

## Home Going Celebration

The funeral service for the late Cranston Harrison took place at Trinity Methodist Church on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010. This was the same venue where he tied the knot with Armena Taylor-Harrison some four years earlier. The building was packed to capacity as friends and family gathered to pay their last respects. The service was moderated by the National Overseer of the Church of God in England, Philip Bennett. The coffin entered the church draped in the Church of God flag under which Deacon Harrison had been a faithful member for 62 years. Deacon Harrison epitomized the scripture in 2 Corinthians 4:2 which states, *“Moreover it is required in Stewards, that a man be found faithful.”*

It was good to see so many former members of the Church of God in attendance. Family and friends alike shared their fond memories of Deacon Harrison. His unflappable and calm nature was nearly always mentioned. The message was preached by Bishop Robert J. Hawkins Junior, the former Overseer and now World Mission Secretary for the Church of God. Bishop Hawkins and his wife came all the way from the USA for the funeral. In his address Bishop Hawkins made reference to the faithfulness of Deacon Harrison and threw out the challenge to the family to pick up the mantle. There was a spirit of rejoicing throughout the service which was unlike a traditional funeral as we celebrated the passing out ceremony of a great man of God.

The internment took place at the cemetery in Handsworth. It will be strange to not have Deacon Harrison around as he had been one of the foundation stones for the Church of God in England but we hope to meet him again in *“the sweet forever.”* To quote a line from a popular song, **Only “Good night”, beloved, not farewell.....Good night! Good night!.....Good night!**