

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. 2 Corinthians 1 v 3-4.



Sheila Adelaide Rose Curtis: Born in Aveley village in Thurrock Essex

Her Farther Fredrick Curtis worked as a labourer in a local asbestos factory was affectionately known as Bunter, was a member of the Ancient Order of Buffaloes, a kindly hard working man, with a friendly nature, worked as a window cleaner to supplement the income. Her mother Ada "Adelaide Allen and her grandfather Sydney Herbert Allen, who originally came from Worcester and worked with horses.

He loved a flutter!!!

Sheila remembers her grandfather covering a bristle brush with silk cloth and brushing her hair while making a shushing noise (He said the horses loved it)

Her first job

Sheila worked as a telephonist as a teenager ( her most favourite job but as she worked on the royal board she had to sign the secrecy act, I never heard her speak anything about what she overheard. This job involved her in getting to London so she would catch the early 5 AM train to London #

## **Her ministry of guarding the stuff**

Each time bro Tony was “Off on his travels; “Sheila would be At home guarding the stuff

Many time a kind friend of praying Christian would ask where is Tony? Sheila would reply “I don’t Know” How long he will be away Sheila would reply “I have no idea.

How she guarded the stuff while I was away from home and her hidden ministry all these years. 1 Samuel 30 v 24

An Example;

The time when I drove off in the Camper van on a mission as I left she entered the kitchen to see the radiator leaning over and fall to lean on the floor. She managed with a screwdrivers and some bits, to get it back on the wall not leaking, and thus secured, it remained for the next 10 years

During the last two years under lockdown she has she has telephoned around 12 Christians, all who have family or medical problems listening and caring, pouring in the oil and wine.

Another example

A wonderful blessing yesterday in Uckfield. We had gone to buy a pair of shoes but found the shop empty. Anyway as we walked up the street it started to rain. We came across a woman (maybe from Rumania) sitting on the ground with cardboard sign.

Sheila stopped to give her some money. On the way back we passed her again this time she had a big smile. Then something happened. We had gone another ten yards past her when the Lord prompted Sheila to go back and speak to her. She gave her some more money Later at home she told me on both occasions the woman had said “May God Bless You” .

This is typical of Sheila having suffered a lot in her life and overcome, the Lord has given her a gift of empathy and deep compassion and inexhaustible wells of love.

## **Suffering Trauma.**

Sheila suffered much in her early life and this resulted in her admittance to Clay bury mental hospital for two year having been sectioned and received electric shock treatment which blotted out certain memories for the rest of her life.

But God used this suffering to give her compassion and empathy for others who were suffering If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: 2 Timothy 2 v 12

Sheila was a care-er and nursed many- many older folks, mostly Christians in their last days on this earth, sometimes this involved her moving in to their homes for a period of weeks until they were called home

## **War time**

Sheila would often relate how during the Second World war during the bombing attacks on the nearby docks as she set off for school her mother instructed her, If the bombs fall before you get to the Red Lion Pub come home, but if you pass the pub then you must continue on to school ,,. If the bombs did fall even with clean school uniform on, the practice was to fall face down in the wet grass or mud. And faced the wrath of mum for the damage done.

## **London in the blitz**

Sheila's mother would also send her to stay with her Aunt who were well off by the families standards so she observed the high life. Her uncle was a bookmaker and made a good living so Sheila inherited a taste for good quality and a standard of living, with high regard for cleanliness and hygiene.

## **Hundreds of Baby garment kitted.**

All her adult life Sheila knitted garments. One of her favourites was baby clothes. Every time she met a pregnant mother or new of a baby on the way out would come the needles. She was very fast some times during winter evening the knitting was so fast thought the needle would catch fire.

One day seeing a neighbour walk by she started knitting and when the garment was finished on seeing the young mother ran out to give he the garment.

Julie eventually gave birth but tragically was ill with a tumour on the brain, Sheila visited and prayed with her and then later as the outcome was diagnosed as terminal,

Sheila witnessed to her and shared her faith and was blessed when Julie accepted the Lord Jesus as her Lord and Saviour and was wonderfully saved. Later when she had been called home Sheila and I were asked to minister at the funeral sang and testified of Julies faith.

### **In Gordon Road**

While gardening at the front of the home, Sheila was often interrupted by passing neighbours, who on talking to Sheila developed relationships which have lasted over many years.

Actually many dog owners and some folks who also after reading the latest poster on the "Wayside Pulpit" would share their appreciation of the pictures or the text.

Sheila would often and regularly pick up litter thrown into the hedge opposite and this became her routine over many years, to keep the road clear of litter.

One man knocked on the door and asked Peduyim (our house name) What does it mean) And was told Peduyim a Hebrew word meaning the Redeemed Ones or the saved ones.

### **Dying testimony**

A near neighbour was dying of cancer in the local Hospital. The Lord burdened Sheila and she went to the hospital and asked the consultant if she could care for her . The consultant telephoned the next day and said Yes.

Sheila cared for her neighbour and had the joy of praying with her on her deathbed. Something wonderful happened as the neighbour had been unconscienced in a deep coma, for a few day but then had woken up, sat up in bed, shared with Sheila some precious things and then had prayed the "Lord's prayer" together.

Sheila testified how her face had radiated a heavenly glow as she lay back in bed, closed her eyes and passed peacefully, into the immediate presence of the Lord as the Angels rejoiced in heaven. Glory to God

## Sheila In India



Sheila has always loved babies and older folks so her visit to India was more of a blessing



**Off to School singing choruses**

The children in the orphan homes loved and she loved them,  
It did not take too long before they had bonded



Everyone loved Sheila I think Pastor Nathaniel fell for her too???



The Beach near Bapatla.



The beach visit every year was a blessing the children were excited and enjoyed every moment.



The Church of the Redeemed in Christ, in a slum village just outside Bapatla where we worshipped the Lord together.

We visited Kortee family our auto rickshaw driver who the Lord saved after two years of avoiding attending the Gospel meeting. He would drive us to the village and then walk away as he was a Hindu.



Many of the orphans would call Sheila mother





## Sheila in Peduyim Home



**The Lord provided bicycles for poor tribal pastor**

**Peduyim home children in the evening worship time**



The Colony again distributing fruit to children and parents



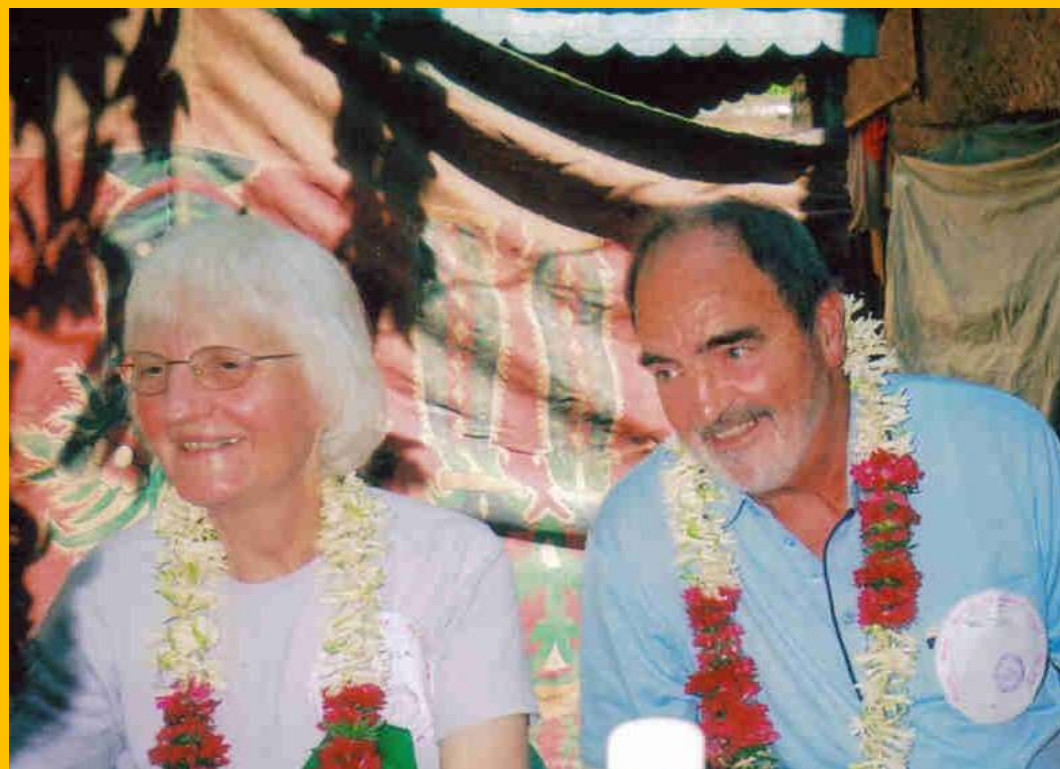
Happy Children



Sheila loved the long overnight train journeys



We were often garlanded



The children followed Sheila where she went they followed



Dharmarao Mukkala -Miriyamamma



On the beach Bapatla



Lovely Babies



Sheila in Slum Area Secunderbad



Children in Sheila's Home Bapatala



## **Sheila's Ministry.**

Over many years life was tough and Sheila suffered much trauma. But the Lord used this suffering to mould already sympathetic soul into a tabernacle with a spirit which emitted a fragrance of empathy care and love. In the hospital within the sick and dying, Sheila would pray with a dying souls

Sheila was gifted with a listening ear and the Lord gave her precious words to encourage suffering souls.

In the early years she used her knitting skills to encourage young mothers who were expecting a child with a gift of a baby coat. There were hundreds of them not only knitted but as she knitted Sheila would pray for the unborn child. Then as the gift was given a few kind words for the mother often meant a new friendship developing and lasting many years

### **Living by Faith**

Sheila was not only guarding the stuff but living by faith. This meant that she would often have to decide how to allocate any gifts from "Tent Making" Sheila cared for many dying elderly folk in their own home. She never had a charge or a wage, just trusting the Lord for whatever He would provide. Having no visible means of support Sheila would have to decide what to buy with the ten pound gift. Would it food bread and tins of beans or would she buy petrol for the car ?

In **All Saints Hospital** in Eastbourne in East Sussex UK where "Daily Bread Missions" ( a Ministry of Love in Song) after each meeting Sheila having sung and testified as she said goodbye she would often put her arms around some needy souls and pray.

**In Princess Alice Hospital.** Mrs Fitzgerald had asked us to go around the wards on a Friday night so that the patient who were too ill to attend the Sunday service in the lounge would also be blessed by the sacred songs and gospel witness.

As the years of service passed by , her love for the Lord Jesus grew stronger she would always testify how the Lord had wonderfully healed her

### **Bens scarred face..**

Sheila grandson was badly bitten by a neighbour's dog and his parents were traumatised, It was so horrific it made nation headlines and Jayne the mother, came to stay with Sheila as to escape some of the media attention . Many Christians prayed and the Lord wonderfully healed. Proof of this inner healing was manifest when visiting a local transport festival the arena was full of Alsatian dogs making a display with the RAF,.. As it happened Jayne with Ben in her arms sat watching all the display and not one moment of fear. Praise the Lord

*The full story will be told in Heaven.*

Is the story finished? No. There are more chapters to come DV.

The present writer can still pray, "Anything, Anytime, Anywhere. "Thy will be done" What will God Do?

All Glory to God

Brother Tony Saved by Grace.