

TIME TO REMEMBER, REFLECT AND CONSIDER:

120 YEARS OF EDUCATION



Photography: Archive

Throughout its 120-year history, Newbold has drawn students from all walks of life. The College never limited itself to providing courses solely to prepare students to become pastors, or missionaries serving in far-off countries. Instead, it responded to recurring themes in society throughout the decades, equipping students with knowledge and skills to serve God in various capacities. For example, Newbold's Business Studies degree programme lived up to the ideals of its founders by providing Adventist students with business skills: "Some are working for the Church, and some are working for humanitarian organisations. Others are working in for-profit organisations and making their contribution as lay people and as financial supporters of the Church" (*The Newboldian*, 2007).

In 1902, young men and women, eager to study at the only college in the United Kingdom that provided education from an Adventist Christian perspective, convened at Duncombe Hall College, the 'first Newbold'. They were not disappointed. They were thrilled to learn History, analysed from a Christian bird's-eye view, and Natural Science, Physiology, Anatomy and Physics taught with the Creator's handiwork in mind. Their teachers taught English with a definitive goal: to ensure their students (many of whom only had a rudimentary education) would have a firm grasp of grammar, composition and use of rhetoric, as well as a thorough knowledge of literature. All students learned Latin, "not for the purpose of reading heathen classics" (Newbold Prospectus 1902–1903), but for the mastery of the English language itself. And, of course, the teachers taught Greek and Hebrew, intended for the reading and understanding of scripture. Students attended Mathematics classes and learned how to apply their knowledge to book-keeping and accountancy.

Even the Nurses' Preparatory Classes – which would be considered old-fashioned or odd today – gave students the chance to learn "hygienic cookery", "simple treatments" for ailments and skills to deal with "accidents and emergencies". However, viewed in the context of the Adventist Church with its 'health message', it formed part of the College's unofficial 'Ministry of Healing' programme that equipped students for everyday life and work in the mission fields. The same applied to Music studies, which was and still is an essential component in worship services worldwide.

Over time, the College introduced new courses and replaced others, reflecting the changes in the British and American education systems as they evolved throughout the decades to the present time. For example, during the 1930s, Newbold students dedicated four years to studying for a Ministerial and Bible Workers Diploma, or three years for a Business Diploma, compared to the 1980s or 2000s, where they graduated with an undergraduate or postgraduate degree within the same timeframe.

Newbold owes its success to the dedication and commitment of its teaching staff across all departments (past and present): Theology, Business, Humanities and the English Language Centre – "As it is, there are many parts, but one body" (1 Corinthians 12:20) serving God. In addition, Newbold's 120-year story would be incomplete if we failed to mention the unquantifiable impact of the success of the College's short-term programmes. These include the Gap Year, Adventist Colleges Abroad, British Culture Study Tour, and the English Language Centre's Summer School and Year in Mission programmes, not forgetting the certificate and diploma programmes.

One of many examples of the College's success was the British Culture Study Tour (run by the Department of Humanities), which acted as a magnet, drawing students from the United States and other parts of the world. Students studied the works of great British writers and learned about British culture and history during the intensive summer programme. They also went on excursions to historic locations such as Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare's birthplace, London and Oxford. The British Culture Study Tour's popularity snowballed, and the demand for places led the organisers to run an additional programme during the summer.

It is worth noting that, during the course of Newbold's short-term programmes, many students experienced a life-changing spiritual awakening through their interactions with other students and staff. Even non-Adventist and non-Christian students altered the direction of their lives – a testimony to the work of the Holy Spirit on campus.

Edward E. White said, "For me, Newbold evoked many happy memories." He added, "It was my privilege to be a student at the 'first Newbold', Stanborough Park; a teacher at the 'second', Newbold Revel; and principal at the present, presumably the last, Newbold." He spoke about the distinct characteristics of the buildings and facilities at each location. Notwithstanding, he went on to say:

“Buildings are inanimate and hardly demand affection as they slowly crumble and require refacing, replacing, and sometimes indeed demolition. It is people who evoke nostalgic memories even if they too, after a lapse of years, also require refacing and rejuvenating.”

Echoing Edward White's thoughts on nostalgic memories, we present a selection of quotations from articles and former students and images that reflect their experiences over the past 120 years.

1900s



Photography: Archive

Stanborough College Group 1912–1913

“Right from the start, the students were inducted into the peculiarly Adventist training of colporteur work... ‘The students of Duncombe Hall College are determined to stir the millions of London, and eighteen of them have ordered 23,000 copies of Sunday: Notes on the National Campaign.’ What inspired audacity!”

The Journal of True Education, Vol. 15, No. 5, June, 1953, p. 26

“On Sabbath the young hopefuls were sent to the long-suffering London churches. My first sermon on the Christian armour of Ephesians 6 lasted just ten minutes with much perspiration and palpitation. The kind elder thanked me for coming out but did not reveal his inner feelings. Bless him.”

Spencer G. Maxwell, 1915 graduate, published in *The Old Newboldian*, No. 5, New Year 1982, p.2

“We are glad to note from the attendance of young people from the Continent that the reputation of our college is becoming international. We in England have not suffered through the war as many of our Continental brethren have, and we are glad to give some of them a share of our privileges, hoping that their work will thereby be strengthened.”

Missionary Worker, Vol. 23. Watford, November 1919, p. 9

“Students are about the busiest people on earth, but we have already devoted two days to the Harvest Ingathering Campaign. Some of the crack canvassers who went to the City of London have done so well that they refuse to tell anyone how much they have in their boxes. We are expecting some dramatic surprises when they are finally opened.”

Missionary Worker, Vol. 23. Watford, November 1919, p. 9

1920s

“The Foreign Mission Band has been very fortunate this year in having so many missionaries from all parts of the world spending furlough here, and consequently we have had the privilege of hearing much of the foreign fields... From the school this year we have sent out eight missionaries, five to Africa, one to Egypt, and two to France. With these and with those who have passed before to foreign fields, the members regularly correspond, for we realise how acceptable news from the home field must be.”

F. Barrett, *The Missionary Worker*, College Illustrated Special, 1924, p. 6

1930s



Photography: Archive

The Newbold Revel Estate located in the Midlands

“I came to Newbold in 1936 from West Wales – a country lad of 16, who had never been far from home, until that time. Meeting students from different parts of Scandinavia, Estonia, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Germany, France and Spain was quite an experience. I don’t remember ever having seen a foreigner until that time. So, my youthful heart went out to them being so far from their homes and I tried to make them welcome.”

John Freeman (Newbold, 1936 to 1944), *One Hundred Years of Newbold College*, p. 32

“It was decided to move to Newbold Revel mansion near Rugby, which gave the college its motto. High up on the front of the building is a Latin inscription, *Virtute et Labore* [‘With courage and effort’]. Could any motto be more appropriate for an Adventist college?”

The Journal of True Education, Vol. 15, No. 5, June, 1953, p. 27

1940s



Magda Bánfi (alumna: 1948)



Photography: Archive

Graduation inside Moor Close Chapel in 1946

"I went to Newbold very unwillingly, and very anxious to get the year over as quickly as possible and in a highly critical attitude. Throughout this little drama I had been totally unaware of the fact that God was silently working in love for me and that this 'one year' at Newbold would be the turning point of my life.

Thank you, Newbold, for your consecrated Christian teachers who taught me Bible truth and gave me a vision of service. Thank you, Newbold, for wonderful fellowship with Christian young people, with resulting friendships that have stretched down through the years. Thank you, Newbold, for inspiring testimony meetings that drew me irresistibly towards the decision to dedicate my life and talents to God."

Vera M. Porter, a 1940s graduate, published in *The Old Newboldian*, Autumn 1980, p. 13



The Stillroom, Moor Close, before the dishwasher



Photography: Archive

1946, Eddie & Marjorie White with their 1930 Austin 7, outside Poweswood Lodge

1950s



George Keough teaching Ancient History



Photography: Archive

Myrna Dorland's History class 1954-1955

"As a student at Newbold, my days were filled with classes, work, choir, missionary outreach, class trips, and all the other activities of a busy college schedule. I was secretary to Pastor Norskov Olsen and the college staff, and also assisted Mr Brailsford in the biology lab. Needing some quiet from all this activity, occasionally I would get up early and go into Sylvia's Garden and to the woods beyond. There I would sit and enjoy the solitude, listen to the birds singing, hear the rustle of tiny animals in the grass, and smell the wild flowers."

Jean Epton, Newbold 1958 to 1960, *One Hundred Years of Newbold College*, p. 72

1960s



"The supervised Sabbath walk"



Photography: Archive

Keough House in the snow

"In 1960, after ten years in the ministry, we and our two boys aged seven and 14 arrived at Newbold College from the Faroe Islands on a scholarship from the East Danish Conference. The Newbold experience was a drastic change in our lives! From the rough, treeless and windy islands to the mild green of England. From being a pastor in charge of a church to an obedient student in the classroom. From speaking Danish to a halting English.

"As students at Newbold, we gained a lot. We received a recognised education that was accepted by the governments where, in later mission situations, we needed work permits. Newbold gave us also the very useful English language, which became our lingua franca, used (or misused) in our thirty years of service outside the borders of Denmark."

Iris and Borge Schantz, 1960 to 1962, *One Hundred Years of Newbold College*, p. 108

1970s



Scenes from the 1970s

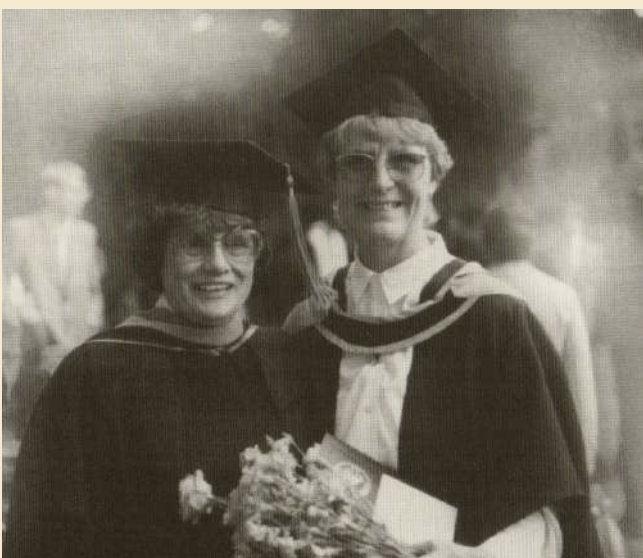
“Third time lucky, perhaps that should be restated as three times lucky, for this is how I describe my three stays at Newbold. In the early 1950s I lived here as a student’s child, between 1967 and 1972 as a BA student, and now as a student’s wife and a mother of three. Yes, the faces of Newbold have changed, I have been under five principalships, but Newbold and what it stands for has never really altered. Spiritually, Newbold has been a melting pot, a place for burning off the dross and polishing the character.”

Heather Haworth, 1972 BA graduate, published in *The Old Newboldian*, No. 5, New Year 1982, p. 14

“In 1969, if you had asked a graduate of Newbold College about a ‘new’ library building, he would have exclaimed, ‘You’re dreaming!’ In 1975, starry-eyed, he would have led you to a new building behind the administration building.”

William M. Schemburg, published in *The Old Newboldian*, No. 8, Winter 1983

1980s



Wilma Gramkow (alumna: 1988)



Newbold College choir (1987)

“What I remember best was the rich music life at Newbold while I was a music student. Our choir, under the direction of Mr Eivind Keyn, performed regularly and toured extensively in England and throughout Europe. I was privileged to travel five consecutive years with his choir, giving concerts in SDA schools and churches in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Poland, Germany, Holland, Austria, France, Hungary, Italy and Yugoslavia.”

Vladimir Slavujevic (1983–1987), *One Hundred Years of Newbold College*, p. 142

1990s



Photography: Archive

Newbold College Choir and Chamber Ensemble and soloists at a concert in St Mark's Cathedral, Alexandria, Egypt, March 1993

"First of all, I want to say "Thank you" to all the teachers in the Newbold College Summer School of 1999... I decided to come to Newbold for a Summer School of English. One month of classes I thought would be a very long time, but I must say it was over very quickly. I had much fun and learnt to understand and speak English language better. All the teachers were very polite, kind and friendly to us students and had much patience with us."

Barbara Hafemann, Summer School student 1999, *One Hundred Years of Newbold College*, p. 153

2000s



Photography: Alexander Bodonyi

Newbold students are preparing for life in an unpredictable world by developing their ministry styles.

"When I started studying business at Newbold, one of the very first things I received was guidance in devising a career pathway. It was a great start and is a proactive way of helping students think about their options for the future."

Patrycja Niewolik, BS Business Studies, Poland,
The Newboldian 2019, p. 27

"We met a woman on the street who had just taken heroin. I wrapped my arms around her and she began to cry. She didn't need anyone to say anything; she just needed to be held. It was in this moment, through the love and compassion we could share, that I truly felt the love of Jesus."

Kaila Purvis, Adventist Colleges Abroad student, 2018 Greek mission trip to Athens, *The Newboldian* 2018, p. 25



Photography: Alexander Bodonyi

United: worship nights



Photography: Alexander Bodonyi

Over 100 staff and students participated in Newbold's Impact days of service in November 2013 and March 2014

“Newbold Chaplain Pastor Paul Goltz led a group of students from the Gap Year programme to the Kirsten Jade Rescue Centre, home to 100 orphans, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Gap Year students Robert Roach, Sarah Milchenko, Adelbjorg Ellertsdottir and Anni-Elina Vänskä fundraised prior to their trip to raise money to replace the kitchens in the orphanage, led worship and study activities for the children and assisted with teaching in nearby Chiang Mai Adventist Academy.”

“Gap Year Students Assist Orphanage in Thailand”,
The Newboldian, Spring/Summer 2013, p. 31

“Thank you so much for such an amazing trip. It was even better than I expected it to be. I made so many amazing memories and learned so much. Thank you for putting together this trip, it is something I will never forget. I hope to come back to Newbold soon.”

Sarah Delaware, British Culture Study Tour 2018



Photography: Nikolay Stoykov

2016 students



Photography: Nikolay Stoykov

Trip to Cornwall in September, 2016