

| cy -oot I -cool-ool

~

CONTENTS

Preface and Acknowledgements00ccccccceuee vi

SEEOUUC ION Ske bn yhcawas ie ob weitere et Peed, cue! Vill

Chapters

1 The Plinth: Start of the Journey 1

v A a's .0 win dr eae ic ees 2B ee ere dc a 9

3 VON ecoea 0S ing Bias | ba ee ee Oe on 15

4 MoT ONG aod ino Haok a nick olde De ode cae oo he coe. 29

5 To Please a Queen: 1944-47 41

6 Trumpne 1947 â\200\224 1953: oo eis oat ewe oe, fe ble 52

7 AAIIOUION aia. a 2 bow dee Ss oy hh te a lee 61

8 ON eet decd, Ming ine, Scie Mitkas ude. 4 74

9 SAU GIISUONY iis 254 eggs ep Osea ala de ed eee a 81

Preface and Acknowledgements

Ned Paterson was one of the great characters of central Africa. He was a cheerful eccentric, a mischievous clergyman with a salty wit who loved to startle people and played outrageous practical jokes. He was a comic cleric who showed the world a happy Christ of love and gentle laughter. In addition he helped unleash the flood of modern Zimbabwean art, by teaching and encouragement.

The arts, he wrote, express the hopes and aspiration of people. He saw how great is the human need for loving appreciation, how easy it is to censure and hurt. The God of love is one who appreciates and enjoys us despite our faults. We serve Him by encouraging and taking joy in the work of one another. We bring His love to one another by encouragement, praise and caring.

Priest, artist, archaeologist, linguist, teacher; writer and family man, Paterson was a young man all his life. He brought into it gaiety, energy, enthusiasm, integrity, and love of God and men, women and children. He knew the child in us never dies. We all need at times to fool around a bit, for part of us is a child all our days. He enjoyed clowning himself, and if he seemed at times ludicrous, he did not mind so long as his clowning gave others a bit of fun. A friendly kiss for a majestic, world-weary matron, or a cheerful smile at a wedding or a funeral helped the sun shine a little brighter. He would have loved the laughter at his own funeral.

He won the love of all sorts of people by his cheerful simplicity of life. He accepted people for what they were, and accepted himself. He knew he had many faults, but accepted them and lived with them. He did not make claims for himself or try to

vi

live selfishly at the cost of others. He did not thrust forward but was content to be himself; to live cheaply and honestly. He did not envy others's wealth or happiness but lived simply within his means and built up the self-respect of the people he met. He loved to make people laugh. Even in old age, blind and in a lot of pain, he always had a twinkle in his eye. He was one of the most successful of his profession in inspiring local people to become priests and join him in the service of his Master.

What made Paterson the man he was? His Scottish poverty and close family taught him to value love and religion. The nearness of death in his childhood taught him not to fear it nor to place much value on possessions. He had a gift of caricature which was fortunately encouraged, and firm parents who taught him to value time. His mother once said "What have I done that God gave me a mad son?" and there was one way in which she certainly had made him odd man out in the family. The Patersons were almost as fervent Scots as they were Christians. Ned's parents named his brothers James, Douglas, Leslie and Gordon the great old Scottish royal and noble names, from

royalty, six earldoms, a duchy, and a marquissate. But in 1895, when he was born, the line of Queen Victoria had just been further secured through the birth of Prince Edward (VIII) to Prince Edward (VII)'s son George (V). Ned was given the English names Edward and George. He retained a fierce antipathy to the British monarchy till he met George VI's Scottish queen Elizabeth, later a valued ally of the arts of Central Africa especially Zimbabwe.

A book on Ned was first proposed about 1953. In 1972 the Rev R. Hambrook of USPG drafted a manuscript but died soon

+ Grom.

after. About 1980 the
a year or two later I \
Kathleen Garrs, to wr
use of the Hambrook 3
My particular gratitt
Mary Ball, Ned's elc
Garrs and Barrie Ball; :
many marvellous lett
Margaret Tredgold w
thusiasm the project
Canons R.A. Ewbank
Paterson (Ned's brotl
and to the loving men
Nicholas Paterson wh
loving star.
In addition I am gra:
following institutions |
The Directors, !
The Central Scl
Gweru Memori.
Mambo Press, Â¢
Mzilikazi Art C
Zimbabwe;
the National A:
the National G:
St Paul's Theol
the United Soci

"after. About.1980 the draft was brought back to Zimbabwe and

a year or two later I was invited by Nedâ\200\231s widow, now Mrs Kathleen Garrs, to write a completely new biography making use of the Hambrook manuscript and many other sources. My particular gratitude is due to Mrs Kathleen Garrs; to Mrs Mary Ball, Nedâ\200\231s eldest daughter; to their husbands, Jack

"Garrs and-Barrie Ball; to Lady Violet le Gros Clark who lent me

many marvellous letters; to Fr Albert Plangger and Lady Margaret Tredgold without whose driving energy and enthusiasm the project might never have been completed; to

Canons R.A. Ewbank and R.H. Clark; to the late Douglas -

Paterson (Nedâ\200\231s brother); Nedâ\200\231s former pupils and students; and to the loving memories of Fr Reginald Hambrook and Dr Nicholas Paterson whose short life shone with the brilliance of a loving star.

In addition I am grateful for assistance and suggestions to the

_ following institutions and people:

The Directors, Principals, Librarians and staffs of:
The Central School of Arts and Crafts;

Gweru Memorial Library;

Mambo Press, Gweru; Mkoba Teachersâ\200\231 College;
Milikazi Art Centre; the National Archives of
Zimbabwe;

the National Arts Foundation;

the National Gallery of Zimbabwe;

St Paulâ\200\231s Theological College, Grahamstown;

the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel;

the University of Zimbabwe;

and in particular the members of the Canon Paterson
Craft Centre in Mbare.

Among the many individuals consulted the following have
been particularly helpful:

â\200\230. Bill Arnold, Mrs P. Battigelli, Mrs G.K. Bliss,
Noel Brettell, Bernard Cairns, Bernard Chiadzwa,
Mrs Ellen Chudy, Canon J. Fenwick,
Mrs L. Frangcon-Jones, Mr & Mrs Hugh Finn,
Mrs Barbara Gibbs, Sir Humphrey and Dame Molly
Gibbs; Canon R.H. Grinham, Mrs Phyllis Hiller;
Burford Hurry, Mrs Vivienne Jedeikin, Job Kekana,
Morris Kestelman, Bishop Robert Mercer,
Mr & Mrs Morris Mills, Mrs D. Moony,
Rev Dewi Morgan, Joseph Muli, Barnabas Ndudzo,
Mrs Patricia Nisbet, Rev Stanley Nyahwa,
Fr Neil Pierce, Rob Prentice, W. Roberts who first
introduced me to Nedâ\200\231s work, Canon Chris Ross,
Mr & Mrs G. Scully, R. Cherer Smith, Sam Songo,
Paul Sykes, Miss Barbara Tredgold, Lawrence Vambe,
Miss K. Walker, Fr T. Wardle and Fr S.P. Woodfield.

There were many others too numerous to mention.

As this is perhaps my first publication, my gratitude is
recorded to my parents. May they live long enough to see this
work in print and to enjoy it.

esc

ia
wa
i
v

MAMBO PRESS

Gweru, P.O. Box 779

Harare, P. Bag 66002, Kopje
Gokomere, P. Bag 9213, Masvingo

Copyright © 1985 David A.C. Walker

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior permission from the publisher and the copyright holders.

ISBN 0 86922 340 2

Printed and published in Zimbabwe
by Mambo Press, Senga Road, Gweru
1985