



## Top Adventist Singer Chosen by the Royal Couple



1.9 billion people who watched the royal wedding around the world on 19 May, would have seen in the midst of the usual pomp and circumstance associated with these events a rather significant spiritual tone. This was evident through the familiar hymns, scriptural passages, a rousing address that contained the elements of salvation and a gospel choir.

Seventh-day Adventist presence and input was significant through the work of Mark De Lisser, who arranged the song sang by *The Kingdom Gospel Choir*, entitled 'Stand by Me'. A song, as Mark shared, chosen by the royal couple Harry and Meghan, because of the words that for them depicted commitment and faithfulness within marriage. With this honourable motive in mind, Mark rearranged the original version to reflect the emphasis of staying beside your loved

one, in fulfilment of the marital vows that reflect 'standing by' "...from, this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part..." For Mark, it was about getting this message of commitment and permanence across to all people within relationships today, irrespective of culture, faith or belief. This emphasis was achieved, not



Mark De Lisser



Paul Lee

just in light of the popularity with increasing downloads on Spotify and other social music platforms, but the discussions and topical debates it has sparked, bringing marriage back to the forefront.

Paul Lee, another Seventh-day Adventist, who sang the lead role in the song, has had a number of television appearances as a professional singer in the famous *London Adventist Chorale* and various other groups. He had also sung with the *Kingdom Gospel Choir*, several years ago and was asked to assist with the choir for this performance.

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### A Word in Season . . .

As I write this my wife and I are looking forward to two weeks away shortly in beautiful North Wales. We are attending some church meetings and also taking some holiday time to visit family and friends. Our journey will take us through the Snowdonia National Park, rolling hills, rivers and beautiful beaches, with Welsh slate all around. We always look forward to our trips to Wales, and especially to some of the stunning scenery and beaches in North Wales.

In the Bible, we see Jesus time and time again taking his disciples away to beautiful places for a mini break and more intimate fellowship and teaching with Him and with one another. I was fortunate a few years back to visit the area around the north shore of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus spent a lot of His ministry. It is a lovely location. We also travelled further north to a place called Caesarea Philippi. It is a beautiful setting, with gentle waterfalls and is known as the head of the River Jordan.

It was in Caesarea Philippi that Jesus asked his disciples a critical and life changing question. "Who do people say that the Son of Man (Jesus) is?" (Matthew 16). Jesus then made it much more personal with a follow up question, asking them, "But who do you say that I am?". The Apostle Peter was the one who answered, who made what we now call the 'good confession', saying, "You are the Christ (the Messiah, the Promised One), the Son of the living God".

Sometimes, it can be getting away from everything to really see what is important in life. It is not by accident that Jesus asks his disciples this vital question while they are on a mini break in such a beautiful location. We must each give our answer to this

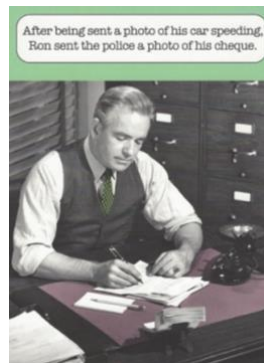
important question for eternity rests upon it. Today, Jesus asks each one of us "But who do you say that I am?". There are not many answers here, there is only one true answer, "You are the Christ (the Messiah, the Promised One), the Son of the living God." - Pastor Mark Borrett

### Food for Thought . . .

Living on earth is expensive but you do get a free trip around the sun every year!

- Anon

Is it not the 'Golden Rule' to do unto others as you would have them do unto you? . . .



### Services of the Church . . .

Bible Study/Discussion . . .

Saturday 10:00 am

Children's Class . . . Saturday 10:00 am

Family Worship . . .

Saturday 11:15 am

Church Family Fellowship . . .

First Saturday

afternoon in each month after the

Worship Service and a fellowship meal.

Bible Study & Prayer . . .

Monday 7:30 pm

We operate a child protection policy.

Marriages – Child Dedications –

Believers Baptisms – Funerals

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## Editorial

Our cover story has a touch of royalty and music. Both those themes are highlighted in June and have taken precedence in the sequence of news items in this issue. However, we also include some other interesting snippets of news. Enjoy!

- Editor

### Singer at Royal Wedding - Continued from page 1 . . .

The lead role was reserved for a well-known singer, however when a contingent of the choir which included Paul met with Prince Harry and Meghan, a practice performance in which Paul temporarily stepped into the lead role led to the couple being very happy with the performance and requested that Paul sing the lead role on the day.

Paul's background in music spans over 40 years where on a professional basis he's been singing and performing. His musical prowess was discovered at the young age of eighteen where he was recognized on TV after creating a jingle for the children's TV show Metal Mickey. His talent over the years has also been recognized by the headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in South England, where he was asked to serve as Music Director for the Church for several years.

### Adventist Leads Choir to Finals in Britain's Got Talent



Colin Anderson, a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Balham, London, conducted the *B-Positive Community Choir* - as they reached the finals in *Britain's Got Talent* in June.

The message behind their singing is to encourage people to give blood. The choir received a standing ovation by all four judges in the first-round performance with their song, *And I'll Rise Up*, and subsequently were selected for the semi-final stage. Although they were not selected initially for the final, the choir received the 'wildcard' vote for the finals given by the show's organizer, Simon Cowell.

The *B-Positive Community Choir*, created by 'NHS Blood & Transplant', is made up of various people whose lives are affected by the life-saving power of blood. In a following interview, Colin Anderson who leads the choir said that "giving blood saves and improved people's lives. As a Christian, I need to help further: I need to touch people where they are by challenging them to give blood." Sickle Cell disease is encountered much amongst Afro-Caribbean and

Hispanic communities. Blood is required for many reasons. The message is simple: Please give blood!

### HM Queen Elizabeth II's Blue Sapphire Jubilee



We congratulate Her Majesty on achieving 65 years of her reign as our Queen since her Coronation on June 2, 1953.

### 4 Delicious International Dishes . . .

At the recent vegetarian cooking class held at our church in Burnt Lane, a rather international selection of menus was demonstrated to the community: -

A British recipe:  
Chestnut Triangles  
- by Pearl Walker



A Philippino Recipe  
Tokwa Rebosado  
- by Helen Wilkinson



A Polish Recipe  
Dairy & Gluten-free Falafel  
- by Izabela Clarry



An Indian Recipe  
Sambar (Lentil Curry)  
- by Paul Manogaran



### Courage & Bravery of a Rescuer . . .

At the end of last month, we were left admiring the bravery and determination of a migrant who scaled the outside of a block of flats in Paris to rescue a small child dangling over the balcony. The ease by which the man climbed the building was

incredible. Mamoudou Gassama was personally thanked by French President Emmanuel Macron who awarded him a certificate and a medal for courage and dedication from the Parisian Police. He assured Mr Gassama that he would be granted French citizenship and was offered a job in the fire service.

Such stories of courage and consideration for others does one's heart good, especially in a world that so often manifests selfishness, greed and indifference. Well done Mamoudou!

### What & Why Adventists' Believe



#### Spiritual Gifts

- ☒ When Christ ascended to Heaven, He gave gifts to His Church (Eph.4:7,8); and the use of the word "some" when mentioning certain gifts indicates that we do not all receive the same gifts (Eph.4:11).
- ☒ The purpose of these gifts is to equip the Church for ministry and to build it up (Eph.4:12,13).
- ☒ Whatever gifts are assigned to us, they enable us to perform different functions but in harmony together (Rom.12:3-5).
- ☒ Our gifts vary according to God's grace (Rom.12:6-8; *c.f.* Eph.4:7).
- ☒ The variety of these gifts are administered by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.12:1,4).
- ☒ We do not choose what gifts we have but the Holy Spirit chooses the gifts we receive (1 Cor.12:8-11); and each believer is given at least one gift by which to serve (1 Cor.12:7).
- ☒ All spiritual gifts fall into 2 categories: (1) serving gifts, & (2) empowering gifts.
- ☒ God has appointed ministries and has determined the order of their priority (1 Cor.12:28).
- ☒ The Holy Spirit empowers us to testify effectively for God (Act.1:8). This is evidenced, for example, in the ability and boldness of the disciples following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Act.4:13,31).
- ☒ The ministry of Jesus was empowered in the same way (Act.10:38).
- ☒ While it is recognized that the Holy Spirit gifted people during Old Testament times - e.g. with the prophetic gift (1 Sam.10:6, Ezek.37:1) and various other abilities (Exodus 28:3; 31:1-11), He now comes with the added emphasis as Christ's personal Representative, enabling the followers of Jesus to fulfil their calling to fulfill the Gospel commission of Christ (Matt.28:18-20).

**The 14 June Memorial Day** witnessed the anniversary of the Grenfell Tower disaster in London a year ago, which claimed 72 lives. A silent procession was made in honour of those who perished in that horrific inferno. Many are still waiting to be housed. Pastor Paul King-Brown, Adventist minister of the *London Live Church*, who has been involved with other members of the community, said that there is still work to be done in reaching out to the community.