

Trip to Solwezi October 2019

We left Bristol for Heathrow mid afternoon on **Sunday 20th October**.



After parking the car and bussing it to terminal 3, checking in our luggage and passing through security, we had some time to relax until our first flight which was to Dubai at 19:50 3,618 miles.

Monday 21st October 2019

After the 7 hour flight we landed in Dubai at 05:50 (3 hours ahead of UK). Our next flight was due to take off at 09:25 local time, before which we had to go through security and then find which gate the departure was going from.

The second flight, Dubai to Lusaka 3507 miles, took off after a short delay. We landed in Lusaka at 14:35 local time now (1 hour ahead of UK).

After a long delay passing through immigration and getting visas to enter Zambia, we went to collect our car only to be told that they had given our 4 x 4 to somebody else! We were given a temporary vehicle and left the airport building where we were met by, Pastor Evans, Pastor Joseph, Betty, Anton, and Pastor O'Brian.

We made our way straight to the Lusaka church where we were able to spend a special time praying for the leaders and the church as they move forward under God's direction into new and exciting things.

We finally checked into our hotel at around 19:30 before dashing out to have a meal with Evans, Joseph and Betty and other local friends.

Tuesday 22nd October 2019

We checked out of the Taj Pamodzi hotel at 04:30 and then collected Pastor Evans from his accommodation. At 05:15 we started the journey from Lusaka to Solwezi 360 miles.











The roads have improved considerably this year and after 10.5 hours of driving we arrived safety, dropping Pastor Evans at the church, then off to the Royal Solwezi hotel for dinner and time to relax.

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

The day started with a visit to local supermarket so that we could purchase gifts for the children of the primary school.









After purchasing the gifts, we sorted and packed them into gift bags. These gifts were purchased with the money raised from the breakfast and cream tea donations at New Wine this year and donations from members and friends of New life Church Bristol.







Thursday 24th October 2019

Cave Gathering Conference starts today.





Day I of the conference morning session. There were probably around 150 people present and Snr. Pastor Evans Luwi peached in his usual passionate style. He encouraged everyone to shift to the next level; to step up a gear and not just coast into the new year.





Richard Brown then followed on preparing the hearts of those attending by preaching about a Determined Spirit – Give up or Get up. Using four examples of characters in the Bible, he encouraged us all to approach the year's conference with a determined spirit to receive all that God has prepared for us.





In the afternoon Michelle Moorcraft built on Richard's word and looked a little deeper into the worship song "Raise a Hallelujah". She then taught the song to everyone present at the conference.

Friday 25th October 2019

Day 2 of the Cave Gathering Conference morning session. Dave Summerhill shared his thoughts on evangelism and the need to be relevant and meet people where they were at, inviting them into our lives and not just our services.





Richard followed on after the break and started a series on the book of Esther.

Part 1: Setting the scene. Opening with the nation of Israel exiled in Persia, Richard notes that this whole story takes place away from the land of Israel and there is no mention of God from beginning to end.





In the afternoon session Richard continues with the story of Esther.

Part 2: The Beauty Contest. Looking more closely at three of the main characters: Xerxes. Esther and Mordecai.

Saturday 26th October 2019

Day 3 of the Cave Gathering Conference morning session. Dave looked at what it meant to be loved by and love God unconditionally through the life of Henry their Springerdor.





The second morning session, Richard introduced the villain in the story of Esther. Haman reacted to the fact that Mordecai refuses to bow down to him, and as a result sets in motion a plan to annihilate the entire Jewish nation.





In the afternoon Richard continued with the story of Esther. So far in this story, everything had been happening around Esther. Now we come to the point where Esther must take a step of faith and go before the king. She does not need to fear because God is working in the background to protect her and make her plans succeed.





Sunday 27th October 2019
Day 4 of the Cave Gathering Conference morning session. Dave looked at what it is to "remember me" during communion.

The sacrifice of Jesus was so much more than a few nails and a cross and we can't fully "remember" Jesus without fully understanding the truth about crucifixion and the cross and the absolute physical suffering Jesus went through so that we could be called sons and daughters of God. This was followed by Communion





The final morning session, Richard brought the story of Esther to a conclusion.





The afternoon session Evans concluded the conference with a short word and then people shared what they had learnt over the past four days. Evans then closed the proceedings.







At this time Dave explained what was going to happen next! All the leaders were going to line up outside and have water bombs thrown at them (at the lunch time break we fill 1000 water bombs at the hotel and transported them to the church).

Monday 28th October 2019 Visit the Beacon of Power Academy



We were greeted by Maureen and Evans on arrival and were taken into the Church where the children were waiting to do some presentations, which we filmed.

You can view this by following the link: https://youtu.be/7YcHWfS4s88







After presentations of singing and traditional dances, we were taken around the primary school observing some of the classes.













After we visited the classes we then made our way over to the secondary school area passing the second water storage tank at the primary school/church area.







The secondary school is now fully enclosed.

The Main water tank in the secondary school area feeds the primary school / church tank and the tap for the local community to use. These were installed due to the fund rising that we did earlier in the year.

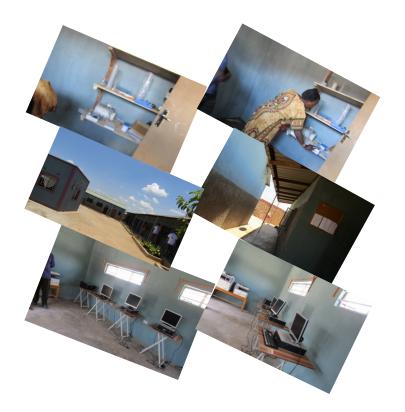








Science Block has benches and running water, but needs the gas piping to be installed. The quality of the work is outstanding.



After the school tour we distributed the mealie meal and gift bags to the families and children of the primary school. (Photos below)



Gift Bags & Mealie Meal Photos





In the afternoon of the 28th October we spent time with Evans and Maureen at the home discussing pastoral matter with them and catching up after the conference. This was a blessed time and very a valuable information gathering time.

Tuesday 29th October 2018

Today we travel back to Lusaka, another early start leaving our hotel at 04:45 to collect Evans from his home leaving Solwezi at 05:15 for the 360 miles journey.





After dropping Evans off at his overnight accommodation, we checked into the Taj Pamodzi hotel Lusaka, before heading back out for a final meal together with Evans.



Wednesday 30th October 2019

Today was a free day and we visited Chaminuka, a privately owned park, where we did a short safari and elephant experience.



Thursday 31th October 2019

The last day before the flights home; we checked out of the hotel at 11:00. First flight Leaving Lusaka at 21:20 arriving at Dubai at 06:25.



Second flight Dubai to London Heathrow 09:40; we landed at Heathrow at 13:50 on the 1st November. After going through passport control we collected our luggage and headed to car park to collect car and headed back to Bristol.



Site of School 2015



Site of School 2016



Site of School 2017





Site of School 2018











Site of School 2019

