

ELIM PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
INGATESTONE



DIAMOND JUBILEE
1933 - 1993

ELIM CHURCH, INQATESTONE.

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1933 - 1993

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MR MORGAN



ELIM PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, INGATESTONE

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1933-1993

Early Days

One summets afternoon in 1932, two young Elim Pastors, enjoying a cycle ride from Chelmsford in a south-westerly direction, happened upon the village of Ingatestone. Pastors Henry Jeffrey and Bernard Moore exclaimed in unison, "What an ideal place for an evangelistic mission!" Reporting back to Pastor John Woodhead, of Elim Church, Chelmsford, there began a search for a suitable meeting place, and were led to the Drill Hall in Tryerning Lane, (now occupied by Parmar Engineering.)

A mission commenced, and during the following year, until October 4th 1933, meetings were held on Wednesday and Sunday evenings. Quite a few local villages professed salvation in the Lord Jesus, making a nucleus, and the leaders of the then Essex Elim Churches, - Pastor & Mrs George Kingston and Pastor Charles Kingston, with Pastor George Stormont, - based at Leigh-on-Sea, set about erecting our present building in the High Street, which became known as the "Elim Tabernacle"; as can be seen faintly engraved above the centre window in the photograph.

The new church was opened on Wednesday, 4th October 1933, and meetings were held twice on Sundays, and each weeknight except Saturdays for three weeks, after which time prayer & bible study meetings were held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings respectively.

Village ladies kept the building clean for 2/- weekly, and Pastor Jeffrey, the first minister received £1.15/- a week. During the first week of December a bath plug was purchased so it seems the first baptismal service took place thereabouts.



THE INTERIOR OF THE ELIM CHURCH
AS IT APPEARED IN 1938.

After Pastor Jeffrey left, in May 1934, visiting ministry was received until Mr Morgan, a young Scot, took over on October 21st, until May 5th of the following year. Pastor Bernard Moore, mentioned earlier, was in charge until November 1936. From then until 1942 Mr W.F. Lloyd became caretaker pastor, travelling by bus from Chelmsford for three weekly services.

In those days, heating was by a tortoise slow combustion coke burning stove. One either roasted or froze, depending on the draught. The young people took turns in refueling, and in cleaning the flue. A large kettle on the top kept water ready for special functions.

In October 1938 two vestries were built, one each side of the platform and baptistry. Looking at the floor space now one can see how small they were! Wood for these cost 16 shillings and 9 pence!! Ten shillings bought a hot water gas copper, for use at baptismal services, a hose pipe from the gents toilet supplied the cold water.

You can imagine the time and effort involved, no wonder folk waited until there were a good number of candidates. The vestry to the left of the platform was used as a kitchen, and contained a two burner gas cooker, (still in existence!)

Along with every other building the church was "blacked out" with standard paper during the war years 1939-45, at a cost of 10 shillings, for evening services. Although bombs fell all around, the Lord's hand was upon us and the building came through the six years unscathed.



MISS C.M. CARTON, PASTOR 1942 - 1959.



MISS FRANCES VIRR.
PASTOR'S ASSISTANT



ALL READY FOR A TRIP TO MALDON
BY STEAM TRAIN

Seventeen Years of Ministry

On June 15th 1942, Miss G. M. Garton became full-time Pastor, moving from the pastorate of Laindon Elin Church. She lodged in the High Street with a Mrs Claydon, who attended the meetings. Later, a caravan was purchased, which stood behind the church, and here Miss Garton lived alone, to the great admiration of all. For a short while 1946-47 the caravan was shared with Miss Frances Vior from Bradford, who led worship with her piano accordion, and worked among the young people. She left to marry Pastor George Steele, and they worked together in Scotland.

Sunday school was attended by 40-50 children, when the Superintendant was Mr Reg Gardiner, and the annual summer outing was a popular occasion, by steam train to Maldon! A special summer campaign was held in 1952 by Bro Ron Watson from Chadwell Heath, for adults, and by Evangelist Sunny Blundell, a vivacious Yorkshire lass, who held the children spellbound.

At that time there was a closeness of fellowship among the Essex Elin Churches, which were governed separately from the Elin Alliance. Many of us joined together at Leigh on Whit Mondays for missionary and youth rallies. Also we joined with Chelmsford Elin on Good Fridays for special Easter weekend meetings, and travelled together by train or coach to the Open Air meeting in Trafalgar Square, and two meetings in the Royal Albert Hall on Easter Monday.

Young people looked forward to summer youth camps at Wrabness, Aldeburgh, Cromer, & the Isle of Wight, where we had great fun and deep fellowship, good bible teaching from Pastor Alec Wright, & times



HAPPY DAYS AT CROMER
ELIM YOUTH CAMP 1948.
ALF'S SISTER SYLVIE,
JOHN D'S SISTER MARGARET
WITH BETTY MYNARD &
PETER & MARGARET BUEERS

PASTOR CROFT, (Back)
OUR MISSIONARY, EDITH
MYNARD, WITH PASTOR STORMONT
(centre row); BRENDA
GRIFFITHS (ZIMBABWE)
END OF FRONT ROW



25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS. IN FRONT ROW,
2ND LEFT, PASTOR ANTHONY, MISS GARTON, PASTOR STORMONT
PASTOR WRIGHT, & PASTOR LLOYD.

INTERNATIONAL
Missions Board



Newsletter

Elim Pentecostal Church P.O.Box 38, Cheltenham, Glos., GL50 3HN. Telephone 59904/5/6

**'...FOR THEY LOVED
NOT THEIR LIVES
EVEN UNTO DEATH'**

Revelation 12:11

JULY 1978

Dear Prayer Partners in the battle for souls,

As our Prayer letter went to press we had the sudden tragic message of the massacre at our Elim Mission station at Vumba. Pastor Wigglesworth and myself are leaving for Rhodesia with the relatives this evening.

The volume of prayer support and gifts and letters pouring into the office are eloquent comments on the wonderful love of our Elim family. Gifts for the tragedy are coming from many sources and the example set by our Elim Churches in their giving is an inspiration to us all.

You will realise that at the moment we are too close to the events to be able to make any real appraisal of long term effects. However we are certain that we should continue as far as is humanly possible to carry on our work both in Rhodesia and everywhere else.

Pray for the relatives. Pray for the Mission Board. Pray for the glory of Christ to shine through in victory in spite of all.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

David J. Ayling

Rev. D.J. Ayling,
International Missions Director.

ELIM MISSIONARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.



THE MINOR HALL UNDER CONSTRUCTION,

LATE 1950'S.



MINOR HALL, SIDE VIEW. (NO FIRE STATION!)

of prayer and receiving the Holy Spirit. Many heard God's call, - Clifford Stockdale to serve in India, and Catherine Picken to Rhodesia, where she was later to give her life in the massacre of missionaries at the Vumber in June 1978.

The church's 25th anniversary in October 1954 was celebrated with a special meal at the Yorkshire Tearooms (opposite the Post Office) followed by a gathering of 43 members and friends, when Pastor George Stormont gave a resumé of the church's history, and Pastor Anthony of Chelmsford gave the Word. As the photograph of that occasion shows, the two vestries have disappeared, the decision having been taken to build an extension on the rear of the church to serve as kitchen and vestry. The enclosed views show this under construction. Front and rear upper windows have been removed. The rear door was not added until the minor hall was separated into two rooms by a stud wall for kitchen and vestry in the 80s. The double gates at the front disappeared around this time, and a hard surface was laid as a car park.

Youth activities progressed steadily. Sunshine Corner and Sunday School attracted 30-35 youngsters, 15+ Crusaders between the ages of 14-25 years. Summer evenings often found us off on our bikes to surrounding villages, to give out tracts and invitations, or to hold open air meetings. We had our regular stand after church on Sunday evenings in the Market Place, where singing was accompanied by a small portable organ (now in Norah's custody.) It was amusing to have coins thrown to us by passengers from the upper windows of double decker buses. All the traffic passed through the village then, before the A12 bypass was built. Often there were traffic jams



MISS CARTON WITH
WOMEN'S HOUR OUTING
TO HASTINGS. 1954.

OUR MISSIONARY'S
WEDDING. 1951
EDITH MYNARD TO
PASTOR HENRY JEFFREY.
BEST MAN, PASTOR
BERNARD MOORE.



THE JEFFREY
FAMILY AS THEY
SERVED THE LORD
IN BRAZIL; -
EDITH + HENRY
WITH ANN

so the vehicle's occupants heard the Gospel anyway! Because of the noise, eventually, an amplifier was used with a battery, and later a loudspeaker from the roof of a member's car, with a hand microphone. We tried to change the site, but occupants in council estates objected, saying that our singing kept their babies awake!

The church was solemnised for marriage in 1950. A men's fellowship was started in November 1951. It was held fortnightly, and convened by Mr F. Reynolds, Norah's grandfather. However, support for this was not continued for various reasons. Women's Hour on Tuesday afternoons continued regularly throughout the years until it was disbanded in 1983, and replaced by the Tuesday Prayer group.

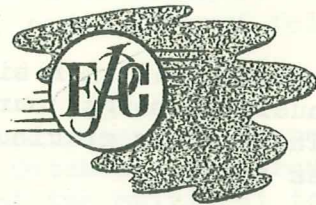
Ingatestone's own Elin missionary, Miss Edith Mynard, had returned from service in Bihar, India, and was united in marriage with Henry Jeffrey, our first pastor in late 1951. Their best man was Bernard Moore, caretaker pastor after Henry Jeffrey. The happy couple left soon after to serve the Lord in Brazil with the Elin Missionary Society.

November 1959 saw the departure of Miss Garton to take up ministry in Stowmarket, after seventeen years of faithful and much appreciated service.

The ministry of Pastor Colin Younger filled the gap after Miss Garton's departure until a new pastor was appointed.

ELIM PENTECOSTAL

CHURCHES



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 1960

DEAF AS A STONE BUT...

In "WRITE", the report of the Emmanuel Press, the story is told of an African who for many years has been stone-deaf. As an earnest Christian he longed for scope to serve Christ, but his affliction made him the laughing stock of his African neighbours! Even his speech was limited and confused, since he had not heard his own voice for many years.

Then a tract came into his hands! It was a light from heaven, for an idea flooded into his mind as he read the Message of Life.

At last!.....cut off though he is from the sounds and voices of the world around, he is not cut off from service! Now, hundreds of tracts pass through his willing hands to his own people. As he says for himself.....

"The Tracts TALK for me!!"

Does not this African's experience throw a flood of light on the way of service for some christians - christians limited not by difficulties of hearing or speech, but just my timidity and shyness. Tracts can talk for them!

In fact, here is a ministry for every Christian, shy or not. If every church member would give at least one good tract a day, our Fellowship would make hundreds of thousands of Gospel contacts a year. And that, backed by prayer, could mean many conversions.

A TYPICAL NEWSLETTER AS DISTRIBUTED
MONTHLY TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERY.

The Pearl Years - 1960-80 - and the Ruby Years.

Pastor Alan Seeman began his ministry here on 21st August 1960, having previously been in charge of the church at Great Yarmouth. A tall, young, single man, he at first lodged in Disney Close with a widower, Mr R. Kirkby. During his nine year stay in the village he acquired a wife, Betty, née Cooper, from the Chelmsford assembly; and Robert, Carolyn and Mark were born.

In 1963, No 8. The Leas was purchased as the Elin Manse for £3,125. It remained the Pastor's residence until its sale in 1978.

In 1969 the Seeman family moved on to ministry in Belfast, as the trouble in Northern Ireland was getting under way. Their ministry at Ingatstone was encouraging and much blessed. We were sad to lose them.

They were followed by a young couple from Glossup, Howard and Mary Glanville, with their young sons Timothy and Simon. Their stay was for only two years, as Howard sadly had a nervous breakdown, and when he recovered they moved to the Bristol area. It was a sad time for them, but Mary bore up very bravely, and their joy was a strength to us all.

Aged pastor Arthur Greaves became caretaker Pastor until the appointment of Patrick Rose as pastor in June 1971, together with his wife Rhoda & daughters Esther and Rachel, who had moved from Minehead, Somerset. During his two years service as Pastor, Sunday School changed to 9.30, before morning service. Also, youth squashes were started. Pastor Rose felt the burden of the ministry plus his full time secular employment, was too great, and



CENTRE :-
HOWARD & MARY
CLANVILLE.

in June 1973 the church learned that he had accepted the full time pastorate of the Clacton-on-Sea church.

Pastor G. R. Pickett took office in December 1973 with his wife, Pat, and sons Paul, Tim and Mark. He was most energetic in leading repairs around the church building, such as wood panelling of the lower walls, - which is still in evidence today. He was also very keen on young people's work, starting Saturday night youth club, and squashes. At this time, Mountnessing Congregational Church Hall, a sectional building, was to be demolished, and Bob Pickett was interested to purchase it for re-erection at the rear of our church building, for extra youth work. A concrete foundation was laid for this purpose, but plans changed, and the sectional building ended up at Chelmsford Elin's new building site in Hall Street, and was used as a builders rest room and storage space, while new church was being built.

Throughout the years both children's and adult's campaigns have been held at intervals. In 1977 American evangelist Harry Frick led "The Sound of Jubilee, in a marquee on Seymour Field at the end of the village. This culminated in a special weekend of meetings in our building, when several decisions were made for the herd.

For several years the church entered a float in the village carnival. A grand opportunity for Christian witness. The children enjoyed dressing up for these occasions. Themes included World Mission and Tear Fund, and "Make a joyful noise to the Lord." Musical instruments and an amplifier were taken aboard to improve the quality of singing. It was on one such occasion in 1978 that we heard with deep sorrow the news of the massacre of our Elin missionaries at Vumba, Zimbabwe.

In August 1977 Pastor Pickett moved on to The Lanes



TOP:- THE CHRISTMAS STORY ON A SUMMER CARNIVAL FLOAT 1979.

LEFT:- RACHEL ADVERTISING THE LOVE OF JESUS.

BOTTOM:- HERE COMES ELIM CHURCH, "MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE WORD."

Elim Church, Brighton, and September brought Pastor Eric Hutchinson from Pontypriid, mid-Wales, to take up the ministry, with his wife, Joyce, son Neil, & daughters Pat & Rhianne. The manse at 8. The lease was sold, and another at 65 Hillside Grove, Chelmsford, was purchased, which later was bought by Pastor Hutchinson as a private home.

At this time it was felt necessary to purchase a minibus for transport of children to Sunday School and ladies to Women's Meetings. When this one was no longer serviceable, a member offered the use of his minibus for the same purpose; a use which continued until Women's Hour was disbanded, and only members' children attended, most people having their own cars.

Although Eric Hutchinson was pastor of Ingatestone, we entered into an amalgamation with Chelmsford and Maldon Elim Churches whereby ministry was shared as a team.

During the summer of 1979 a Bison building was erected on the concrete foundation laid at the rear of the church in 1977. This would be used for youth work. About this time Bro Ian Moore became youth leader and led the Saturday night Youth Club.



JOYCE & ERIC
HUTCHINSON, -
CHURCH OUTING TO
WALTON-ON-NAZE

ERIC & IAN WITH
A GROUP OF
CRUSADERS AT
ESSEX UNIVERSITY
FOR INTER-CHURCH
SPORTS.



CRUSADERS IN FANCY
DRESS. WHAT A GOOD
GOLIATH ERIC MAKES
WITH RHIANNE AS DAVID.

The Golden Years - 1980 onwards.

The Golden Jubilee of the church, 50 years, was celebrated in late 1982, when a cake in the shape of the church was cut by the oldest member, Mrs Grace Mottage. Pastor Tom Walker from headquarters was the special speaker.

In the summer of 1984, Kurt Dalaber took a successful children's campaign; also Ian Moore became church leader, thus relieving Pastor Eric of certain responsibilities.

In August the following year Ian and Carol were formally offered by headquarters to the church for ministry in Ingatstone. Thereupon Pastor Eric relinquished the oversight of the church. Their induction took place on 9th October 1985. Field Superintendent Clifford Stockdale convened, and Pastor Eric gave the Word. Soon after this a wooden, illuminated cross was erected over the front of the church.

During the summer of 1984, Allison Day felt the Lord's call to work full time for Teen Challenge, a youth outreach organisation started by David Wilkerson of "The Cross and the Switchblade" fame. This involved an eight-week training course in Germany, and she was sponsored by the local church. When her training was completed, Allison was assigned to coffee bar work in Stoke-on-Trent and later in Leek, Staffordshire, where outside gospel drama accompanied the coffee bar work. Many young people were contacted & some converts made. Her sponsoring continued until her marriage in Sept. 1986.

In 1986 links with the other churches in the village began to take shape, with weekly "United prayer in the Parish church; Lent meetings, & finally Ingatstone Churches Together (I.C.T.) was formed.



1981-2. FRIENDS & MEMBERS.
AT SIDE OF NEW HALL.

In 1987/8 the church was blessed by the healing ministry of John Huggett on four separate weekends. Pastor Dan's ordination took place on April 25th 1988 at Conference. He became a full time pastor, supported fully by the church from January 1989.

The Little Sparrows Day nursery was opened on September 5th 1988, both with a view of making better use of the building, and also as a means of offering a caring service, and of contact and outreach in the community under the umbrella of the church.

A couple of dramatic musical presentations had previously been put on in the church, - "Kids Praise" and "A different point of view," but it was a real step of faith when the Community Centre, seating 240, was booked for "Come Alive," on May 12th 1989. This was greatly enjoyed by all present, and it was suggested that a repeat be presented elsewhere, - perhaps in a prison. This idea led eventually to opportunities for taking monthly services in Chelmsford Prison, where several helpful contacts were made.

There was further spiritual expansion in 1990, when seven service groups were set up. Members were encouraged to join and minister in the group which best suited their abilities under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Around this time we began to look around for a possible alternative venue, as the work was expanding, and extra room was particularly needed for the children's work. From December 1990 the hall at Trueloves was kindly made available to the church by the Shaftesbury Society for special occasions. This gradually increased until by December 1991 we were using Trueloves each Sunday morning.



CHURCHES IN INGATESTONE UNITE IN CHRISTIAN WITNESS OUTSIDE THE PARISH CHURCH 1991.



MARCH FOR JESUS PASSING ELIM CHURCH

They generously provided a purpose built cupboard for the storage of our equipment by July 1992.

It has been a joy for several years to join with members of the other village churches in "March for Jesus" procession through the main street, and to proclaim "Jesus is Lord".

By 1990 we had achieved a regular monthly Newsletter, to which all were encouraged to contribute. This is a valuable means of communication, and is circulated to the other village churches.

Outreach evangelistic services in Margaretting and mountnissing were held during last summer and autumn, in obedience to the Lord's leading.

Numbers attending particularly on Sunday morning have gradually increased over recent months, and numbers in our Good News Gang have tripled.

Praise the Lord! We give Him all the praise and glory for the continuance of His presence in leading us through these sixty years; through the valleys as well as over the mountain tops. We pray that His Church in Ingatstone will continue to be a "light set upon a hill, to which people would be drawn from the surrounding districts." This was a prophecy given to the church during the ministry of Alan Seeman in the 1960s.