald at the end of 2014, we have continued to strengthen our partnership with the Pacific Press (USA) and Signs Publishing (Australia), as well as with numerous other sister publishing houses around the world, resulting in having a wider range of



products available to serve our members, as well as having a variety of our titles printed in more than 22 languages.

Continuing the legacy of David Marshall, our subsequent editors have continued to produce holistic Bible-based printed and digital resources for the physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being of the whole family. We continue to make a contribution to the world church, not only by distributing a wide variety of literature from numerous publishers, but also by contributing to the growth and training of our members and leaders with our own publications, some of which are featured periodically in several international denominational magazines, as well as in the UK trade catalogues.

With the introduction of our online store ([www.lifeforcebookshop.co.uk](http://www.lifeforcebookshop.co.uk)) in 2020, the Lord has expanded our territory even further.

We remain committed to using all the means of The Stanborough Press Ltd., in collaboration with the different entities and departments of the church, to develop, produce and distribute books, periodicals, electronic media, and any other products that will introduce people to Jesus and affirm the Seventh-day Adventist faith.

Elisabeth Sangüesa  
General Manager: 2015-present



Mark Walmsley and Paul Brewin preparing an export order



The Pre-Press Department



*I remember . . .*

## Stanborough Press work in Africa

In the late 1950s and continuing into the sixties the Stanborough Press exported books to West Africa. Mainly these were shipped in wooden crates, not in the containers that we use these days.

The Stanborough Press fire of 1964 had a dramatic effect on the work that was undertaken and sent to Africa. The stock of finished books which the Stanborough Press had was all burnt; all that remained were some unbound signatures of books in the rear warehouse. These books were initially used for the British market.

The Stanborough Press moved to Grantham in 1966, with Pastor Walter Newman as the Manager. Money was in very short supply, and the British Union supported us financially to purchase supplies and pay salaries for a while. It was some time before we were able to produce books to send to Africa, and the financial situation made it a difficult time.

The British Union decided that if the Stanborough Press was to be a publishing house, it would need more financial support than they were able to give.

It was decided to negotiate with the Review and Herald to see if they would be prepared to take on the Stanborough Press, and so it was that the Stanborough Press was managed and run for a number of years by the Review and Herald. (I was appointed to the position of Manager at Stanborough on the recommendation of the Review and Herald.) This made a tremendous difference, for not only did they donate some of their used equipment, but they also agreed to supply books to us for distribution in

Africa at the printing cost which they had incurred. They also decided to print the *Bible Story* set and other books at the Stanborough Press. They gave us permission to adapt a three-volume set of health books which they would produce, condensing them into a two-volume set entitled *Your Health in Your Hands* for distribution in West Africa.

The West African Union was at that time part of our



division – this meant that we were able to supply books to West Africa, and, using transferred funds, the Division paid the Stanborough Press directly. This meant that we had no difficulty in getting paid for the books. This certainly secured the financial situation of the Stanborough Press.

I first became interested in the African market when a container of books which we had shipped to Nigeria was, according to the shipping line, offloaded at Port Harcourt instead of Lagos. The ship which the books were on was hijacked in Lagos and finally scuttled off the coast of Liberia. As the container had, according to the shipping line, been offloaded at the previous port, there was no insurance cover for it. Although it was not my responsibility, I took it upon myself to go to Liverpool and try to see the Managing Director of the shipping line. When I arrived at the shipping line office and tried to see the Managing Director, I was asked if I had an appointment. I had to say no. I was told that the only way was to make an appointment, but it would not be possible that day. I explained the situation to the Managing Director's secretary, and she stated that, as far as they were concerned, the shipment had been offloaded in Port Harcourt, and therefore there was no point for us to claim otherwise.

I noticed someone coming out of the Managing Director's office, and so I just went in, with the secretary hard on my heels, saying that I hadn't received permission to go in. The Managing Director graciously asked me to sit down. I explained the situation and told him that over the years all of the containers from the Stanborough Press had been shipped to Lagos, and had never been offloaded at Port Harcourt.

He then asked me how I knew that our container had not been offloaded at Port Harcourt. I told him that I didn't know myself, but I knew someone who did.

He said, 'And who is this individual?'

I stated that the individual was indeed our Lord and Saviour.

At this point, he got out a pen and letterhead and wrote a letter to the insurance company stating that our container was on the ship when it was scuttled off the coast of Liberia. We were the only ones to get an insurance settlement on any cargo on this ship. I was taken to Lloyds of London and presented with a cheque for over £75,000, which in the 1970s was a lot of money!

After that, if there were any problems in shipments to Africa, the management of the Stanborough Press asked me to sort them out!

When the Western Union became part of a new division, it was not so easy for us to ship to West Africa, as the situation had changed – we had to find ways of receiving payments from these countries for our exported books, which then posed quite a problem, which I believe continues to this day.

Regarding East and Southern Africa, a different situation arose. The General Conference, under the leadership of Elder Falkenberg, decided that there was going to be an open market for publishing houses. This gave us the opportunity of working with the two new divisions of Southern and Eastern Africa. I then travelled with Elder Robert Kinney, the President of the Review and Herald, to Harare to visit the Publishing Director of the Division. When we arrived to see the Publishing Director, we were told he had been involved in an accident in Mozambique, and they did not know how soon he would be



Barry Mallinson on the forklift, loading books onto a container bound for Zimbabwe

available. We decided to stop in Harare for a few days to see if he would be able to get back to see us.

Two days later, in the middle of the night, Pastor Mwakamba arrived at the guest house and knocked on the door. When I opened the door I saw this individual, unshaven with a bloodstained shirt. I just put my arms around him and held him tight. It was a strange situation – I'd never

met this individual before, and yet there seemed to be a bond between us.

Later in the morning, Elder Kinney and I had a meeting with the Publishing Director and the Division officers, and they decided that we would be the preferred publishing house to supply books to East Africa. (Interestingly, the President of the General Conference wrote to the BUC that it was not his intention that Union publishing houses like the Stanborough Press should supply books to Africa – it was his intention for the R&H to supply North America, and for the Pacific Press to supply Africa.) From that time on, we were able to develop a relationship with the various unions in Southern Africa. We had a number of challenges in getting money out of the various countries, and had to find interesting solutions to these problems. In Zimbabwe we had the Zimbabwe Union print Sabbath School quarterlies for us, which we then shipped to other African countries and used in the UK market – this was the way in which they were able to pay us for the supplies we sent to them.

On my first meeting with the Publishing Director in Zambia, a different situation arose, as he had just been asked to serve as Conference President. After I agreed to supply a container of books, he declined the position and continued as Publishing Director, and the publishing work expanded fast under his leadership. (He is now the President of the Southern Africa Division.)

With East Africa, a different situation arose once again. After the General Conference had given us permission to supply books outside of our own division, I took the opportunity to visit the Kenyan Union in Nairobi. They had just appointed a new manager of the Adventist Book Centre in Nairobi by the name of Elkana Kerosi. He was a very enthusiastic young man, and wanted us to ship a container of books to Nairobi (we had until this time been shipping books to Nairobi in 5kg packages).

The first thing we tried to do was to get the Union to guarantee the books that the Book Centre wanted – they were in no way prepared to do this, as it would mean changing from a few 5kg parcels to a container of books, the monetary value of which would surpass the total budget of that whole union!

The next step was to approach the Division, but they had the same opinion as the Union. I remember that night praying for guidance from the Lord as to how we should handle the situation. Kerosi was so enthusiastic, and stated that he was positive that they would be able to pay for the container of books within six months. I made the decision then to ship a container of books to Kenya. (Perhaps this was why, at my farewell party, Victor Pilmoor, the BUC Treasurer, stated that I had at times worried them with my maverick decisions.)

We shipped a container of books to Kenya, and they paid for them within the six months as Elder Kerosi had promised. After this, the literature evangelism work exploded in Kenya, with professionals, including doctors and lawyers, working as part-time literature evangelists. This set an example to the rest of the East Africa Division, and we then started to supply books to other countries within the Division.

There is so much more that I could say about the African market, but above all I would say that it was the Lord who had His hand over it in every situation. I was fortunate during my time as Manager to work with Graham Barham, who was the Financial Director for 11 years. Not only did he undertake the role of Financial Director, but he also visited Africa on a number of occasions in a marketing role.

*Paul Hammond*  
General Manager: 1984-2015

## Giving thanks

It's a rare privilege to be associated with the Stanborough Press, UK. We give glory to the Lord for having placed Stanborough at a strategic place in the history of the Publishing Ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We were welcomed to be associated with the Stanborough Press by Paul Hammond in 1987. Through the management of the Stanborough Press we were able to build a strong publishing work in Kenya. Through the able Stanborough Press leadership, we were able to get a variety of books for the Kenyan market, then part of the East African Union. The Stanborough Press has dedicated employees who have served us with total commitment. We had the opportunity of being able to visit and interact with the staff of this institution.

The Stanborough Press has gone beyond the call of duty and served us with no reservation, and that is why it made such a historic impact, which is still being felt in West Africa, Southern Africa and East Africa.

May God bless the Stanborough Press as you celebrate the 140th anniversary of your operations. We are blessed to be associated with the entire team at Stanborough.

*Kerosi Elkana*  
Treasurer  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
North-East Congo Union Mission



Fire-damaged books



*I remember . . .*

## Mission, family and worship

Thirty-two years ago, I arrived in Grantham with my wife and two young daughters to take up the role of Pre-Press Manager. I remember feeling a sense of privilege to be part of the 'Press family'. I looked forward to playing a part in the ongoing publishing work of our church, being aware that at the dawn of our church history Ellen White had been shown in vision that her husband James should publish a 'little paper' to launch the Adventist publishing ministry, and she referred to it as being like 'streams of light that went clear round the world'.

This was an opportunity for me to be involved directly in that mission – helping produce material that could influence sincere truth seekers here in the UK and beyond. My wife and I felt impressed that this new venture for us in 1992 was an answer to prayer, and that I could have an active part to play in this ministry. On accepting the appointment and relocating to Grantham, we experienced many benefits and blessings – in spite of a reduced salary – which included both our daughters being able to receive a Christian education at Dudley House School – something that we thank God for to this day.

During the following twenty-seven years of employment at the Press, I had the privilege of working alongside many talented, dedicated and highly skilled colleagues, both on management teams and within the various departments I had responsibility for. It was also an enriching experience to worship with such a workforce. Every morning, at 7.30am, we started with a spiritual thought and prayer, requesting God's leading and guidance for whatever the day might bring our way. We knew that if we *trusted in the Lord with all our heart and leant not on our own understanding, but in all our ways acknowledged Him – He would direct our paths* (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

We were a close-knit, flexible group that had its fair share of problems and challenges to face over the years, but we met them together with God by our side, so not one proved insurmountable.

On reflection, those years (of which I am thankful to have been part) were very rewarding in many ways. It was a privilege to have been involved in the production and distribution of Bibles and Christian literature that supplies our own UK membership, and to join forces with export partners to help carry that *Torch of Truth* forward, continuing to provide those 'streams of light around the world'.

*Steve Holden, 1992-2019: Photo Litho Manager, Production Manager, Assistant General Manager*



*I remember . . .*

## A new regular publication

For many, many years, the Press had produced what was called *The Morning Watch*. This was a little book of daily readings with a church directory at the back. But this publication was losing its popularity. When I was ABC Manager in the 1970s, I got hold of a calendar that had been produced by the German publishing house in Hamburg. The first year, I got them to produce one for the Stanborough Press. Subsequently, David Marshall suggested we produce what was called the 'Family Life' calendar. And every year since then, the Press has produced a calendar, a tradition I'm proud to have had a hand in establishing.

*Pastor L. Philip Anderson, 1967-1972: SP Chaplain; 1979-1984: ABC Manager*



*I remember . . .*

## A young man

He was fifteen years old (1955) when he left his West Country home and travelled the 120 miles to Watford to join the workforce of the Stanborough Press. He had been offered a seven-year apprenticeship in the Composing Room, where the type was set for the books and magazines. As well as gaining this hands-on experience, he enrolled at the local technical college in Watford for the theory of printing for two evenings each week. His weekly pay packet for the 9½ hours of work Monday-Thursday and 5 hours on Friday was £2! (The cost of his accommodation was £2 per week, inclusive of meals.) His landlady was known for her love of fresh air at all times, and had a no-nonsense approach to life!

It was the Press family who gave him the friendship and encouragement that he needed in those early days. It was there that he made lifelong friends who worked alongside him over the years. Managers came and went. Editors came and went. But, over the years, many of those faithful friends worked together until their retirement. He was just short of fifty years of service when finished. He would not have had it any other way!

*John Sutton, 1955-2002: Composing and Pre-Press; with Esme Sutton*



*John Sutton, producing the MESSENGER on the Compugraphic system*

*I remember . . .*

## Working in the shop

I came to Grantham as a teenager, leaving Watford where we had spent a year, having moved from South Shields in 1965. I was too young to start nurse training, which was my plan, so I joined the office staff at the Press in 1966. The management sent me to the local college to learn various office skills, including touch typing (which I can still do) and double-entry book keeping (still a mystery), but office work was not for me, and I left after a few months.

When I was 16 or 17 I was offered a job in the newly opened Book, Bible and Health Centre, which was managed by Ed Johnson, the Sales Manager at the Press. Its purpose was to sell Christian books (many published by the Stanborough Press), Bibles and health foods, and to be a witness in the town. Many an interesting conversation was held in these premises. . . . Stock was kept in the (damp) cellar; health foods were weighed and wrapped and sent out from the back of the building; and Verna While (now Smith) and I worked in the shop and office. Risk assessments were a thing of the future. At 18, I left the shop and started my career as a nurse. The shop continued for many years. . . .

*Karen Shelbourn, Office Staff and Shop Assistant*



*Left to right: Graham Wallis; Ed Johnson; Verna While and Karen Shelbourn, née Moore*

*I remember . . .*

## Working on the Sovereign

I started work in the Press room in 1979, helping Geoff Mallinson on the two-colour Mann Master press. Then I was asked to help Ian Thompson on the four-colour Sovereign for nine years. After that I went to the bindery for some time, finished my working life in dispatch, and retired in September 2016!

I worked on the four-colour Sovereign printing press with Ian Thompson from 1981 till 1989. My favourite job was loading the paper for the machine to print the *Bible Story* sets. After I finished loading, it was satisfying to see four 'flat' sides of the load without any of the sheets sticking out!

If you ask David Bell for *his* 'lasting memory', he would say it's me hanging on to the top handrail of the walkway of the machine and jumping up and down on the waste paper in the cage to try and get as much paper into the cage as we could!

*William Johnston, 1979-2016: Press Room, Bindery and Dispatch Worker*



*Left to right: Graham Cox, Ian Thompson and William Johnston*

*I remember . . .*

## Building a place of worship

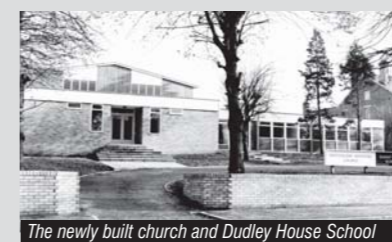
One of the promises made when the Press moved to Grantham was that the Conference would build them a church. Architect Malcolm Bayliss had drawn up a fantastic plan, but the problem was that it was going to cost £2,500,000-£3,000,000 – a vast sum in those days. The Conference was taken aback, and had to tell the Press staff that they would not be able to build them a church – another cause of disappointment.

Anyway, I managed to persuade the folks that if they wanted a church, they would have to build it themselves. The Press folks responded magnificently. Almost all the talents and abilities needed were available, and everyone joined in.

The church was designed on my kitchen table. We tested the layout one Sunday morning with tent pegs and string. When work began, the men used to turn up almost every Sunday to do the landscaping, concreting and work outside the church. The various inside features were designed by different people, including Philip Anderson, John Sutton, Glyn Meredith and others, and the ladies mucked in with the decorating. The light fittings were Woolworths' best. I was given the job of buying up shades from all the different Woolworths shops in the area, as each store only stocked around half a dozen, and we needed about 60-70!

The Press workers had also been promised a school, and at that point Dudley House School, currently part of the church complex, was operating in a wartime hut on the grounds of the Press, built when the site was part of RAF Alma Park. However, the school was part of the new build right from the start. So, in effect, it ended up being almost a mini Stanborough Park, with a church, a school and a publishing house.

*Pastor L. Philip Anderson, 1967-1972: SP Chaplain; 1979-1984: ABC Manager*



*The newly built church and Dudley House School*

*I remember . . .*

## The Stanborough Press fire

The fire that devastated the Stanborough Press early in January 1964 left the Press family deeply distressed. On that fateful morning, workers making their way to the Press saw the dark sky lit up with a red glow. As they drew nearer, their worst fears were realised. Flames were leaping high, and a pathetic trickle of water from the firemen's hoses was having little effect on the flames – the water pressure was too low! The question 'Why?' was on the workers' lips.

'Why has God allowed this to happen?' In time, the fire was brought under control. The workers were sent home! They left behind the charred and smoking remains. They carried with them the acrid smell of smoke, and heavy hearts. They were in shock! It was awful! That night, some workers returned to keep watch. The building creaked and groaned as if in sympathy.

The workforce returned the next working day, and began the big clean-up operation! There was no time for nursing regrets. Amazingly, the machinery that was not damaged by water, but had been affected by the smoke, was readied for action in just a few days. Because the roof over the printing presses had been destroyed, the two 2-colour presses had to be thoroughly cleaned and checked over before any printing could be done. It took a while before the familiar sounds of the machinery churning out the printed page filled the building once again.

It was days later that the charred remains reignited – the residual heat was so intense! However, many reams of paper were rescued; the charred edges were cut off, and it was put to good use at the local Kingsway Primary School, where the children appreciated drawing and painting on high-quality paper, even though it 'smelt funny'!

It was just one of the good things, large and small, that followed that disastrous event. Many other things followed in quick succession. God showed His love for His workers in many wonderful ways!

*John Sutton, 1955-2002: Composing and Pre-Press; with Esme Sutton*



*Clean-up after the fire – left to right: Barry Bell and Don Lale*

*I remember . . .*

## The fighting spirit

Then there was Trenny – Mr Trenholm, the engineer. In the night of the long knives when they got rid of staff, Mr Trenholm was one of those who were made redundant. But he was a very determined character and refused to go. He just kept turning up for work, and eventually he was reinstated and became part of the Press staff again.

*Pastor L. Philip Anderson, 1967-1972: SP Chaplain; 1979-1984: ABC Manager*



*Mr Trenholm, 1964*



## THE STANBOROUGH PRESS BOARD CHAIRS

### 140 years of the Stanborough Press

The publishing work has, from the early days of the advent movement, played an important role in the spreading of the everlasting Gospel to the whole world. We give thanks for the sustaining hand of God over the publishing work of the UK-based Stanborough Press over the past 140 years.

During my service to the church in Jamaica and in the British Isles, the Stanborough Press has been a silent partner in ministry, speaking through the pages of its publications and leaflets – the Sabbath School quarterlies, books for the home, books for colporteurs and for outreach, and much more.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of interacting with many of the dedicated workers serving at the Press, and I have been impressed by their commitment to duty even in the face of change. With the rise of new technologies, the Press had to find efficiencies in working, which sadly included the outsourcing of printing. The goal was always to support the viability of this important ministry of the church, which benefited from the long service of the workers, managers and editors. Additionally, the Stanborough Press liaised with other publishing houses, such as the Pacific Press and Review and Herald, each supporting the other publishing houses' distribution of books.

Through all my years of working with the Stanborough Press I have seen how it has developed and adapted to changes on the world scene and in technologies, and how it has widened its distribution base by exploring different ways of marketing its products – all of which have contributed to its sustainability. But, much more than this, the spark that keeps the work going is the Master's call to spread the everlasting Gospel into all the world. Only in heaven will we know the true influence of the work of the Stanborough Press – on its workers, on those who have read its publications, and on those who have shared them with others. Through the changing times, may its light continue to shine.

*Pastor Cecil Perry, BUC President/Chair: 1991-2006*

### The future

The past 140 years have seen much change in the world – change that has affected the way that literature is produced. From having an on-site printing press to the utilisation of digital printing and online platforms such as the *LifeSource* shop, the Stanborough Press has entered a new phase.

With the rise of AI, audiobooks, literature shorts and books designed specifically for digital readers, there is scope for much growth and diversification. The need for literature that appeals to a teen audience, who seem almost afraid of 'real books', is an imperative, as well as the development and growth of new writing voices who can bring the message of salvation to a twenty-first-century audience in relevant ways.

*Pastor Eglan Brooks, BUC President/Chair: 2021-present*



### The imperative of literature evangelism

Seventh-day Adventism arrived officially in the British Isles in 1878 in the person of John Loughborough, who was appointed for this important role by the General Conference. Very early on, Adventist church leaders realised that the printed page was essential to the presentation of the third angel's message and the expansion of the church in this territory.

It seems that we have come full circle since that time. Evangelism in the British Union is proving as challenging now as it did then. The church is growing, but this growth is fuelled largely by Adventists moving to the UK from overseas. Perhaps it is time to make literature evangelism mainstream again, and place Gospel-filled books and magazines in the homes of tens of millions who otherwise would go through life without having discovered the joy of salvation and the hope of eternal life.

'There are many places in which the voice of the minister cannot be heard, places which can be reached only by publications, – the books, papers, and tracts that are filled with the Bible truth that the people need. Our literature is to be distributed everywhere. The truth is to be sown beside all waters; for we know not which shall prosper, this or that' (Ellen G. White, *Southern Watchman*, 5 January 1904).

*Pastor Don McFarlane, BUC President/Chair: 2006-2011*

### Why we need the Stanborough Press!

From an early age, the Stanborough Press has been an integral part of my life, beginning with attending the Press Open Day, either as a family or as part of a church-organised day out. Latterly, I have been involved in or chairing Stanborough Press boards and witnessing the inner workings of the publishing house.

What I never realised as a child is that the Stanborough Press has been engaged in the ministry of speaking truth to power for the past 140 years!

In publishing and distributing books such as *The Great Controversy* and *The Great Hope* by Ellen G. White, the Stanborough Press is committed to speaking truth to power. Through such books it shows to its readers that powerful people, governments and organisations will be held accountable for their mistreatment of vulnerable people who just want to live by the convictions of their spirit.

We need the Stanborough Press today, as it publishes and distributes literature that shares the truth – the truth that is Jesus Christ.

At the time of writing, the UK is in the midst of election campaigning. Opposing political parties are accusing one another of telling lies and not being able to deliver their promises. We need someone to tell the truth, and I am grateful for the many publications that the Stanborough Press shares, for each and every one is committed to telling the truth.

Jesus said to those who believed in Him (John 8:31, 32, GNT): 'If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'

*Pastor Ian Sweeney, BUC President/Chair: 2011-2021*



### After 140 years: still looking for Someone to come?

A few nights ago, I gave much thought to what could result from Vladimir Putin's imperial ambitions. I re-read certain biblical passages for inspiration. The goings-on in the Middle East were also a subject of prayer. In the early hours of the morning I awoke with the word-for-word account of a quotation in my brain. Aware that I had read the quotation somewhere, but that I might forget it by morning, I wrote it down.

This was the quote: 'We are not looking for something to happen: we are looking for Someone to come.'

In the morning, I googled the quote. The author was Vance Havner. The name was only distantly familiar. Google furnished me with the full quotation. It could be taken as an answer to my concerns: 'When these things begin to come to pass, we are not to drop our heads in discouragement or shake our heads in despair, but lift up our heads in delight.'

I checked my library and eventually found a book by Vance Havner. In the book, I had highlighted the quote that remained in my subconscious.

Going to sleep after the Ten O'Clock News can be a very dark experience. The news lists the events that are 'coming to pass'. Remember what our pioneers were writing in our magazines 140 years ago. You can look for things that are happening and, over time, become accustomed to the darkness. The alternative is to look for Someone to come.

*Dr David Marshall, Editor: 1979-2010*

### More important than ever

The publishing work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is more important now than it has ever been. As the longest-serving Adventist institution in the British Isles, the Stanborough Press has seen a lot of change, and has itself had to change in order to meet the needs of an ever-evolving missional landscape. For example, while 140 years ago the UK could have been described as a Christian nation, today, like many places in the world, it is increasingly being identified as post-truth and post-Christian. There can be no denying that we live in difficult and divisive days, a time defined by echo chambers, 'itching ears', and disinformation. Like Pontius Pilate, who was presented with 'alternative facts' about Jesus Christ, many people today find it difficult to know who and what to trust, and find themselves similarly asking the question, 'What is truth?' Throughout society's changes, we can be comforted by the fact that the Gospel will never change, and that the truth that human hearts yearn for can only be found in the Person of Jesus Christ. The challenges of today are enormous and are very different to those of yesteryear; yet, as one of my favourite Christian authors assures us, 'We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history' (Ellen G. White, *Life Sketches*, p. 196).

The publishing work is an important part of our history, and an even more important part of our future.

*Pastor Julian Thompson (DPhil, Oxon), Editor: 2022-2023*



## THE STANBOROUGH PRESS EDITORS

### Books change lives. . . . Thank God for publishing houses!

My mother and father were introduced to the Seventh-day Adventist Church during the early 1960s by Vivian Jeffreys, who was in charge of a small hospital that served the vast Illovo Sugar Estate and its factory staff.

It was then, as her new convictions about salvation, baptism, Sabbath-keeping, and so on began to face opposition, that my mother discovered a book that had been sitting on her bookshelf for years: *Bible Readings for the Home* by Arthur S. Maxwell. It had been printed by **The Stanborough Press Limited** – 12,441 kilometres away – and sold to *her* mother by a literature evangelist sometime during the 1940s! At that moment in our family history, nothing could have been more welcome in our home than this precious book, for it powerfully confirmed the truth of what my parents were hearing from their new-found Adventist friends!

Mum was baptised on 9 September 1962, and the rest of us followed over the next decade or so: her mother; me; her brother and sister-in-law; my father; my three siblings; and two cousins!

Books change our relationships, beliefs, attitudes and actions. Let's thank God that books change lives, while taking some time to reflect on just how they have changed yours.

I thank God for the staff at The Stanborough Press: those who work with words, for your creativity, your crisp and logical thinking, the warm and gracious tone of your language, and your humour and humility; and those who work with images, for allowing your layout and design to enhance and serve the text; and those who carefully check the finest details, for your outstanding contribution to the process of ensuring linguistic purity and visual coherence, without which we would certainly receive more letters to the editor.

God bless!

*Pastor Julian Hibbert, Editor: 2010-2019*

### The Gospel must shine

On appointment as Editor of the Stanborough Press, I caught the vision of serving as a pastor to British Union Conference members through the pages of *MESSENGER*. It was a role I had seen modelled by the three previous editors, all of whom I had known personally and, in one case, as a teen (Raymond Vine, David Marshall and Julian Hibbert). They were church leaders I admired.

The highest priority I gave as Editor was how the manuscript I was editing or the article I was writing would help church members increase their confidence in the Gospel of Christ, their identity as Adventists, and how we could partner together in sharing our faith with friends and neighbours.

When I reflect on my time at the Stanborough Press, my ambition through the printed page was to try to shape the church I serve for the better – better equipped for its mission.

*Pastor David Neal, Editor: 2019-2022*



*To read longer versions of the messages on this spread, see the MESSENGER for September 2024.*



# STANBOROUGH PRESS TIMELINE

1870 – Mary and Stephen Haskell establish the Tract and Missionary Society, promoting and organising it in the churches for the next nineteen years.

1878 – William Ings begins literature evangelism among sailors and door-to-door in Southampton.

1884 – After a small printing plant is briefly set up in Ravenswood, Southampton, the first issue of the periodical *Present Truth* is published at Heneage Road, Grimsby.

1885 – Adventists acquire more type and their own printing press.

1887 – The printing press is moved to 451 Holloway Road, London.

1892 – The first subscription books are printed.

1894 – The International Tract Society is registered under the Companies Act with an office in Paternoster Row in London.

1907 – The publishing house building is built on Stanborough Park.

1909 – The publishing house on Stanborough Park commences full production.

1919 – The International Tract Society is renamed The Stanborough Press Ltd.

1924 – The first volume of Uncle Arthur's *Bedtime Stories* is published.

1929 – The Press has 36 employees producing books including *Christ Our Saviour*, *Bible Readings*, and *Health and Happiness*, which are sold by 51 colporteurs in the UK and exported all over the world.

1936 – *Missionary Worker* is renamed the *British Advent Messenger*, and Leslie Emmerson replaces Arthur Maxwell as Chief Editor.

1950s – The Stanborough Press exports books to West Africa.

1964 – Fire severely damages the Press building, and General Manager Joe Craven dies.

1966 – The new Stanborough Press building officially opens in Grantham.

1970 – A 'merger agreement' is reached between the Stanborough Press and the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

1979 – By this point, Composing Department staff have been retrained in computer typesetting.

1984 – Paul Hammond becomes General Manager.

1987 – The Compugraphic system is installed.

2002 – The production unit is closed following a vote from the Board the previous year.

2010 – Dr David Marshall retires, and Julian Hibbert becomes Editor.

2015 – Paul Hammond retires, and Elisabeth Sangüesa becomes General Manager.

2020 – LifeSource online shop opens.

2024 – *The Leadership Bible* and *The Parenting Bible* are published and a European agent is established.



<https://youtu.be/JoUfMQMAe-Q>



<https://youtu.be/AFD0eM3BhXc>



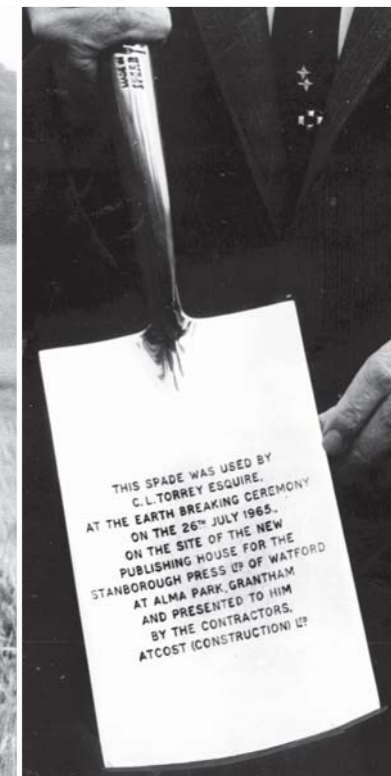
<https://youtu.be/o-eo62L3z1k>

## A VISIT TO STANBOROUGH PRESS 1927

If you would like to see some videos of the Stanborough Press from almost a hundred years ago, take a look at these old 16mm films donated by Jon Meredith and digitised by Pastor John Surridge and Kofi Osei-Owusu of the British Union Conference.



In August of 1965, a contract was signed with Atcost Construction Ltd. to build a new Stanborough Press building in Grantham



The Grantham Mayor cuts the ribbon at the opening ceremony, 30 September 1966





*We are vendors  
of hope and  
cheer with a  
view to eternity.*

Victor Pilmoor

The Stanborough Press

# OUR PURPOSE

The Stanborough Press is a mission-based charitable organisation with a small but dedicated workforce, which aims to maintain the highest standards of service as we carry out God's work.

We at the Stanborough Press aim to produce and distribute resources that reflect Christ, build value in people, inspire hope, and change people's lives for the better.

We aim, at all times, to conduct our business with honour, integrity and cultural sensitivity.

Through the publishing and distribution of uplifting Christian literature, we aim to facilitate the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in every country of the world.

We support our church with resources for outreach, children's and educational books, parenting manuals, family health material, personal and spiritual development books and magazines, Sabbath School quarterlies, Bible games, and other appropriate resources.

Beyond this service to our members, we aim to make available material suitable for the spiritual growth of seekers from all communities.

Therefore, our purpose is to serve others. To do that efficiently, and in order to stay relevant to people's needs, we have employed different methods over the years. We are trying to reach people through the dedicated service of our committed literature evangelists in the UK and abroad. Also, our publications are available to purchase in our retail outlets, both physical (such as our shop in Watford, among others) and online (LifeSource).

Additionally, we are trying to attend all major events, within our territory and abroad, organised by our church's leadership, as well as to visit local churches and support them with encouragement, training and resources. We often witness how people's lives are being transformed by our ministry.

Finally, alongside our publications, we are providing people with a range of selected food and health products through our House of Natural Food Ltd.



The Stanborough Press team 2024



## Books change lives

I was baptised in 1968, just before my 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, and during that mid-year holiday I had my first experience as a literature evangelist, selling our books from door to door. I was woefully inexperienced; wearing my school uniform, I carried two briefcases loaded with books. Mum would drop me off in the morning and collect me in the late afternoon. It was wearisome work with lots of walking, and sales were initially slow.

Then, one morning, I had a change of fortune. Mum dropped me off outside a block of flats where I met a pleasant woman who showed a real interest in my books, especially the *Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories* set. I wrote Mrs Strand up for the first volume, and in due course she bought the remainder of this popular set. Things didn't stop there, though, and before too long she was also a Seventh-day Adventist!

I spent most of my college holidays knocking on doors and selling books. On one memorable night, in the new suburb of Arbour Park, I stopped outside a home I had visited earlier that day when only the housewife was at home. She had taken a brief look at my books and promptly urged me to return in the evening when her husband would be home, assuring me that he was a 'very religious' man!

Having met many 'very religious' men during my five years of canvassing, I sincerely hoped that he would also be a 'very courteous' man. Fortunately, he was! And, having seen my demo copy of *The Bible Story* by Arthur Maxwell, he excused himself briefly and returned with none other than a copy of *Bible Readings for the Home* by Arthur S. Maxwell, a product of **The Stanborough Press Limited!**

What followed was a literature evangelist's dream. He confidently proclaimed that he firmly believed what *Bible Readings for the Home* taught . . . about the Sabbath, the Second Coming, the state of the dead, salvation, baptism . . . about everything! All I had to do was point to the name of the author of *The Bible Story*, Arthur S. Maxwell, and tell this precious family about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which circulated them.

In due course, this family became faithful members of the Church, just as mine had done a decade earlier!

Pastor Julian Hibbert, Editor: 2010-2019



Literature evangelists at the Stanborough Press

## First contact

In 1978, when I arrived as a pastor in the British Union, the literature work was strong, with scores of full-time and part-time colporteurs. The evangelism success that I and some of my colleagues had during the late seventies and early eighties was due in part to the foundation laid by the literature work.

I had the pleasure of working with Pastor Terry Mason at Handsworth Church following his graduation from Newbold in 1980. His initial contact with Seventh-day Adventism had happened one evening when a lone literature evangelist visited his home and sold his family a book. As Terry read that book, he became increasingly interested in its content. What he read led him to visit his local Seventh-day Adventist church, and he was baptised shortly after.

Pastor Don McFarlane, BUC President: 2006-2011



## The missing link

'The missing link' with which this testimony is concerned is not the missing link of Charles Darwin's evolutionary theory, but the missing link my father experienced when he purchased a copy of the classic Adventist book, *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan* by Ellen White, in 1922. It took him

thirty-six years of serious searching to find the source of this book, its author and publisher, not to mention the Christian denomination committed to sharing such biblical truths and sound doctrine.

It all began one Sunday morning in May 1922. My father and his family, his wife and two young daughters, were just leaving for the morning meeting at the Salvation Army Citadel in Kings Heath, Birmingham, when there was a knock at the door. Opening the door, he met a book salesman who started sharing his pitch.

My father was not impressed at this interruption to his schedule and abruptly replied, 'It is the Lord's day today, and I do not buy anything on a Sunday. Good day to you, sir!' However, the salesman thrust an open book to my father, saying, 'It is a Christian book, sir.'

My father admitted to me many years later that he was drawn to the book, and was so impressed by what he'd read that he asked to buy the book.

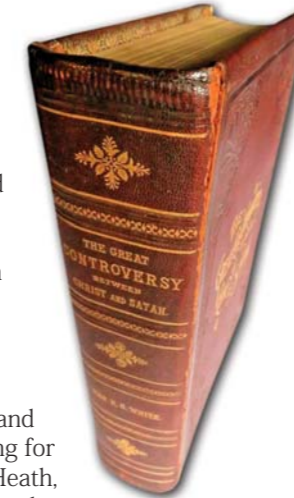
Fast-forward to 1951, and I was well aware that when my father was asked to preach at the Salvation Army meeting on a Sunday, his source for many a sermon was *The Great Controversy*, but he admitted that he wished he knew someone who could explain to him certain sections of the book.

Many months went by, whereby I would be at my future in-laws' home when they came home on Sabbath lunchtimes from the Birmingham Camp Hill church, and I was invited to join the family for Sabbath lunch. At this point, in 1958, the buying of books was restricted, as there had been a paper shortage from the post-war years – this is very important for understanding this next statement.

Around the table at lunch were fellow longstanding members of Camp Hill, John and Vie Cole. As we were having lunch one Sabbath, John Cole said to my future father-in-law, 'I have at last obtained the Adventist classic which has been out of print for a very long time – *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan*.'

I was absolutely astounded. After 36 years of searching by my father, we had at last found the source of the book, *The Great Controversy!*

Pastor Roger Neal







### Literature evangelism

There's a song by Johan Norberg and Nils Landgren entitled 'Get Here'. In it, reference is made to more than 12 different methods of travel, including 'Climb a tree and swing rope-to-rope.' It reminds me of the expression, 'Desperate times call for desperate measures,' attributed to Hippocrates, the famous Greek physician.

Jesus' words, 'This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations' (Matthew 24:14) – which are further reflected in Revelation 14:6: 'I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth – to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people' – are codified in the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We are people called by God to take this message of hope to all the world, a church whose sole purpose for our existence is to send the Gospel to all the world in this generation.

Whatever it takes, and using every available medium of transmission, this Gospel will get there anyhow, within the confines and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

During the Protestant Reformation, copies of just parts of the Bible were distributed surreptitiously; some were given away, and others were sold by colporteurs.

As the printing presses became more efficient, vast quantities of Christian literature were produced, providing a cheaper and more effective method of distribution, enabling the colporteur ministry to expand.

This method in publishing the Gospel is not new, but it has been and continues to be a highly effective method of getting God's word into the hands and homes of our communities.

We are living at a time when so much has become 'digital'. Many laws have been passed by the central government and local authorities that restrict 'cold canvassing', but there are still avenues available for literature evangelists (colporteurs) to get God's Word into the hands of our communities.

While the Stanborough Press continues to sell online, LEs are still able to visit local churches that worship on Sundays, speak with the resident minister, and arrange a time for their books to be displayed on a Sunday morning. This is happening now.

Some LEs have visited primary and junior schools and made appointments with the people responsible for allowing suitable literature to be displayed.

Sure, we are in a gadget age. Even so, many families are alienating themselves from each other in the home by their handheld devices – yes, even in our Adventist homes. We need LEs to continue their work of evangelism by arranging to visit their neighbours, friends and even family, to offer an alternative to the isolation that the internet provides.

According to *Training Light Bearers* (Review and Herald Publishing Association), 'unprecedented storms' swept over certain portions of California during a camp meeting



Adventist books being enjoyed by children at a Catholic school



Literature evangelists meeting together at Swanwick Conference Centre, January 1976

in that state in 1882. Elder Haskell was preaching, and the noise of the storm was so overpowering that Haskell left the pulpit, went into the centre of the congregation, and began asking questions and calling for folk to find the text, stand up and read it. Thus began the Bible Study method of evangelism.

These are desperate times, and we are experiencing 'unprecedented storms'. I still believe that, even now, literature evangelism has a vital role to play in accomplishing our Gospel mandate; and, as we celebrate 140 years of publishing at the Stanborough Press, in God's strength, let us take the Gospel to all the world in this generation. I believe that publishing will last to the very end.

Pastor Curtis Murphy, BUC Publishing Director: 2005-2011

### Bookstores

God is blessing our ministry by using the Stanborough Press bookshops as a centre of influence, because people are coming in from all walks of life. They come in and feel they can talk, we can pray with them, and they leave feeling uplifted. And who knows what eternal influence the books they buy will have?

Here is a list of our shops/affiliates and the church outlets:

#### Bookstores

- LifeSource Bookshop (Watford)
- Advent Centre (London)
- Aston-Newtown (Birmingham, affiliated)

#### Church outlets

- Aberdeen
- Swansea
- Ipswich
- Holloway
- Leeds

### Testimonies from a bookshop

Here in Watford, at the LifeSource Bookshop, we have many uplifting stories to tell, and I'll share just three of them.

A young man in his twenties (we'll call him Daniel), not an Adventist, walked into the bookshop wanting to buy a Bible for a relative; but, when he came to pay, he was embarrassed as he couldn't find his card.

I suggested one of the Bibles with the Mark Finley study helps and gifted him the Bible. It was on special offer at £3.50. He thanked me and went away.

The very next day, Daniel returned to the bookshop, handed me an envelope and left. I opened it to find some cash, and the money that he gave was a £10 note – almost three times more than the cost of the Bible he had received! And there was a note which said, 'If anyone else comes into your store and for whatever reason is unable to pay, please use this money as a pay-it-forward.'

He was so impressed and thankful that I had given him a gift when he couldn't pay, that he came back to give more than he had received.

Rav, the postman, comes into the shop all the time.



Joan Johnson, Watford shop



Fran Brooks, Watford shop



Eutella Simon, Advent Centre

One day he came in looking for a particular book. He immediately noticed it, as I had it on display – the little book called *The Power of Hope*. A pastor had given him a copy. His mother got in his car, saw the book and started reading it, and she was fascinated with it. He told her that he wanted to read it after she had finished it, but then he would buy her a copy, so that's why he had called in. Delighted, I gave him a copy.

One afternoon, a gentleman came in to browse. As it was his first visit, I gave him a copy of *The Power of Hope* and *Steps to Christ*.

A couple of days later he came back and said, 'You won't believe it, but everybody's trying to get this book' (*The Power of Hope*) – so he had come back to buy some more. He told me that he was a minister (not an Adventist). One evening, just after 5pm, he was again standing at the doorway. He had come to buy yet more of the books, saying he would come back again to buy some other materials from us – another example of how the literature is being distributed like the leaves of autumn.

Joan Johnson, Sales Assistant



Both pictures show the LifeSource bookshop at the BUC offices in Watford





**Autumn House**

The Autumn House imprint was originally created by Review and Herald, and then we started it in Europe with the idea of having a non-denominational brand that would allow us easier access to the wider Christian audiences.

From the beginning it concentrated on producing children's books and games, but the range has expanded to include other types of materials and genres (such as devotionals, journals, Bibles, and so on).

Throughout the years we have had several dedicated members of staff looking after this side of our ministry, and many Christians are still enjoying the wide selection of products available to this date.

We wanted to bring down some barriers, as Autumn House is our outreach brand, and many lives have been impacted by the different resources distributed. This is quite a significant contribution considering that the UK has been declared a majority non-Christian country; however, Christian books are still appreciated and in demand, and we are happy to continue supplying many territories with the materials produced by Autumn House Publications (Europe) Ltd.

*Elisabeth Sangüesa, General Manager: 2015-present*



**LifeSource**

For many years, there had been demand for an online sales platform selling Adventist books in the UK. Following lengthy discussions surrounding the Stanborough Press's first venture into e-commerce, project planning commenced, spearheaded by Trevor Johnson (UK Sales Manager) and myself.

Early in 2019, we approached various web design companies with our brief and engaged the services of one of them.

It was felt that the wide variety of Bibles, children's materials, and lifestyle guidance books stocked by the Stanborough Press had appeal beyond just the Adventist market. We took a staff poll for a new brand name, which resulted in 'Source of Life', which was then

boiled down to 'LifeSource'. While remaining Adventist at its core, the new website would also by design be welcoming to the wider Christian market.

I put together the initial catalogue of around just 600 core Stanborough Press and Autumn House products, working with our external web designers on the design and layout, informed by fresh branding designed in-house by Abigail, one of our graphic designers.

After some months of careful preparation, and many revisions, the test site was finally ready to go live in March 2020. We held a launch event on 12 March 2020 at the former ABC shop in Watford, proudly announcing the rebrand from Adventist Book Centre to LifeSource Christian Bookshop and officially publicising the brand-new LifeSource website as it went live.

The first COVID-19 lockdown was decreed by Boris Johnson on 23 March 2024, and the rug was pulled out from under some of the major parts of the Stanborough Press's business. Our booksale event programme was closed down overnight, and many staff were placed on furlough, with several others working from home, and just a few still working in the building. Our future hung in the balance.

Since House of Natural Food products were an integral part of our rebranded LifeSource bookstore, we were allowed to remain open and continue operating as an essential retailer. Demand for health foods increased as society became more aware of the benefits of a healthy diet and healthy lifestyle. Also, people were searching for answers to essential life questions about the source of life, death, purpose and hope. So, as demand spiked – not only for health foods, but for spiritually nourishing literature as well – hungry customers flocked to the new LifeSource website. It provided a vital stream of revenue during this unprecedented time: truly a 'source of life' for the Stanborough Press. It allowed us to continue operating and

servicing customers, even while many of us weren't allowed to leave our houses.

Throughout all the lockdowns and restrictions, the LifeSource website continued to grow from strength to strength as more customers discovered it. Today, it's one of the primary arms of the UK ABC, serving customers nationwide, throughout Europe and beyond.

We believe that God's supernal wisdom steered the Stanborough Press through this difficult period of modern history. He knew what was on the horizon, and stepped in. As the world fell into turmoil and businesses braced for collapse, God provided a lifeline not only to our essential work, but also to the membership, who were able to still acquire the essential materials they needed to continue outreach, personal growth, and mission.

*Philip Anderson, Exports Department*



*Trevor Johnson, UK Sales manager*





## The Stanborough Press still impacts people

As you may know, the Stanborough Press often takes literature to sell at many events organised by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and abroad. Quite often, the presence of the Press and its literature touches people's hearts. Here are some heartfelt testimonies from two such recent events . . .



### Answer to prayer

The following took place at the BUC Communications, Public Affairs & Religious Liberty training weekend, held from 10 to 12 May 2024 at the Leonardo Hotel in Hinckley.

On Sunday morning, while Seventh-day Adventist attendees were at the training sessions, the Stanborough Press was selling books at the designated area of the hotel. More purchases were made that morning by non-Adventists, guests of the hotel! Several of them asked: 'Are you here every Sunday? This is such a great idea.'

One lady said, 'You are the answer to my prayer.' She bought two Bibles, a devotional and two small books for children.

One gentleman had prayed that morning that God would give him some sign. When he heard the music in the hotel's corridor before our morning devotion, he went in to check what was happening inside, and Pastor Augustus Lawrence talked to him. The pastor took the gentleman to the book stall and told him, 'Choose any books you like up to £50.' He chose *Last Day Events*, *The Great Controversy*, *Wrestling with Demons*, *The Power of Hope*, and *Stress and Anxiety*. He said, 'My wife is struggling at the moment with anxiety, so God is definitely answering my prayers.'

There was a grandmother with her young grandson. The boy saw a book that he liked and ran to his grandma, who had already passed the area with the books. He asked for money, came back and bought *52 Sermons for Kids!*

A mother and son and her sister bought a Bible and another book and shared the story of how the boy's grandma is a believer and always talks about Jesus. They said, 'She would love to see all these books about God.'

A 14/15-year-old boy came and bought 'his own Bible'. He chose the NKJV translation.

A Sunday school teacher was also at the hotel. When she saw our books, she was delighted. She said that she needs resources when she teaches children about God, and she bought *52 Sermons for Kids* and some books about prayer.

## North England Conference Camp Meeting, 2024

A letter received following the event . . .

Good morning Trevor. I hope you're doing well.

You don't know me, but you have met my sister and niece, Lesley and Sherryl (who work at the Yarnfield, Stone, Conference Centre). They've told me all about your profoundly emotional and wonderfully rousing Christian Gospel band and Gospel message. Got to say they loved what they saw of one of your gigs. Lesley won't stop talking about it.

Anyway, I'm Craig, the one with pancreatic cancer whom you so kindly prayed for. I just wanted to thank you personally for the beautiful gesture, and for taking the time to request healing for me through the love and power of our Intermediary and Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. It really put a big smile on my face, and I felt even more hopeful for the future.

Thanks too for the books and promise box. They are totally unexpected gifts but gratefully received, and I'll be sure to read the books and use the box on my road to healing. Actually, I've already started reading Heather Quintana's *Holding On to Hope*.

Next time you're in the area, Lesley and I have said we're going to come to one of your services/worship performances. I've been assured it will be a profound experience.

Thank you once again to you and your brothers and sisters in Christ. Peace be with you.

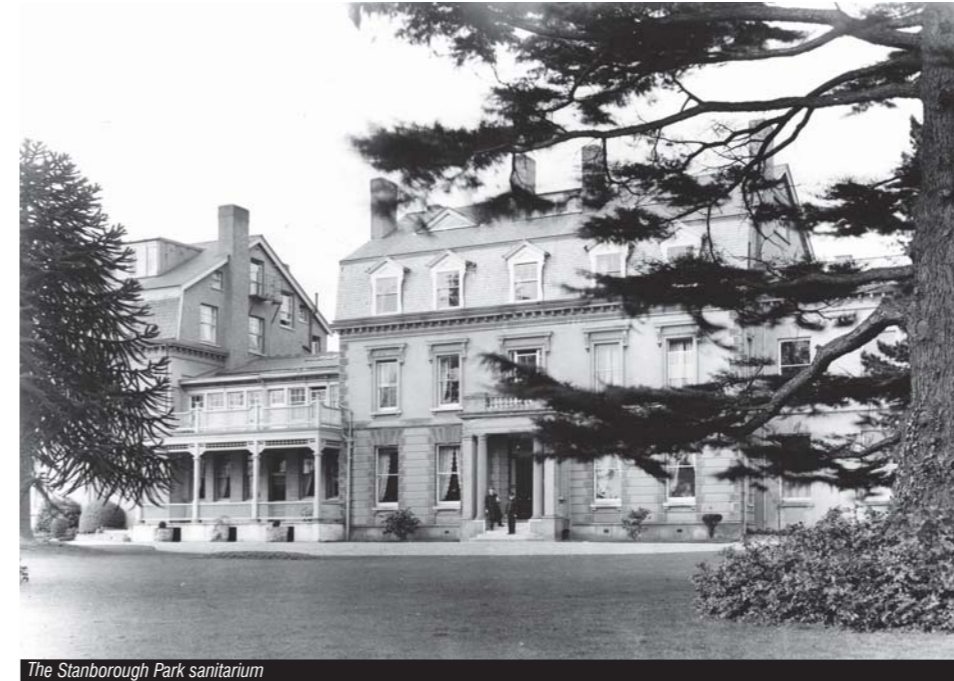
Craig



Trevor Johnson with some young shoppers



Belgium Youth Congress



The Stanborough Park sanitarium



House of Natural Food

### House of Natural Food Ltd.

From the very beginning, Adventists within the British Isles have firmly believed that one of the most practical and successful ways to share the Gospel is through personal contact while highlighting methods of healthy living. Throughout the years, numerous publications have emphasised the importance of health by introducing health

principles, as well as giving practical help and support to their readers. Also, the Seventh-day Adventist Church had four sanitariums within the BUC territory: in Caterham, Belfast,

Leicester and Stanborough Park. The Stanborough Park sanitarium was the last one to be established, and the last one to be closed (in 1967).

Seventh-day Adventists have also manufactured health food products, in a project initiated by Dr John Harvey Kellogg at Battle Creek – for example, breakfast cereals and meat alternatives, which were imported to Britain and distributed by the London Health Food Company. After a while, this company finally became Granose Foods Limited in 1926, and it was at one point the largest denominational food factory in Europe, until it was sold on 1 January 1991 to British Arkady Ltd. and the Haldane Foods Group.

To strengthen and support our health message, the Stanborough Press started to include a range of selected foods and health products. This service has been a part of our ministry and organised events since 1976, when Readysale Limited was incorporated. Twenty years later, the name was changed to the House of Natural Food Limited, but the service continued. During the lockdown, the fact that we sold House of Natural Food products enabled us to keep our physical bookstores open to the public, allowing them to continue selling life-changing literature to the glory of God.





*‘Show me a family  
of readers, and I  
will show you the  
people who move  
the world.’*

Napoleon Bonaparte

# OUR VISION

God has been good to us in the publishing house, and that blessing is still very much in place as we celebrate our 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is not short of a miracle that we are still serving despite the many challenges throughout the years. It is also a testament of the fact that our work is valuable and necessary.



History plays a major role in establishing the core values and culture of any organisation. We go back to history when we try to understand the challenges our publishing house has overcome. In the same way, history helps us to utilise our past by informing the process of instilling our sense of identity and purpose and suggesting our goals for the future.

Our primary purpose and values still remain to share the redeeming Gospel of Jesus Christ with every person in every country of the world in preparation for His kingdom to come.

With this in view, we seek to offer the means of experiencing abundant life, offering resources on health, education, service and liberty. We are vendors of hope and cheer with a view to eternity.

We pray that the Press's history will help leaders, members and employees alike, new and old, to better understand its past, including key decisions about events, personnel, and stakeholders. By taking the time to explore the Press's history and share its story, we are investing not only in our ministry's ability to inspire, but also in our ability to build relationships with new audiences and maintain the trust within our existing customer base.

So, why are we taking time to look at the past? Because we want to ensure a better future!

The key to our survival and the key to our success will be our

ability to innovate and be more agile. The market is changing, especially the international side, and we need to be able to devise strategies that will ensure our existence if some of our export customers start facing bigger challenges, as well as to optimise our resources.

Evangelism and nurture are our mission; and the fact that we are still here 140 years on, despite the ups and downs we have gone through over the past few years, convinces me even more that our contribution to the mission of the Church is still very much necessary, and that God has not finished with the publishing ministry yet – and with our publishing house in particular. We are certainly part of the larger mission of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church. That is why we need not only to continue to exist, but to thrive . . . and to focus on mission even more.

Around 2015, many rumours appeared regarding the future of books with the mass introduction of e-book readers and other forms of on-demand entertainment. It is true that they are here to stay; however, the sales of books have remained strong, and the market prediction coincides with our belief that printed literature will help to finish God's work.

I would like to share with you some statistics that will perhaps help us to understand today's reality a bit better, and to inform our future decisions.

- Since the pandemic, a renewed interest in reading has been observed, with the sale of printed books rising by 8.90%.



- The global surge in reading and book sales is evident in the 2023 book market, which is valued at 132.4 billion dollars, and it is projected to reach 164.8 billion dollars by 2030.
- Despite trends towards digitalisation, a 2021 survey revealed that 68% of younger readers (18-to-29-year-olds) in the US and UK prefer print books.
- Amazon's Kindle currently dominates the e-reader market, holding a substantial 72% of the share.
- Between 2021 and 2023 the average Amazon sales were 3 to 1 in favour of print.
- In 2022 printed books made up about 80% of total book sales revenue, while e-books accounted for around 15%.
- During 2020 over 35.5% of all book sales came from the children's segment, which was the highest mark for the category over the last five years. The trend continues to increase year-on-year.
- Fewer than 3 in 10 (28.0%) of children and young people aged 8 to 18 said that they read daily, matching levels seen in 2022. More than half (52.9%) of 8-to-18-year-olds told us they had been encouraged to read by their parents/carers.
- According to expert educators, books develop and nourish kids' imaginations, expanding their worlds. Picture books introduce young children to the world of art and literature. Novels and non-fiction books stimulate kids' sensory awareness, helping kids to see, hear, taste, feel, and smell on an imagined level.

We believe all methods of evangelism are good and necessary, and we also know that literature will play a crucial role in finishing the work before the Lord's return.

Books are very much alive!

Our responsibility as a publishing house is to continue with the mandate given by the General Conference when we were established. However, as things have evolved, we must remain relevant too. In order to do this, we continue looking at and adapting our strategies and priorities. We want to bring all our partners along as we craft a clearer strategy for the future.

Our Strategic Plan to ensure the future of the Press focuses on the following initiatives:

1. Financial management and optimisation:
  - Redress the overall balance of sales between the UK and the world market.
  - Manage stock of old and new products.
2. Alternative income-generation activities
3. Marketing and sales:
  - Have a coordinated marketing strategy to raise awareness about the Stanborough Press and its services.
  - Establish new marketing tools by optimising online technology and data analytics.

- Analyse sales trends of our star products: Sabbath School lessons, calendars, subscription books, Bibles and children's books.
- Strengthen existing partnerships and enter new territories (collaboration and sales in every division of the General Conference).
- Expand our territory with sustainable customers by establishing book depots in strategic locations.
- Work with the BUC to have a regular literature distribution programme across the territory.

4. Change culture of the company:

- Improve communication (internal with staff, and external with customers).
- Increase staffing levels and collaborate with our members to ensure service to all communities within our territory and to engage with all age groups.
- Rationalise and optimise production schedules to align with BUC strategies as we continue to develop a variety of new products.

5. Building and facilities:

- Refurbishment of offices and systems.
- Optimise warehousing and distribution.

As you can see, we have big aspirations to continue serving for the next 140 years (unless the Lord comes sooner).

However, none of these plans would be possible without the support of our leaders, and especially of our dedicated and committed staff and church members, who are faithful and firm believers in spreading the Gospel through the printed page.

I want to take this opportunity to give special thanks to all our staff and all our customers, past, present and future, because without you we would not have reached this milestone. Thank you for coming along with us in this journey and mission of scattering our books like the leaves of autumn.

Our pledge is to continue producing innovative, Bible-based, truth-filled literature to share with those who do not know the Lord, and to develop and strengthen the faith of all our members.

Our prayer is that you will continue to trust us and support us by being our arms and legs used by God to reach thousands and millions of souls.

The success of this ministry is not ours: it belongs solely to God. We commit the Stanborough Press, its staff, and its current and future publications into God's hands.

May His will be done as we remain in His service until He comes.

Elisabeth Sangüesa, General Manager: 2015-present

***Grateful for our past . . .***



1965

***. . . Looking forward to our future!***



Standing, left to right: Ian Clutton, Andrew Puckering, Dileep Ratnayake, Filip Avramov, Paul Brewin, Mark Walmsley, Aaron Thompson, David Bell, Abigail Murphy, Jacqueline Anderson, Philip Anderson, Sarah Jarvis, David Selvage, Andrea Sarlinova  
Seated, left to right: Dušanka Rančić, Trevor Johnson, Elisabeth Sangüesa, Peter Oppong-Mensah



*‘Your word is a lamp to my feet  
And a light to my path.’*

Psalm 119:105

# OUR PUBLICATIONS

‘Like the leaves of autumn’, Stanborough Press publications have been distributed for 140 years across this country and the whole world. The army of dedicated servants of God throughout the years has been working on their preparation as well as their distribution.

The impact of these publications on people’s hearts has always been in God’s hands, and only one day in heaven will we fully understand the scope of the publishing ministry and its influence.

I joined the Stanborough Press family less than a year ago, and have so far seen through many amazing projects done by our team. I accepted the call of Chief Editor with honour, and I continue to work with gratitude.

I can share the words of my predecessor, Pastor Julian Thompson, with whom I entirely agree: ‘Having worked in various institutions, I can genuinely attest that I have never encountered a more devoted team. . . . I have consistently witnessed my colleagues go above and beyond the call of duty. Every piece of literature published, every successful booksale organised, every store opened, and every order fulfilled is approached as an act of service. Over the past 12 months, I have been fortunate to witness first-hand why, in an era when many publishing houses have shuttered,

the ministry at the Stanborough Press continues.’

And numerous publications bear witness to the team’s efforts and commitment. In this section, you can find some titles that we highly recommend. You can also use the provided QR codes to search for many more.

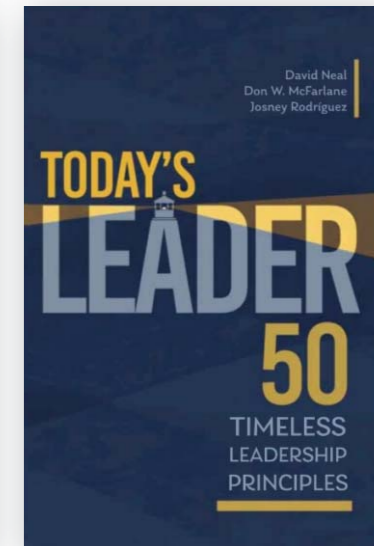
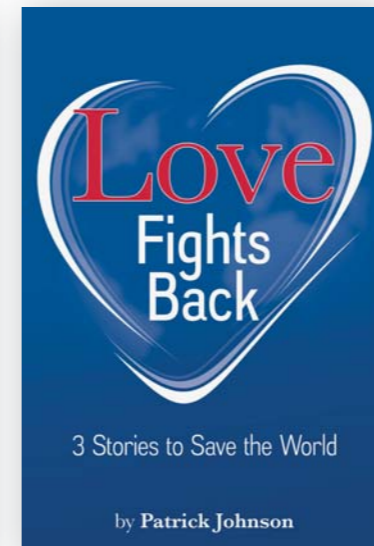
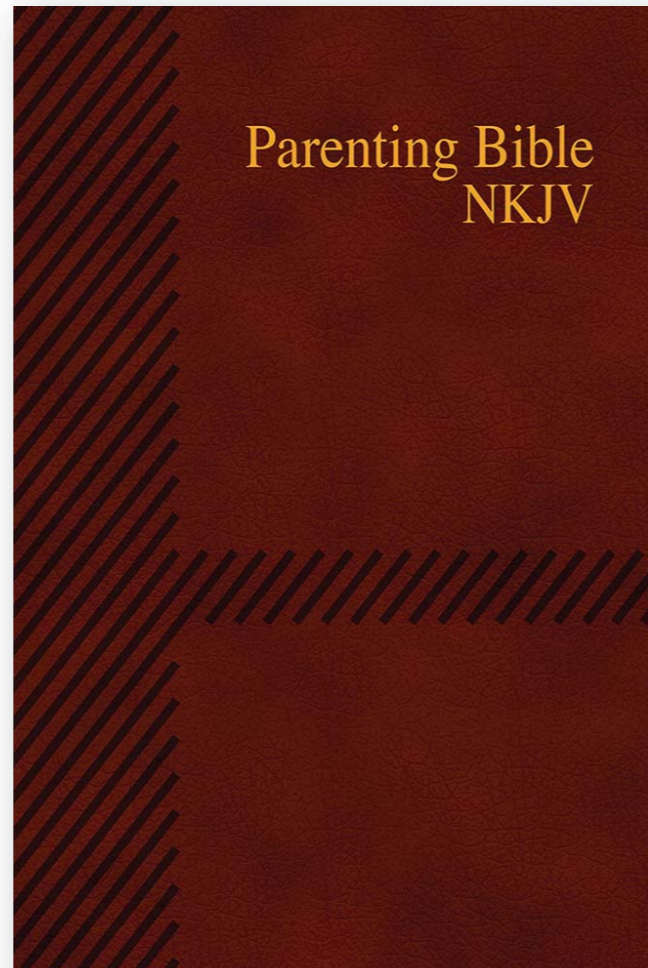
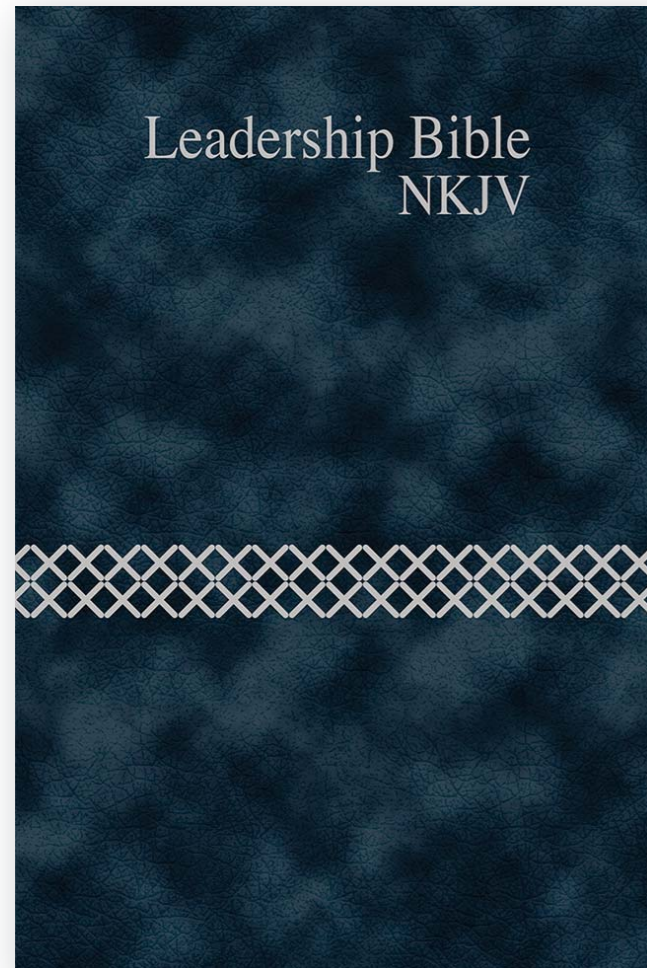
You can choose from many different categories: spiritual growth and development, encouragement and hope, mission, and outreach. There are also gifts and educational Bible games for the blessing of whole families. Additionally, we provide supplementary Sabbath School material and publish British-English editions of the Sabbath School quarterlies provided by the General Conference. Finally, with great honour, we present the newly published Bibles by the Stanborough Press: *The Leadership Bible* and *The Parenting Bible*.

May God bless you while you continue to spread the Gospel and share hope with the people you encounter on your life journey.

Dusanka Rancic, Editor: 2023-present







THE DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

Pastor Oliver Archer takes us beyond mere commandment-keeping to explore the fundamentally relational aspect of the Sabbath day.

'If I were currently serving as a pastor in a local church, *The Difference a Day Makes* would be in our rotation of gifts to go in our welcome bags for visitors and for members to share with friends, family and neighbours.'

Carl McRoy, 'The Difference a Day Makes', *Ministry*, December 2023

LOVE FIGHTS BACK

'The book is a creative, pastoral attempt to demonstrate to a generation of contemporary readers, growing up in an age of distrust, the relevance of the three angels' messages and the essence of the Gospel: God is not a God to be afraid – He is a God to be a friend of. . . . He can be fully trusted. This perspective is a much-needed corrective for curing an unhealthy fear of God, which is ingrained in the minds of many pastors and church members. I recommend this book to all who are ready to rethink and grow.'

Dr Laszlo Gallusz, 'Love Fights Back: 3 Stories to Save the World', *Ministry*, March 2023

THE NEXT CHAPTER OF ADVENTISM

Scholars at Newbold College of Higher Education explore a selection of contemporary issues facing the Seventh-day Adventist Church today, including digital nomads, Last Generation Theology, women in the Bible, and 'algorithmic truth'.

CHURCH ON THE MOVE

With warmth and wisdom, Pastor Adrian Peck unpacks the parable of the Good Samaritan to discover inclusivity, acceptance and other-centredness in the Scriptures, uncovering truths that can transform your ministry, your church, and even your life.

TODAY'S LEADER

The lives of fifty leaders of the Bible are examined for timeless scriptural lessons relevant to the leaders of today. The invaluable principles expressed within these pages will enhance your ministry in whatever sphere God has called you to lead.



BIBLES: LEADERSHIP (also available in giant print) AND PARENTING

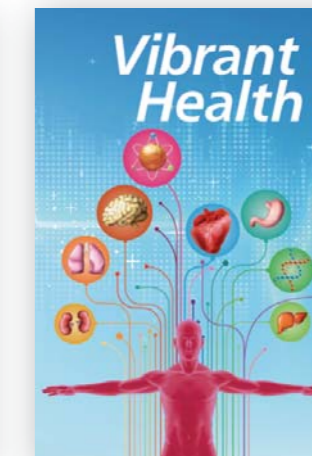
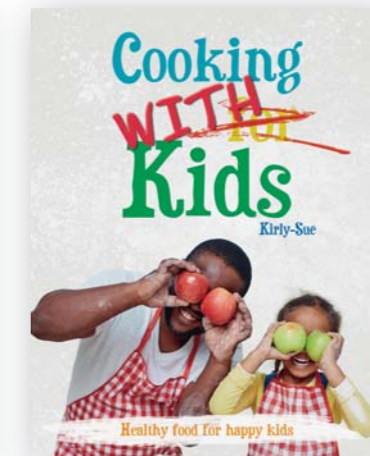
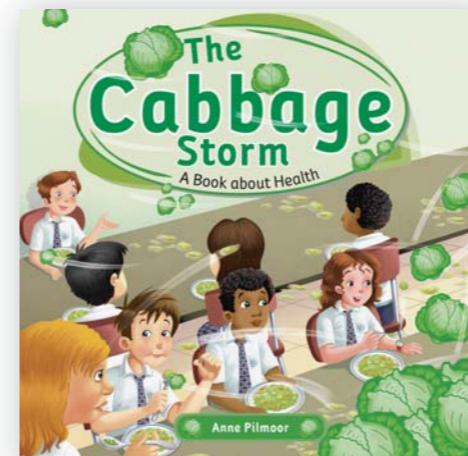
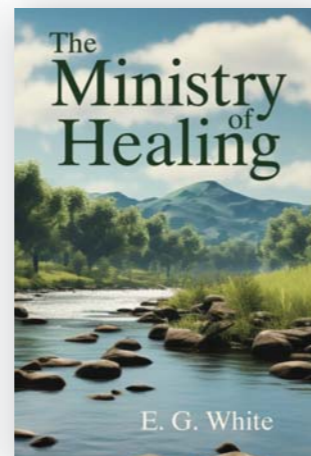
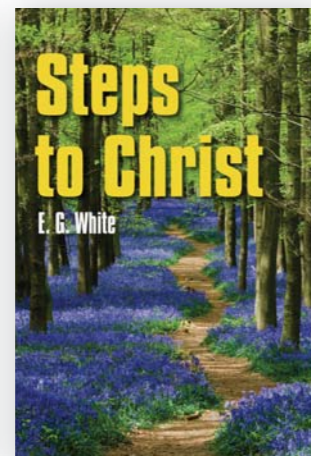
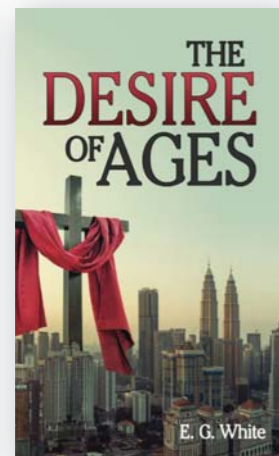
Using the New King James Version text supplied by HarperCollins, the Stanborough Press has produced the *Parenting Bible* and the *Leadership Bible*, both with a rich assortment of Bible study aids and full-colour maps, and each with its own set of useful Bible-based tips on parenting and leadership respectively, along with 64 full-page devotional inserts. We trust that these Bibles will richly bless you as you read them.





**SPIRIT OF PROPHECY**

**HEALTH**



**THE GREAT CONTROVERSY**

See how the grand conflict of the ages between Christ and Satan has raged through the history of the church and its interactions with the world . . . and how this conflict will reach its climax and Christ will emerge victorious to redeem His own.

**THE DESIRE OF AGES**

Read Ellen White's classic re-telling of the life ministry, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ – how He lived to heal us, died to save us, and rose again to give us hope of life eternal with Him.

**STEPS TO CHRIST**

We all need our Creator and Redeemer. This practical, encouraging and faith-affirming book offers biblical counsel on confessing our sins, accepting forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and living pure lives as disciples of God.

**MESSAGES TO YOUNG PEOPLE**

Discover what messages on education, lifestyle, religion and relationships the pen of inspiration has written for young people at that crucial stage in their lives when they are searching for identity and purpose.

**THE MINISTRY OF HEALING**

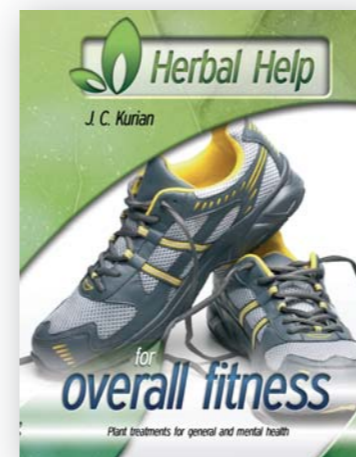
The people of this world are crying out for healing not only of body, but of mind and spirit – healing which it is the privilege of Christ's disciples, empowered with godly wisdom, to provide, pointing them to full restoration and life everlasting.

**THE ADVENTIST HOME**

Learn such valuable and practical lessons as the selection of an appropriate marriage partner, where to site the family home, the raising of godly children, the importance of regular daily worship times together, and loving and cheerful conduct among members of the family circle.

**THE CABBAGE STORM**

Join Jack and Julia as they discover how fun it can be to learn about health in this captivating children's book written by Anne Pilmoor.



**HERBAL HELPS FOR OVERALL FITNESS**

Learn how to effectively use simple, plant-based treatments for everyday ailments to help you and those you love.

**YOUR HEALTH IN YOUR HANDS**

Your health and the health of your family are increasingly a matter of choice, not chance. Find out more about how the lifestyle choices you make can help you avoid the biggest killers the Western world faces.

**COOKING WITH KIDS**

Renowned TV chef Kirly-Sue shares the joy of cooking tasty and healthy vegan meals made from recipes that are simple enough for your children to help you with!

**VIBRANT HEALTH**

Chief Medical Editor Clemency Mitchell and other health experts give guidance on full, vibrant health – how to attain it, how to keep it, and how to recognise danger signals and take appropriate action – covering everything from back pain to pregnancy, smoking to AIDS, baby care to correct breathing, and whole foods to weight control and allergies.

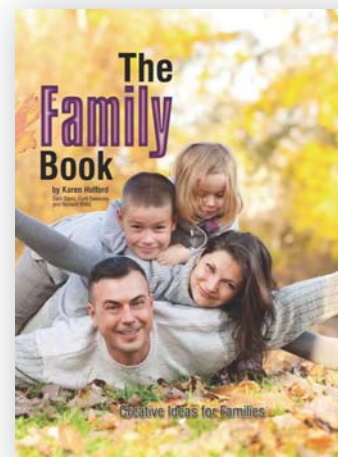
**GOLDEN TIPS FOR THOSE GOLDEN YEARS**

Since many of us are living longer, Sharon Platt-McDonald prepares us to enjoy those bonus years with a sound body and a sound mind. Make the most of your time on earth as you prepare for the life to come.

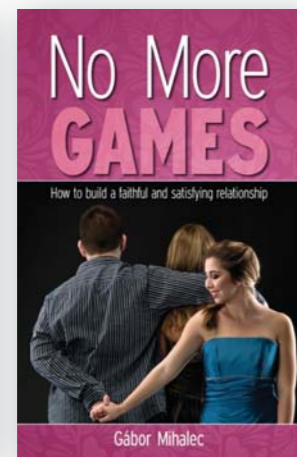




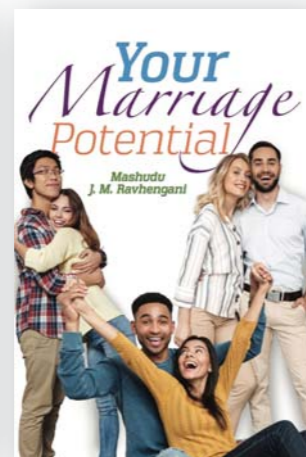
## FAMILY

**THE FAMILY BOOK**

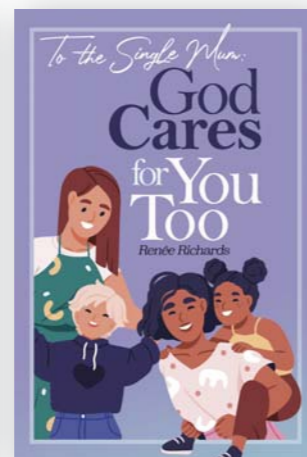
Karen Holford, Sam Davis, Cyril Sweeney and Richard Willis give us a book dealing with parenting, family worship, building a strong marriage, and creating a welcoming home. May our Father inspire you and bless your family as you read.

**NO MORE GAMES**

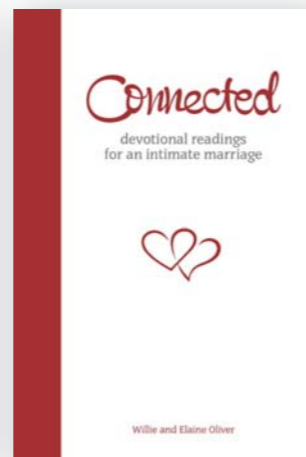
This excellent book by acclaimed relationships expert Gábor Mihalec helps you to cheat-proof your marriage by investing in quality time with the partner you've chosen to the exclusion of all others.

**YOUR MARRIAGE POTENTIAL**

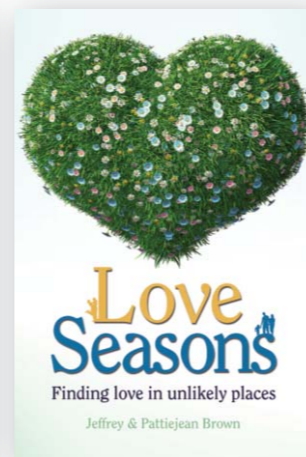
Drawing on a wealth of professional and personal experience, founded on the unchanging truths of Scripture, Mashudu Ravhengani offers encouraging and practical counsel on how to be the best husband or wife you can be.

**TO THE SINGLE MUM: GOD CARES FOR YOU TOO**

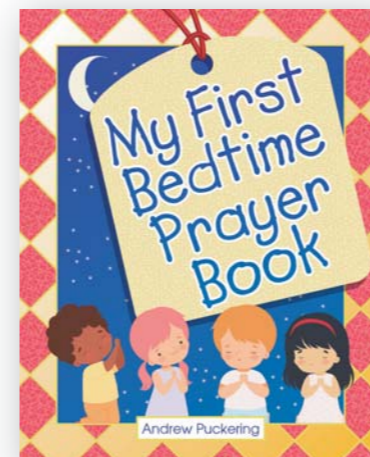
Renée Richards wrote this book as a single mum to other single mums – having faced stresses and challenges, struggled with anger towards her baby's daddy, and been desperate for her Mr Right, she has taken hold of God's outstretched hand and found help and peace with Him.

**CONNECTED: DEVOTIONAL READINGS FOR AN INTIMATE MARRIAGE**

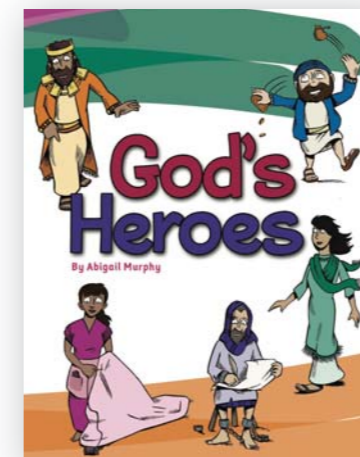
Drs Willie and Elaine Oliver imagine what could happen if you take your marriage to the next level, going from a relationship that survives to one that thrives, strengthening your commitment to each other, and helping you see the best in your spouse.

**LOVE SEASONS**

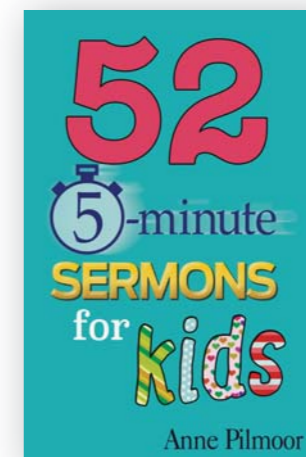
A practical and down-to-earth book from Jeffrey and Pattiejean Brown on love in all seasons – during the promise of spring, the pressures of summer, the problems of autumn and the prospects of winter.

**MY FIRST BEDTIME PRAYER BOOK**

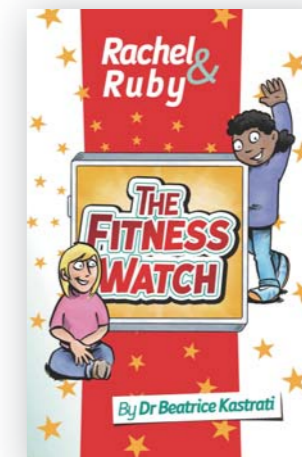
Your children will love learning to pray with this balanced, wholesome and Bible-based prayer book by Stanborough Press Assistant Editor Andrew Puckering.

**GOD'S HEROES**

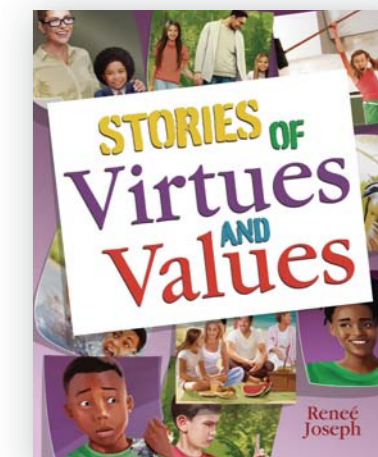
'Aunty Aba' (Stanborough Press Graphic Designer Abigail Murphy) explores the stories of twenty Bible characters in a simple and engaging way so that your children can read the stories all by themselves.

**52 5-MINUTE SERMONS FOR KIDS**

Whether you're looking for a story for the children's spot in Divine Service or an object lesson you can teach your children during family worship at home, Anne Pilmoor's book has plenty of Bible-based teachable moments for you to share.

**RACHEL & RUBY: THE FITNESS WATCH**

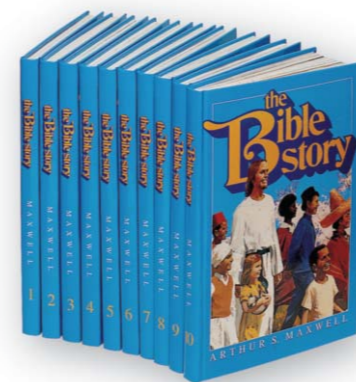
Rachel and Ruby learn important health principles with the help of a talking fitness watch: the CELEBRATIONS7! This simply illustrated book is a fantastic way of teaching your young pre-teens about health and spirituality.

**STORIES OF VIRTUES AND VALUES**

These beautifully written stories address common situations that children encounter every day, teaching the values of hope, honesty, love, and many more besides.



## CHILDREN

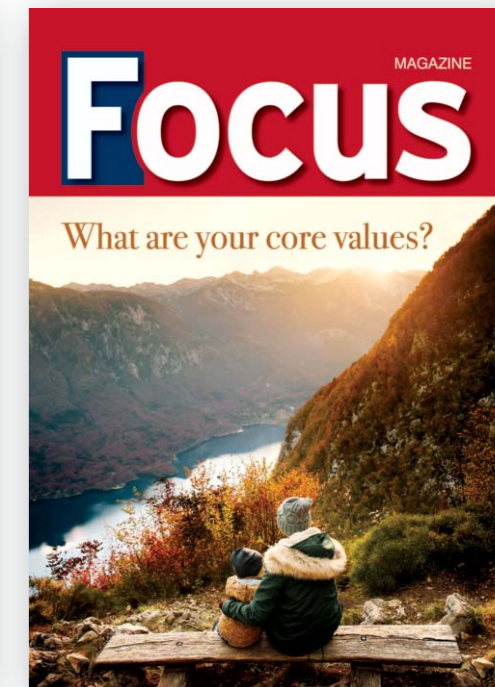
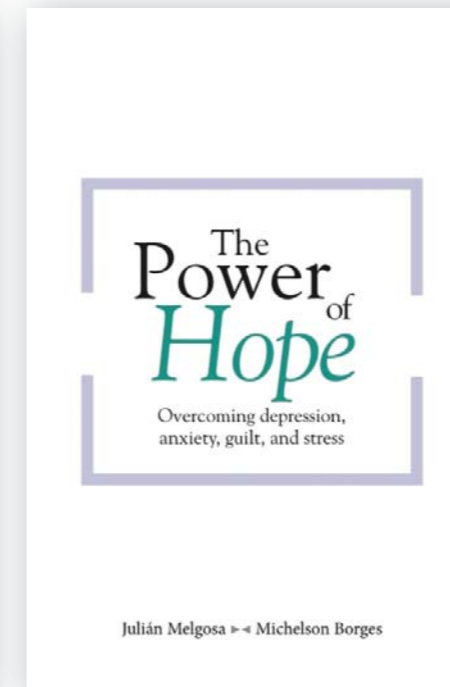
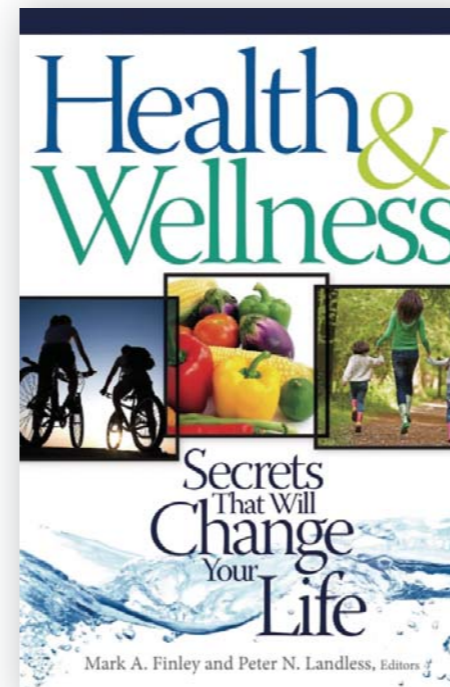
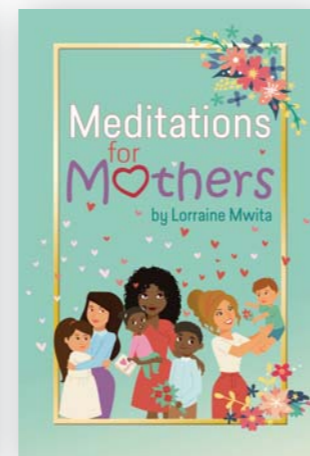
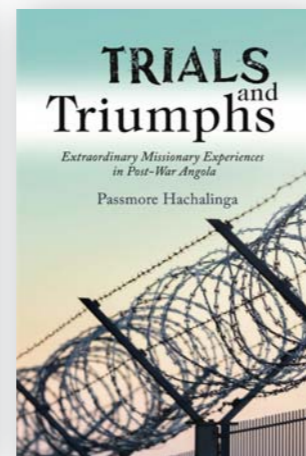
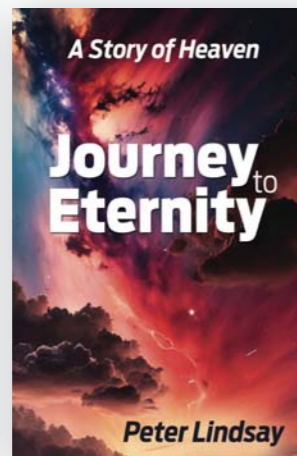
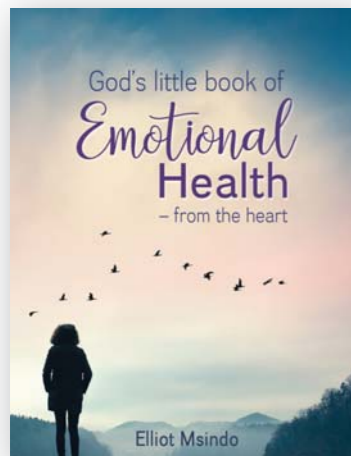
**THE BIBLE STORY**

Uncle Arthur's classic fully illustrated ten-volume series of Bible stories has captured the imagination of children around the world and led them to accept Christ for decades, and it remains a must-have addition to your home library today.



**SPIRITUALITY**

**OUTREACH**



**GOD'S LITTLE BOOK OF EMOTIONAL HEALTH**

Through poetry and Scripture, Elliot Msindo expresses all the frustrations and hopes of battling with emotional health challenges in daily life and at church – and shows how each one of us at church as fellow believers can help.

**THE HEALING POWER OF FORGIVENESS**

With moving stories and deeply relevant scripture texts, Sharon Platt-McDonald's powerful book on forgiveness enables you to release the pain of the past, free yourself from the stress of the present, and embrace a future filled with hope.

**JOURNEY TO ETERNITY**

The thrilling imaginative but Bible-based story of Liam's journey through the last days, the second coming, life in heaven and the final judgement is told by experienced Adventist educator Peter Lindsay, writing for older children and teens.

**THE TRUTH SETS YOU FREE**

Focus not on your shortcomings, but on the liberating truth of the real character of God – personal, intimate, our loving Father – as revealed in His Son, Jesus Christ. This is a very personal and authentic book written by Line Nielsen.

**TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS**

The true story of the false accusation, unjust incarceration and subsequent release of a seasoned church administrator and missionary in Angola, Pastor Passmore Hachalinga.

**MEDITATIONS FOR MOTHERS**

Lorraine Mwita offers a series of inspiring and uplifting devotions written by a mother for mothers, illustrating God's love and care for us through the way we love our children.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

How much would you pay to learn the secrets to lifelong health and wellness? Mark Finley reveals secrets that will change your life.

**THE POWER OF HOPE**

Julián Melgosa and Michelson Borges share inspirational and practical ways to overcome depression, anxiety, guilt, and stress – the first step on a path to peace, restoration, and healing.

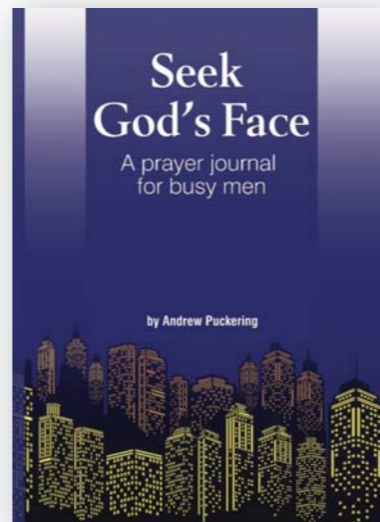
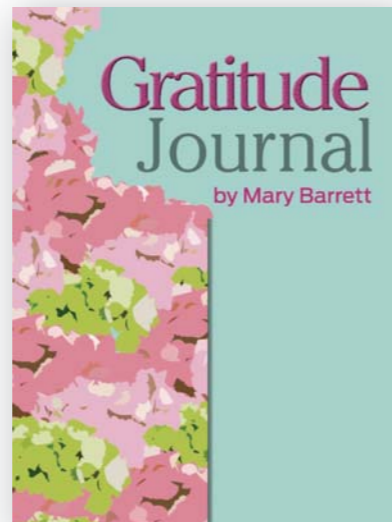
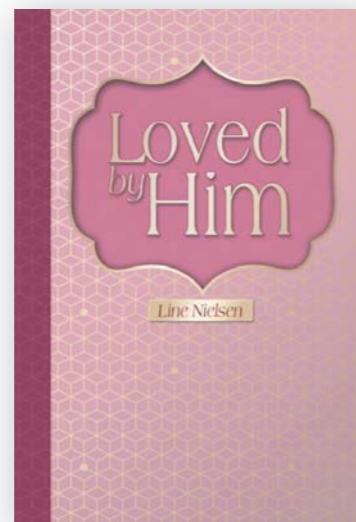
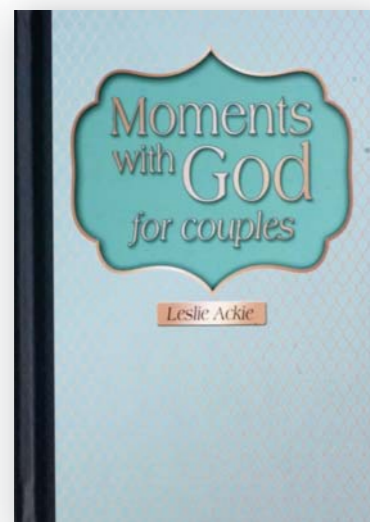
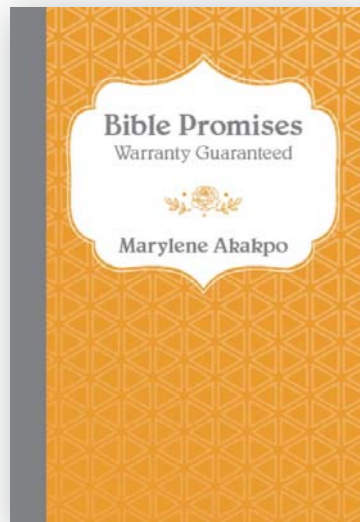
**FOCUS**

The Stanborough Press's primary outreach magazine for the past forty years, *Focus* is designed to be shared to lead people to Christ. A wide range of topics are available, such as *Family Time*, *Reflecting Hope*, *Celebrating Longevity*, *Compassion*, and *Intelligent Design*.





GIFTS



**BIBLE PROMISES: WARRANTY GUARANTEED**

An inspirational themed collection of Bible promises for every occasion and life situation has been collated by Marylene Akakpo.

**MOMENTS WITH GOD FOR COUPLES**

Pastor Leslie Ackie's insightful book of thoughtful reflections and prayers is the perfect gift for any married couple.

**LOVED BY HIM**

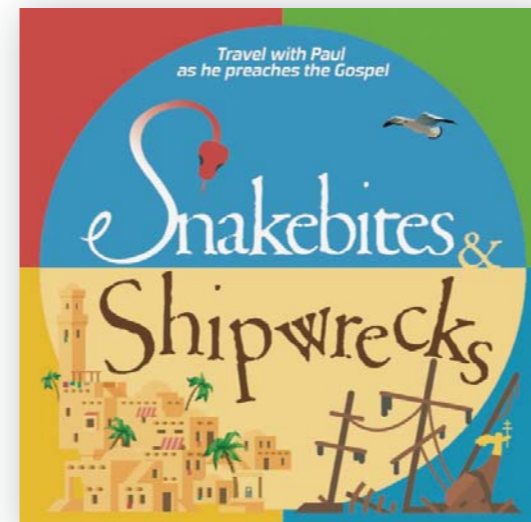
You will love this charming and revitalising reminder of the unimaginable depths of God's love for you by Line Nielsen.

**GRATITUDE JOURNAL**

When we remember to give thanks to God, even when we can't see the way ahead, powerful things can happen.

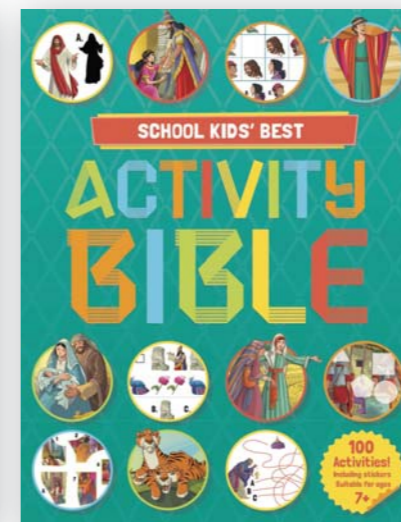
**SEEK GOD'S FACE: A PRAYER JOURNAL FOR BUSY MEN**

Among the stresses of life, experience God's peace, encourages Stanborough Press Assistant Editor Andrew Puckering.



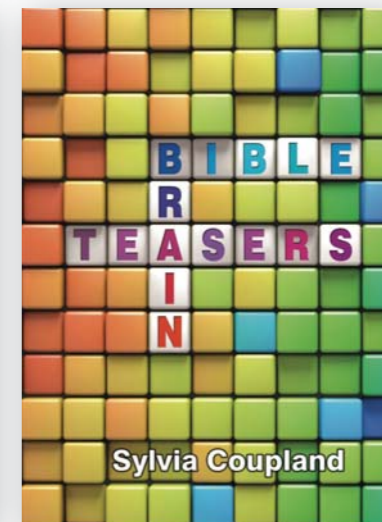
**SNAKEBITES & SHIPWRECKS**

Journey with Paul on his missionary adventures through first-century Mediterranean cities as you play this fast-paced and exciting tile game.



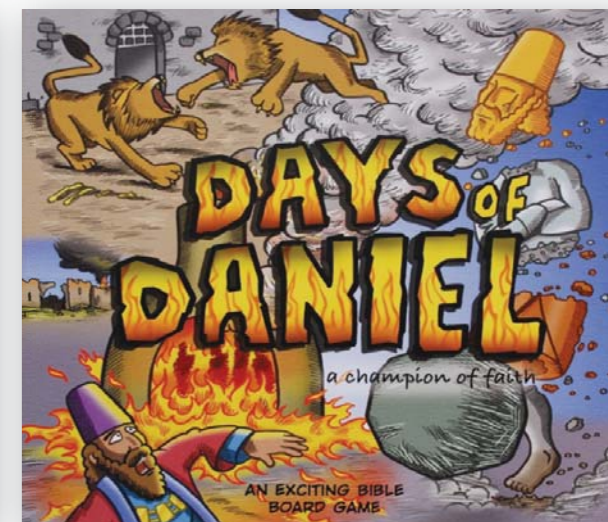
**SCHOOL KIDS' BEST ACTIVITY BIBLE**

Your children will be thrilled with this fun Bible activity book with lots of different puzzles and activities!



**BIBLE BRAIN TEASERS**

Sylvia Coupland's popular collection of Bible-based wordsearches, crosswords and word grids will give you hours of enjoyable mental exercise and help solidify scriptural truths in your mind.



**DAYS OF DANIEL**

A fun and educational Bible game for all the family, whatever your level of Bible knowledge, based on the prophetic dreams in the book of Daniel.



**PROMISE BOX**

A wide selection of Scripture promises for use during worship time or when you need individual encouragement.



**HEROES OF THE BIBLE – OLD TESTAMENT AND NEW TESTAMENT (CARD GAMES)**

Reinforce your knowledge of your favourite Bible stories with these entertaining card games – an enjoyable Sabbath activity for all the family!



GAMES & ACTIVITIES



# STANBOROUGH PRESS

## GENERAL MANAGERS

- 1894-1896 J. I. Gibson
- 1896-1902 A. E. Bacon
- 1902-1918 W. C. Sisley
- 1918-1922 W. E. Read
- 1922-1925 G. L. Gulbrandson
- 1925-1932 A. S. Maxwell
- 1932-1945 A. Warren
- 1946-1949 J. C. Craven
- 1949-1964 J. H. Craven
- 1964-1968 W. J. Newman
- 1968-1971 K. A. Elias
- 1972 C. E. Palmer
- 1972 N. Tew (acting)
- 1972-1975 E. A. Pender
- 1975-1984 D. H. Archer
- 1984-2015 P. Hammond
- 2015-present E. Sangüesa

## CHIEF EDITORS

- 1884-1887 M. C. Wilcox
- 1887-1888 S. N. Haskell
- 1889-1891 D. A. Robinson
- 1891-1902 E. J. Waggoner
- 1902-1920 W. T. Bartlett
- 1920-1936 A. S. Maxwell
- 1936-1966 W. L. Emmerson
- 1966-1978 R. D. Vine
- 1979-2010 D. N. Marshall
- 2010-2019 J. Hibbert
- 2019-2021 K. A. Elias
- 2022-2023 J. Thompson
- 2023-present D. Rančić

## CURRENT TEAM

Elisabeth Sangüesa	General Manager	David Selvage	Accounts/IT
Dušana Rančić	Chief Editor	Dileep Ratnayake	Sales Assistant
Trevor Johnson	UK & Europe	Eutella Simon	Shop Assistant
	Sales Manager	Filip Avramov	Events
Peter Oppong-Mensah	Production Manager	Fran Brooks	Shop Assistant
Jacqueline Anderson	Associate Treasurer	Guilherme Zanin	Sales Assistant
		Ian Clutton	Sales Assistant
Abigail Murphy	Designer	Joan Johnson	Shop Assistant
Andrea Sarlinova	Dispatch	Mark Walmsley	Warehouse
Andrew Puckering	Assistant Editor	Paul Brewin	Warehouse
Andrew Sewell	Sales Assistant	Philip Anderson	Export/Web Admin
Aaron Thompson	Dispatch	Sarah Jarvis	Editorial Assistant
David Bell	Designer		

Copyright © 2024 The Stanborough Press Ltd.  
Published in 2024 by The Stanborough Press Ltd., Alma Park, Grantham, UK.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without prior permission from the publisher.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data. A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-78665-223-2

Except where otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations throughout this booklet have been drawn from the New King James Version of the Holy Bible (NKJV). Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Other translation used: Good News Translation® (GNT) (Today's English Version, Second Edition). Copyright © 1992 by the American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

Design and layout: David Bell.

Printed in the UK

## Press Anthem

Words: Stanley Cambridge  
Music: Joan Moore



Scan the QR Code to listen to the Stanborough Press Anthem



