



SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

TRIBUTE TO GERRY DAVEY

Gerry was a former Trustee and Administrator of the *Roy Hession Book Trust* (now the *Verwer / Hession Trust*) and was called home on 1st February 2024 following a period of ill health. He has been welcomed to his reward with the words of the Lord Jesus “*Well done good and faithful servant.*” Those of us who knew him saw him as one who had left a great legacy of being faithful - he finished the race well.



Pic: Gerry and Jean Davey, George and Drena Verwer

Working within OM, and alongside George and Drena Verwer, he and his dear wife Jean, saw many thousands of Christian books made available here in the UK, and to the wider world. He was passionate about publishing, and distributing books that celebrated the teachings of the Christian faith. He would do this through a wide network of like-minded contacts who served in literature ministries and missions.

Gerry believed that books played a vital role in the life of the believer. He often spoke of the way Christian literature inspired and encouraged individuals to live out their faith in their daily lives.

For 18 years Gerry directed the work of ‘*Send the Light*’; a division of OM based in Bromley. This distribution centre sent Bibles and books to over 100 countries around the world. He was then seconded from OM to be General Secretary of the *East European Literature Advisory Committee* where he served for 15 years, and where he was held in high esteem. During this time Gerry, with the support of Jean, mentored colleagues across the region, helping them establish indigenous Christian publishing houses in ten countries.

In 2005, George Verwer invited Gerry to join him on the *Roy Hession Book Trust*. He later became its Administrator, a position he held until 2015 when his health began to fail. Over this time, he saw ‘*Calvary Road*’ and other titles written by Roy Hession translated and printed into more than 80 languages.

Gerry humbly walked through many years of Christian ministry with an attitude of service. If you spent time with Gerry you quickly saw the ‘Barnabas spirit’ he portrayed. He was an encourager, always wanting to encourage fellow believers to be involved in distributing books. The Literature world owes a great deal to Gerry Davey.

Our prayers are with his family and those close to him who were inspired by his Godly example.

John Lewis (Trustee)

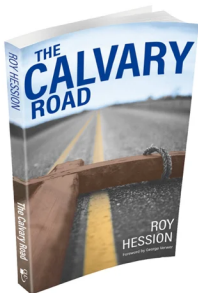
NEW TRUSTEE JOINS THE TRUST

LINDSAY BROWN is an ex-OMer, having served on the *Logos* from September 1976 to September 1977. Lindsay is an old friend of George Verwer, since they first met when he was a student in 1976. They travelled together to Scandinavia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Lindsay is thankful to God for George’s mentoring role in his life. Since leaving OM he has had leading roles in *IFES* for over 40 years, as well as the *Lausanne Movement* as International Director.

GERRY DAVEY AND 'THE CALVARY ROAD'

Back in 2011, **Gerry Davey** said: '*The Calvary Road*' by Roy Hession has been continuously in print in English since 1950. **In its first 25 years, more than 3 million copies in English were sold worldwide.**



Tens of thousands continue to go out each year. **It is one of the very few books that I try to read each year.** It has been translated into more than 80 languages. I have been involved in the Christian Book Ministry for nearly 50 years, and I can assure you that such

a record is very unusual. Why is this? I believe '*The Calvary Road*' deals simply and concisely with the very heart of the gospel and Christian discipleship, whatever our cultural background".

A WORD FROM DRENA VERWER, OUR PATRON

'It warms my heart that a number of our *Special Projects* friends and donors took up my challenge to help support the *Verwer / Hession Trust*, thus enabling the books of George Verwer and Roy Hession to stay in circulation and to be printed around the world.



Thank you all for your generosity.

As Patron of the Trust, I fully support the work the *Verwer / Hession Trust* is doing, and count it a privilege to tell others about the ministry whenever I can'.

Note: In February/March, the *Verwer Hession Trust* sent out the following gifts to the following ministries:

- **OM Books Foundation, India** - payment for five George Verwer books sent to Carlisle, UK.

- **Armenian Ministries** - payment for printing 1,000 copies of '*Calvary Road*' in Armenian.
- **Christian Literatures, Nigeria** - printing in Hausa, copies of *George Verwer* and *Roy Hession* books - three titles in total.

DONATIONS AND/OR GIFTS TO THE TRUST

If you wish to send a **Donation** to the *Verwer / Hession Trust*, our U.K. Bank details are:

CAF Bank, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ, U.K.

Sort Code: **40-52-40**

Account Number: **00002656**

IBAN: **GB37CAFB40524000002656**

Swift / BIC Code: **CAFBGB21XXX**

or go to: stewardship.org.uk/partners/20303918

If you are in **North America**, you can also donate to the Trust via our associated USA charity, *Great Commission Foundation (GCF)*.

Send a cheque to; *The Great Commission Foundation, 3230 Seagraves Mill Road, Hull, GA. 30646, USA*. Indicate on the cheque that it is for '*The Verwer/Hession Trust*'.

Or instruct your Bank to send a bank cheque as a monthly gift or a one time gift, to the *GCF* at the address above; Indicate on the cheque that it is for '*The Verwer/Hession Trust*'.

Or give via PayPal: www.rollinspilot.com/gcf When giving via this link, donors must identify in the memo section that the donation is for '*The Verwer/Hession Trust*', so that *GCF* can identify your gifts correctly.

Thank you.

PATRON: DRENA VERWER

TRUSTEES:

DAVID OST (CHAIR) • JOHN LEWIS • JOHN SATTERLY •
CHRISTA LE VINE • DIRK ROTH
• LIZZIE FRANCIS • LINDSAY BROWN

ADMINISTRATOR: EDDIE OLLIFFE

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: **1031304** (England & Wales)