

Spring 2026 Newsletter

The Legacy of a Lifetime

At Easter we remember that Jesus gave his life to save us and rose again to give us life. We can never repay such love, yet it is a privilege to offer our lives in response and share the good news that has changed us.

Over the past year, Pathway has lost some faithful supporters who devoted their lives to sharing the gospel through its ministry. It was a privilege to attend their funerals on Pathway's behalf. As I stood in the congregation, I wondered, "how many children am I representing here, whose lives had been impacted by Pathway's ministry, who might want to say, 'thank you for giving your time so that I could hear the gospel?'"

Sometimes we see the fruit of our efforts, but often we only see how God has worked through us in eternity. I'd like to briefly share how these three people impacted Pathway and continued to serve the gospel even in their later years—people who could truly say, like Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Tim 4:7)

Roy Pickering (1943-2025)

Roy, who himself was a school teacher and very much involved in the ministry at Brigadier Free Church, and later Enfield Baptist Church, took on the role of chair of Pathway's trustees from 2001, just after Darren had started in the role of Pathway Team Leader, until 2008. He was the quizmaster at many Pathway quiz fundraisers, and could often be found grilling on the BBQ at our annual end of year gathering. He died in August 2025 and it was clear from how many attended the funeral to see how many lives he had touched. His wife, Chris, is still active in leading assemblies and taking part in the Christmas and Easter Experiences.



Rowena Courtney (1933- 2026)

The Reverend Robert Courtney

Rowena was an important member of the Pathway team as it was being set up. She saw that it was essential that any new charity must have financial records that were good enough for any audit. Any serious donor would want to see them. Anyone asking the charity for financial support would also need that confidence. She was a serious mathematician and offered to be treasurer.



As a result, she found herself raising funds. She wasn't shy in asking for money. She believed that Pathway was God at work and she was just helping. She got lists of

major charities and wrote to the most likely. They included businessmen from Christian families who were eager to help and gave continuing support. There were some happy surprises.

Sainsburys was prominent in this. They already supported some charities. Straight away they asked for financial records. Rowena had prepared for this and was glad to show them, which brought a generous response. This was a strong encouragement for Pathway to move forward.

Pathway remains London based, but look how it has grown. God is clearly at work, even after Rowena and the other early leaders have died and are watching us from Heaven, glad for what they were able to do and glad for what you are doing.

Ernest Picton (1929-2026)

Those who taught alongside Ernest repeatedly said, 'He was a godly man who was teaching the Bible well into his 80s.' Ernest attended Wilton Community Church and served across a number of Christian charities. He was very involved in teaching the Bible Explorer course - an overview of the Old and New Testaments that could be taught in a series of 5-10 lessons. Former Team Leader, Dureen Chubb, writes: "I spent a long while training him, he was so determined! It was during a time when we were transitioning from overhead acetates on an OHP to using a computer and projector. He wanted to know everything involved, so he could focus on teaching the Bible without tech problems becoming an issue. After a year or so he had to step back due to his wife's health as well as his own health issues, but I would still commit to pop in to pray with him on the way to Highfield Big Lunch on a Friday lunchtime (he lived on the way there). It was a delight to see him find a new godly passion in the latter years of his life, a true example to all!"



Remembering Pathway in your Will

What a legacy these friends have left us! What will our legacy be? Would you consider leaving a gift to Pathway in your will? Your legacy would enable us to continue in our work to spread the good news of Jesus to children in Enfield, Barnet and Haringey and would be a lasting way to put your faith into action.

It's easy to set this up, whether you make your will with a solicitor or on-line yourself. You just need to give this information:

Charity number: 1210452. Thank you.



“I want to be baptised”

This term, we’ve been grateful to have been invited to lead an RE workshop on ‘Baptism’, and another on ‘Global Community’ (which looks at how Christians connect with the worldwide church through giving, social action and mission) as well as running the Easter Experience at five venues (including two churches who have not run it before!)

Sometimes the most encouraging moments are not the hundreds of children who come through these workshops (though we’re thankful for that), but the stories of individuals who were touched by them.

One Sunday in February, a family arrived at a local church saying that their son had attended a baptism workshop at their school and wanted to be baptised himself. The dad had attended church in his younger years, but had not been for some time, and not since having children. But his son’s question had prompted him to get back to church. Having put the pieces together, the church kindly encouraged us by telling us of the impact the workshop had had. The family have continued to attend the church regularly, and their son has now joined the midweek kids club at the church too.

I’m certain that there are many more stories like this that we don’t hear of, but it’s a good reminder that the heart of our work is not about putting on events, or workshops, but seeing lives changed for Jesus.

Next term we look forward to running the ‘It’s your move’ workshop for year 6 students moving to secondary school. Please pray for more fruit like this!

Upcoming events for your prayers

- **It’s your Move workshop** - preparing Y6 children to move to secondary school (date tbc).
- **Holiday clubs** - we’ll be supporting clubs at St James Muswell Hill and Kensit Evangelical Church among others this summer.
- **Pray Haringey celebration** – we are running the kid’s ministry at this event on 24 May 2026.



The Easter Experience in brief

- Enfield Baptist Church - 10-13 March. 317 children.
- St Peters Church, Muswell Hill (new venue) – 16-17 March. 284 children.
- Camrose Baptist Church, Edgware - 19-20 March. 117 children.
- Christ Church Barnet (new venue) – 23-24 March. 197 children.
- Hazelbury Primary School (pop-up) – 25 March – 150 children.

Clubs and assemblies

This term our clubs have been looking at people who Jesus healed in Mark’s Gospel.

In assemblies, we’ve continued with our detective themed, ‘Who is this man?’ series, as we examine the ‘I am’ sayings from John’s gospel. In January and February this was ‘I am the resurrection and the life’ as we told the account of Lazarus being raised from the dead. Our Easter assembly unpacked the statement ‘I am the way’ and showed how Jesus died and rose again to open the way back to God.

Dates for your diary

- **Pathway AGM – ALL WELCOME** - Tuesday 19 May 7:30pm, online - email agm@pathwayonline.co.uk for the agenda and the link.
- **Pathway Sponsored Walk – ALL WELCOME** – Saturday 9th May 10am starting at Bounds Green Station (ending at Oakwood Station). Email sponsoredwalk@pathwayonline.co.uk to sign up.
- **End of year BBQ – ALL WELCOME** - Friday 10 July 2026 6-9pm St Cuthberts Church, N22 5JD
- **Office Gardening & Decorating Day – WE NEED YOU** - Bank hol Monday 4 May 9:30am onwards. Lunch provided. All welcome.