

**tony goudie**

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**From:** "Edward Smith [New Account]" <~~edward.smith@smithbank~~>  
**To:** "David Silcox" <~~David.Silcox@anglican.org.uk~~>  
**Cc:** "Tony Goudie" <~~tony.goudie@anglican.org.uk~~>  
**Sent:** 02 December 2005 13:52  
**Subject:** London 50th

Dear David and Tony:

Best regards from Jaywick. Apologies for delay in getting back to you both. Tony asked me to submit an outline of material on the early years of the London Church – that might be used towards the special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations planned next July. Will be pleased to contribute what I can – but my “bit” will be somewhat incomplete and subjective without the input of many others.

(Do hope to be able to get back to you shortly with more details).

My contact with London did not begin till March 1959. So I am relatively a late comer to the events of the years 1955 to 1958 (although PT reader from Autumn 57). I was mostly absent from the London Church and its activities on a weekly Sabbath basis for more or less 25 years from 1962 to 1987 (or from 1963 to 1988). (I remained in Bricket Wood much of the time but served in the Midlands in the early 80's, and assisted Barry Bourne pastoring London from late 87/ early 88 until June 92).

You'll be aware of course that a good number of other present church members still have longer memories than myself from those early days – along with Andrew and yourself. You would probably receive good help from the following persons – if you can encourage their participation.

Example: David Catlow, David Bedford, Robin Jones of course, Jim Gadsden (still in London Church – he is featured on the famous black and white photos of 1957), etc. Additionally Maureen (Bendon) Saunders of Bournemouth Church (a young girl when I first attended). Mrs Retinella Daley and son Eisen Daley began to attend in 61 or 61 I believe. And down in Bristol, Mrs. Millman (senior), plus daughter Esme (Clothier) and Bob Millman (over in Canada) have early memories associated with coming up to special services or early festivals in Denison House. (Bristol Church did not formerly begin till July 60, but there were meetings and small groups in late 59 I think).

(Arthur Bendon – around in 1957 at least, and in days of Gerald Waterhouse – may still be alive. But his situation, age, health problems would doubtless exclude his being able to help much if at all).

Sylvia (Clegg) Wilkins, Anthony Buzzard and David Wainwright – among others – attended some period in London in 1959 to my memory. (I was baptized with Anthony Buzzard in June 59).

And whether or not it is feasible for you to contact former London members (still living) who have since left our fellowship, for their input .... Such as Karen (Silbernail) Nathan, Janice (Kelly) Mather, the Butterfields, James Wells etc....?

And as an outside possibility, you could always get even more specific firsthand info from the likes of Rod Meredith, Raymond McNair and Robert Boraker. (I jest?) Bob Boraker came to London in Jan 1960 to enlarge the letter department at Bricket Wood. (The Church moved from its Cranbourne Street offices in Leicester Square to Hanstead House estate on Sept 16, 1959, the prospective AC campus having been purchased by HWA that June).

The actual “received” dates for when the London church services were first held – and when the London church was reformed or re-ignited into growth - differ between 6 and 8 months.

The first Sabbath meeting is commonly agreed to be June 16, 1956. But the group of attendees virtually diminished by all accounts down to its smallest size, and near to extinction over the next few months. Then in Jan/Feb 57, Roderick Meredith is credited with being instrumental in the London church revival, as you know. And its real establishment, restoration and increase really date from that period.

So the 50<sup>th</sup> could be dated from June 56 (ie. The jubilee 50<sup>th</sup> being June 2006): or viewed as dating from Feb 57 (with the more appropriate 50<sup>th</sup> year date being held over till Feb 2007). So the date chosen of July 15,

04/12/2005

2006 is a midway point and probably will not satisfy a minority.

(A bit like the compromise for the 50<sup>th</sup> year celebrations of VE Day and VJ Day this past year – choosing neither the May date of Victory in Europe, or the August date of Victory in Japan. But in good British practice a nice compromise celebration occurred to cover both anniversaries on July 10<sup>th</sup>. An artificial choice, but quite suitable as it proved). And such should be the case when all the congregations get together to celebrate on July 15, 2006. Should be a very fine day.

For the record:

North London Church did observe a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on July 13<sup>th</sup> 1996 (at the YMCA) – under Mr Jones.

(And Mr J W Tkach [senior] spoke at Wembley Conference Centre on his first visit to England – and near enough to the 30th anniversary of the London Church – on August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1986)

Hope these initial thoughts may be of help. Will endeavour to get back to you again shortly. Thank you for the opportunity.

ES

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No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.362 / Virus Database: 267.13.10/190 - Release Date: 01/12/2005

**tony goudie**

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**From:** "David Silcox" <[redacted]@vegans-uk>  
**To:** <[redacted]@silcox.uk>  
**Cc:** "'Tony Goudie'" <[redacted]@vegans-uk>  
**Sent:** 05 December 2005 11:38  
**Subject:** RE: London 50th

Greetings Edward.

Thanks for your comments. I understand that you were not around in the beginning but anything you can put together by way of history would be useful. There some facts on the early Church in the UK in the 30<sup>th</sup> Ann. Brochure in 1989 which may be useful. Please keep in touch with Tony.

Many thanks.

David.

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**Sent:** 02 December 2005 13:53  
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**Cc:** 'Tony Goudie'  
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No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.362 / Virus Database: 267.13.10/190 - Release Date: 01/12/2005

## Tony Goudie

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**From:** Edward Smith [New Account] [~~edward.smith@wccg.org.uk~~]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2006 20:23  
**To:** 'Nancy Silcox'  
**Cc:** 'Tony Goudie'  
**Subject:** Possible extra dates to add to brochure

Nancy:

Possibly these dates may be worth including:

Radio ship stations began broadcasting World Tomorrow Programme	(1965)
Radio Church of God took new name "Worldwide Church of God"	(1968)
Newsstand Programme for PT in UK began	(1971)
Ambassador College UK and Imperial Schools UK both closed	(1974)
Former AC grounds at Bricket Wood sold and vacated to CEGB	(1978)
Publications of YES LESSONS for church children began	(1981)
Move of office from Radlett to Elstree House	(1982)
Death of Mr Armstrong	(1986)
Twenty Fifth anniversary of SEP in UK	(1992)
New Covenant Doctrinal Changes	(1994)
Move of Church offices from Elstree House	(2002)
Updated Church website began: <a href="http://www.wcg.org.uk">www.wcg.org.uk</a>	(2002)
Plain Truth becomes separate Charity to WCG in UK	(2003)
First UK Womens Ministry Conferences began	(2003)
First Succeed Club began in Watford	(2003)
Regeneration launched	(2004)
Purchase of and move to Market Harborough offices	(2004)
UK Regional Area Church Conferences began	(2005)
Ambassador Christian Training (ACT and Foundations For Ministry courses (FFM) began	(2005)
Growing Together Magazine replaced UK Worldwide News	(2006)

Best regards

Edward Smith

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No virus found in this outgoing message.

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Version: 7.1.394 / Virus Database: 268.9.9/382 - Release Date: 04/07/2006

07/07/2006

To:  
TONY

Dear David:

Jan 24th 2006

Hello from Clacton. Here at long last is the material promised as possible background information – towards the “London 50<sup>th</sup>”.

I have sent a copy to Tony to keep. My apologies for the delayed response I am sure you will all organise a very successful celebration. From your encouragements in the Updates and in the local areas so far, it sound like this will become a grand affair. Do hope that your efforts will be well supported across the country – since July 15<sup>th</sup> will soon be upon you.

Concerning this “book”. I trust it arrived safely at your homes, and regret seeming to load so much factual data on you both. (After all, you only asked for an initial 1000 words or so?)

Why could it not be something shorter? It is meant to be more of “reference diary” or survey of the various happenings in the British and International Work – that affected the LONDON CHURCH – back in the 1950’s and 1960’s. The survey however only takes you up to the year 1966.

(It would have been very difficult for me to précis all the statistics, dates, statements – so I hardly attempted it. A lot of cross checking to get the facts more or less as correct as I could. Therefore the pages multiplied, regrettably.....)

With your many commitments, I realize you won’t have lots of time – if any at all – to study or wade through so many big-print pages – leastways, not all at one sitting.

In fact, even if you did have time, you might prefer not to begin the “assignment” right away – for all sorts of reasons. Example? Though some of the items recorded may bring back positive and inspiring memories of happy occasions in the past – yet there may be some negative and less happy memories you prefer not to have recalled.

I have summarised the key events – as I recovered them - in the next couple of pages. All the remaining 150 pages (!) are effectively given over to back up information – as a resource to consult at your “leisure”.

So, by all means use or dispose of as you see fit. (But probably best not to circulate or duplicate. It is bound to contain inaccuracies)

Have enjoyed putting it all together – as a labour of love. I found that the task of refreshing my mind from many sabbath and bible study notebooks from years back was profitable – for me - an “energizing” pick-up.

Kind regards

Edward S.

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DSX

**Tony Goudie**

**From:** Edward Smith [~~New Account~~] [~~edward.smith@uscaire.co.uk~~]  
**Sent:** 23 March 2007 19:46  
**To:** 'Neil Earle'  
**Cc:** 'Tony Goudie'  
**Subject:** HWA & LOMA

Dear Neil:

Hello again from a cold and grey March day in Southern England. Thank you for your email. The following comments may be of help to your questions.

**LOMA'S MIDDLE NAME:**

My mistake on this one. And my apologies for any confusion caused. "Irene" is my wife's name. I must have had my mind on other things when I stated that "Irene" was Loma Armstrong's other name. Sorry I didn't catch the mistake before I emailed you some months ago.

As far as I understand, Loma was "LOMA ISABELLE ARMSTRONG" – see various photo captions and text in Volume One of the Autobiography (hardback edition). (especially the pages discussing her family and her engagement to HWA).

Was Loma sometimes mistakenly called Loma Dillon Armstrong retaining her father's name (or is that a red herring). Her mother was ISABELLA TALLBOY who died when Loma was aged 12 (according to HWA). Her father remarried.

Loma had a school teacher sister called EDITH DILLON, and one of her brothers was WALTER DILLON – also originally a teacher. Walter married a wife called BERTHA. He was the first College President of Ambassador College in Pasadena – and was also HWA's brother-in-law.

Mr. Armstrong reports in his Autobiography that he first met Loma Dillon in JANUARY 1917. She was his "third" cousin – not his "second cousin". She was the older sister of HWA's "third cousin" also called BERTHA DILLON. HWA confirms Loma as a third cousin (page 191, Volume One).

(At times the various family names appear difficult to unravel. Check pages 268-271 as well in the Autobiography, Vol. 1)

Loma was originally from MOTOR in Iowa, south east of Des Moines (p.185 – Vol.1). She appears to be HWA's cousin through the family of EVA WRIGHT (HWA's mother). Eva's parents were John Wright and Mary Ann Maxwell. Eva's sister (HWA's aunt) was called EMMA MORROW, and her husband was HWA'S "UNCLE GEORGE".

Another reference on p272, VOL.1 – states that two of Loma's uncles were BENJAMIN and WALTER TALLBOY.

HWA and Loma became engaged on MAY 15, 1917. They married on HWA'S 25<sup>TH</sup> birthday (JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> 1917). And HWA's mother Eva sent him a Bible on the occasion of his marriage.

When Loma died on April 15, 1967 (40 years ago next month, April 2007) – she was said to be 75 years old. HWA stated (in my memory I believe more than once) that Loma was six months older than he was. Would that make her born around January 1892 or December 1981?

Would it not be possible for you to obtain a copy of their official marriage certificate (in Chicago's "Marriage License Bureau") to verify their full names at marriage – and presumably Loma's Birth certificate must be accessible somewhere to determine her exact age when married. The Autobiography says that the wedding of HWA and Loma was performed by a Baptist minister called Pastor Brown – and the venue was the Chicago home of another Baptist minister called Dr. Gilkey.

26/03/2007

All these details presumably are lodged somewhere on computer or in some Registrar's office files. And you also mentioned considering the Mormons records.

(HWA remarried almost exactly ten years to the day after Loma's death – on April 17<sup>th</sup> 1977. His new wife was of course RAMONA MARTIN, a divorcee – with GTA performing the ceremony. This marriage sadly failed.

.....

HWA's MIDDLE NAME:

Some years ago I did serve for a good period with Robert Boraker in the Personal Correspondence Dept at Elstree House (Borehamwood) (and years before that in the earlier "Letter Answering Dept"). I recall that there was a printed Form Letter which responded to questions about the Middle initial "W" in HWA's name. The form letter gave his full name As "HERBERT WRIGHT ARMSTRONG". His mother was Eve Wright, so presumably he was originally given his middle name – or took it to himself – after his mother. He always told the story of his being "ARM- STRONG, SON OF ARMSTRONG", and of having a "STRONG RIGHT ARM".

Will not the Glendora church office have that PCD form letter on file in its archives somewhere? I can endeavour to track it down in my own papers at this end – but that may take some while. My office or study here is crammed full of unsorted materials gathered through the years and I despair at times of getting most of it in any order.

Anyway, thank you again for the opportunity to give input. Hope some of above may be of help

I have sent a copy to Tony: Am sure he'll have little problem keeping busy in his retirement when it comes. Irene and I have found that we can now get around to enjoying interests or pursuits that were not possible when we were fulltime in the ministry. But travel opportunities seem to reduce when you become a pensioner – "senior citizen"

Best regards from Irene and myself. Have an uplifting Passover season.

Edward Smith

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No virus found in this outgoing message.

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Version: 7.5.446 / Virus Database: 268.18.17/730 - Release Date: 22/03/2007 07:44

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