# **NEWSLETTER**







## Richard writes.....

"As I enter my second year as leader of TFM, it's natural to look back and reflect on how things have gone. Missions continue in England, Ireland and East Africa, but without a Walk Mission at present on the horizon. A new training package is planned, with the new manual completed and complementary videos to be shot later in the Autumn, but re-training won't take place until the early New Year. The same applies as we seek more staff evangelists and as I look for us to work alongside other organisations and churches nationally: much preparatory work has taken place, but much remains before we "go live".

We always knew that after 30 years, this would be a time of transition. But in all honesty, as 1 September approached, I was quite daunted. Many questions tripped off the tongue: WHAT exactly is God up to? WHERE is He taking us? WITH WHOM will we be working in the future? to name but a few. I'm not concerned by missions coming in or by finances – as we "do the stuff", we can expect God to faithfully provide in all ways. My concern instead has more to do with hearing Him correctly. Following in His footsteps, not striking out alone. Getting it right, because He's got it right and we're in tune. And because He's a God who is always making things new, we need to be open to new paths, new directions and new ways of working. It's a bit scary, putting aside the familiar and trusting Him, especially if what He suggests is extra-ordinary.

In Genesis 18, two angels and the Lord himself appeared to Abraham. He'd already been told in the previous chapter that he would be very fruitful, fathering many nations and more specifically, that his wife, Sarah, would have a son. Now the three men gave more detail: this son would be born by this time next year. And as Abraham had laughed in Chapter 17, so Sarah laughed when she overheard the men



speaking. For what they were saying seemed ridiculous. Unheard of. Plain daft, until we take into account the Lord's Will. Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son." (Genesis 18: 13 – 14)

Nothing is impossible for our God. We know that biblically and can trot out Noah's ark, the parting of the Red Sea, Elijah on Mount Carmel, David and Goliath – and that's before we turn our attention to Jesus! But do we genuinely believe that God can do (and is doing) remarkable things NOW in the face of increasing secularism, ignorance and fundamentalism? When refugees and Isis dominate headlines if we're not careful, faced with such challenges, we can simply put our heads down and keep out of trouble. As evangelists, we'll talk to people we meet about Jesus and pray for God's intervention in lives, but is that as far as it goes? Do we REALLY EXPECT God to act miraculously today?

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I'd like to challenge us here. As I embark on new paths for TFM that may seem rather odd, with no "guarantee of success", I am encouraged by what I consider to have been nothing less than an act of God very recently. The Assisted Suicide Bill has just been resoundingly quashed. When I lined up alongside others supporting Care not Killing at Westminster, separated by a thin fence from those trying to change the law, the press asked us which way we thought the vote would go. We didn't know and could not have forecast that very nearly ¾ of all MPs would vote against changing to what would have been an ethical nightmare. God heard our prayers and answered emphatically.

We cannot always predict outcomes, but God's ways are always best and we need to line up alongside Him. As we approach the end of 2015, let's trust Him afresh to do new things in His way. I, for one, can't wait to discover what takes place...



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#### **TFM Trustees**

TFM is privileged to have a great Trustee board. A number of new trustees have been appointed in the last year or so and we praise God for their willingness to serve in this way. Here is a photo from our recent Board meeting. Under the chairmanship of George Martin the Trustees are;

George Martin, Mike Saunders, Donna Searle, Kevin Granville, James McCluskey and Robin Whitworth as they appear, from left to right, in the photo below. Also Paul Preston and Roy Bradfield who were not able to make the meeting.

Please do pray for them as they help to steer TFM and oversee what we do as we seek God together. The staff and Trustees will gather together for a retreat on Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th December.





#### **New training / retraining programme**

Want to serve on a future mission with TFM? Then regardless of previous experience we will require you to attend retraining. There will be other events planned for the future. However it will be the only one before the missions in May next year.

Venue; The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire

Date; Friday 4 March from 4pm to Saturday 5 March 4pm.

Cost; £60

Booking; Contact the TFM office.

## Come and be energised, equipped and thrilled. Be excited to learn to share Jesus.

A new manual; updates on how to be relevant in today's world; a chance to improve and hone your skills in evangelism. A mix of talks and practical/role play sessions. A great networking experience!

The event is also suitable for new attendees, whether to serve with TFM or just training in its own right. Newcomers would also need to do some practical training following this event which would be organised separately.

Why do I need to retrain? The gospel is the same. Yes but the world has changed. People respond differently; present different challenges; ask new questions. And TFM has to change. We need to be able to respond to today's culture with today's challenges. Let's be ready to do 'Our utmost for His Highest' (to slightly misquote Oswald Chambers).

**But I've been on loads of missions?** Then come and share your experiences with us. However come being prepared to be challenged that we can all do things better; there is always something new to learn.

## Roger writes...

After six months Jill has been given the 'all clear' but we are still not sure what actually caused her illness. However she is getting stronger and is being monitored on warfarin. Thanks for all your prayers during this time.

Locally down here I continue to preach in the local churches in Newhaven, helping with outreach and we have formed a new Youth for Christ project to connect with young people. I am speaking fairly regularly at a local youth club and youth services alongside our youth worker. Changeable times in terms of church ministers down here so it will be interesting to see what emerges.

I continue to be busy 'on the road' and have just returned from a mission in Knocknagoney, Belfast – see separate report, and am preparing for missions in East Belfast, Lurgan and Darby Green in the run up to Christmas.



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## Renew, Revive, Refresh Mission Knocknagoney, Belfast 26 September to 4 October

Roger Murphy reports on his recent mission in Northern Ireland

I had a good mission week on the Knocknagoney estate working alongside the local minister, Rev David Brown. The weather was truly amazing – sunshine, warm and no rain for 8 days – truly a miracle!

There were not great numbers attending the events but there were around 70 new or renewed responses to Christ during the week. All have been contacted and invited to a follow up Christianity Explored course. A few highlights from the week.

- During the week an influential group of 6 women on the estate responded to Christ at separate events. Their impact on the estate could be far reaching.
- The Sunday services were well supported by guests. At the first Café Church we saw 10 respond and 3 men in the evening at the Hope service. On the final Sunday another 10 responded in the morning and in the evening some shared their new response of faith and many came forward in tears for prayers and ministry at the end.
- At the Girls' Brigade evening, some of the young girls really understood the message.



- At the school assemblies the parents were invited and around 30 came to each assembly to support their children.
- At a nursing home a good number responded to Christ including a lady who called me over to receive Christ in prayer.
- At a community centre a lady sitting there hearing the Gospel responded and a real peace fell upon her.
- A number of men responded to Christ at men's events.

Finally, it was a tough mission in a hard area but God really softened hearts and drew many to Christ.

### TFM at the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF)

Richard Scott, David Baslington and Roz Haycock spent the first 4 days in September camping with the UCCF student leaders at Forum in Oswestry. These are some of their thoughts on the event.

As in 2014, our primary aim was to offer TFM as a resource for students to tap into when they do mission back on their campus. To this end, it was good to have the youthful Roz on board! We had so many good conversations, out of which came an invitation to speak at Bournemouth University lunchbar on Suffering, which I fulfilled in late September, plus another personal invitation to join Michael Green and others in a large mission to all 4 Manchester universities, in February 2016. Since then I've also been invited to speak at Surrey University and await other requests.

At present, UCCF have turned down our invitation to run evangelism workshops at Forum – they are a very tightly run ship and seminars are already tightly packed in! But one of my dreams remains to take small TFM teams into universities, rather than simply going along as an individual speaker.

Richard Scott

'Be energized, equipped and thrilled by Jesus as God's Word is opened and His voice is heard.' That was the strap line for students attending Forum this year, and what a privilege to share some of the experience with over a thousand Christian Fellowship (C.F.) leaders. Roz Haycock, who has subsequently been appointed as our new trainee Evangelist, joined us to 'man' the TFM stall. We were able to speak with many leaders to encourage them in what they do and offer our help where possible.



We used a 'Bell Wire' game in the shape of a hand which attracted attention to us, drawing people in and giving us the opportunity to chat as well as developing a stiff competition to achieve the best winning time. The game represented two focusses; first as an example of a simple game to attract other students to a stall and event that might, for example, be used in fresher's week. And second, if a bit cheesy, offering a helping hand from TFM in the C.F.'s outreach programme. Richard has subsequently spoken at an event in Bournemouth and we hope to get further invites as students go back to plan their programmes.

You can hear many of the talks online here (<a href="www.uccf.org.uk/forum-talks/">www.uccf.org.uk/forum-talks/</a>) particularly the morning teaching on Colossians which was excellent.

**David Baslington** 

## **New Trainee Evangelist**



TFM is delighted to announce the appointment of Rosalind (Roz) Haycock to the post of Trainee Evangelist. Roz will start in January to embark on a 2-year training programme which will involve her studying for the SCE course and working along-side both our own evangelists whilst also gaining experience with other initiatives and evangelists across the country.

Roz has already served on a number of TFM missions and has felt called to the role and specifically to work with TFM. Please pray for her as she steps out in faith on this new path, that God will enable and enrich her, using her mightily for His purposes. We hope to bring you more details about Roz and what she is doing in future newsletters.



#### Mission to Kilkeel

#### Northern Ireland 4 to 11 October

"Kilkeel has been an excellent mission. Following on from Daniel's Fan to a Flame mission here just over 20 years ago, when many people like TFMer Mervyn Nugent became Christians, Christchurch is thriving in many ways. An example is that door to door work preceded the mission, most encouraging, with a Prayer hub set up in a disused bank covering us throughout the 8 days. Our team was small - just myself and one of our Irish SCE students, Jim Fleming, who had worked with Roger the previous week in Knocknagoney. Jim wanted to see how we worked at TFM. For my part, I was keen to see both him and wife Janet, who joined us for 2 evenings, in action. They were both superb. Janet spoke to 100 women at a curry eve with 3 giving their lives to Christ including a 15 year old Czech girl who, according to her mother who also responded, had been quite in the other camp till then.

Jim and myself had much joy whilst door knocking, with nearly 20 people responding including a mother and young son. One day it was suggested we try a particular street. Jim recognised the car in the corner house. It belonged to an evangelist at Willowfield Church in Belfast, where he worshipped. Actually they had come to visit his wife's parents, whom we prayed for before they suggested we might like to visit a relative just further down that street. We did and both

the relative and his wife gave their lives. The next morning, Jim and David Charleton, another SCE student in Kilkeel, had similar joy with another married couple. We were encouraged because, although unlike in England, many people have

a better grasp of Gospel theory here, many have yet to declare Jesus as their Saviour.

Two other wonderful side effects of mission. We had 3 sessions in the local secondary school, Kilkeel High. Answering questions by the hat full, we tried to show that science and God are compatible and that you didn't need to remove your brain to be a



Christian. In the Senior C.U we were able to teach on how to evangelise their friends and then answered more questions at Jim's youth club yesterday evening. My theme was to empower young Christians to stand up in the face of increasing secularism.

The healing evening was another amazing time. A girl came up to me at the curry evening, asking to pray for me to receive the gift of healing as I would be speaking the next day at the Healing service. Checking this was from the Lord I agreed. While I was praying the next evening, people reported feeling heat and improvement in joints. One lady asked for prayer for her daughter with a bad abscess. We heard the next day that it discharged during the service! I then had a sense this morning to ask for more prayer from a lady at church for my healing ministry - a sort of healing power take away for the future. She agreed, afterwards I prayed for her to receive boldness in outreach. Immediately, a young man approached me with limited feet movement inwards which affected him climbing scaffolding working as a joiner. Prayer was needed twice, with heat through his legs leading to normally inverting feet. Reduced hip rotation was dealt with. Again, all praise to God and he promised to tell his work colleagues how and why he'd improved."

Richard Scott

# Update on sponsorship for Edith and Sharon

In our last Newsletter we asked you to pray for sponsors for the university education of two intelligent Ugandan orphans, Edith Tumwebaze and Sharon Ahebwa. Archdeacon Eric Twine, one of our main TFM contacts in Uganda since 2003, had brought them to the attention of Sidney and Judy Miller as worthy of support. He had said of the girls, "They would be future stars of the church".



Good news – four readers of this Newsletter have come forward and pledged the funds for their university education. Praise and thanks be to God! Edith has begun to study for a BSc in Accounting and Finance at Ndejje Christian University and lives in a hostel on the campus in Luwero. Sharon is studying at Kyambogo University, Kampala, living in a campus hostel. Both students are thrilled that they have been sponsored for their studies and are settling well. Eric Twine has introduced them to their university chaplains and Eric will keep an eye on their progress.

## **Systematic Collaborative Re-Evangelism of Britain (SCRUB)**

In the last newsletter, I outlined the vision I believe God has given me for TFM, which very much includes working with other Christian agencies. This is an enormous undertaking potentially, and I have waited a year whilst pondering how to proceed. Two events led to action: firstly, at our staff prayer day, Roger Murphy was both encouraging and accurate in his description of my position being like a ship stuck in fog. Knowing where to go, just not how! Then ex-trustee Chris Tayler sent a short note, directing me to Esther chapters 4-7, in which Mordecai accurately sums up the awful political and spiritual situation the Jews found themselves in. Needing help to reverse it, he approached the queen, who in turn sought the king. The analogy was clear: as a complete non-entity in national Christian terms, leading an organisation which is relatively small and only partly known, I (Mordecai) need help from national church and organisational leaders, equivalent to the kings and queens of our day. Chris' letter helped clear the fog.

So I began by writing to the leaders. August was a bad month to choose, with many away or at conferences, but quite a few replies have come in. To date I've seen 13 leaders, including those of HOPE, the Evangelical Alliance, the 24/7 Prayer Team, Church Army, Christian Concern and Premier Radio, along with Anglicans attached to Lambeth Palace and HTB Church. Others have agreed to see me, including reps from Churches Together in England, The Oxford Centre for Apologetics, the Bible Society and Andy Hawthorne from the Message Trust. Others, not least Justin Welby and the Catholic hierarchy need a little chivvying, but I'll hopefully get there!

What I'm looking for principally is their reaction as to whether this vision is from God. If not, it's a goner. Secondly, I'm learning apace quite how much is already taking place in our land – and it's most encouraging. Nevertheless, it remains very patchy, with huge gaps. Evangelism thus far is hardly systematic. Equally, with organisations notably HOPE and the E.A already overseeing stuff, I clearly need to work with and through them, not alone. Again, no problem – and this applies also to others who've been given similar visions at this time.

As leaders educate me as to the current situation (with particular thanks to John Hibberd here), I am beginning to see how my vision may fit in. Obviously, no way would I wish to replace anything good – but build on it. To this end, the Barna Research which has just been released is most helpful. It provides a statistical snapshot of Christianity in this country. Many of their findings are similar to what I've noted previously on our missions, but one number particularly interested me: that vicars can only hope to reach 1% of their communities with the Gospel. This is liberating for our clerics – who can stop sweating, but equally a challenge for them. With the most effective outreach being done by Christian individuals to their friends and family, vicars must liberate their flocks in evangelism. And this is where SCRUB may come in.

Having just produced the new training manual, with



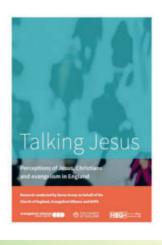
videos to follow, it seems somewhat limited to restrict them to TFM's use. Far better if we could help vicars and their flocks by taking the manual and videos round the country – a sort of Evangelism Workshop Roadshow. Then we could reach all areas with training, naturally including the Gospel, and find/train the 50,000 evangelists that God pointed me to. We then further resource these guys and girls using known evangelistic reps from TFM and other supportive organisations/churches, with 24/7 prayer back-up and worship leaders/other creative talents where available.

The aim is to work ecumenically and systematically – covering Great Britain top to bottom and left to right. And do so above the radar, publishing our results in the Christian and secular media where possible, Plus, where we find great stuff going on – others in different parts of the country are enabled to glean bits which they think might work in their areas too.

WHERE do you as TFMers come in? Firstly, PLEASE PRAY – for me, for the vision, for ongoing revelation from above. Secondly, if you feel God has spoken to you in this matter – please pass it my way. Thirdly, come for re-training and learn more of how the vision is developing and how practically you can get involved.

Richard Scott

More about the Barna Research, which Richard refers to in this article, can be found on the website www.talkingjesus.org where there is an online copy of the report on the research and from which you can download or order copies of the report.





# **Daniel writes...**FIFTY YEARS A CHRISTIAN

When Jesus told the story of the man who found treasure in the field and "in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." (Matthew Ch 13 v45-46), he was describing me and my experience on 13 December, 1965 and thereon in.

I am living proof that a man or woman can hear the Gospel for the first time and it can convert them then and there. The heart of man is made for God. A sense of reverence can dawn, with immediate effect, and can be everlasting. Coupled with this for some, as for me, an immediate sense of wanting to share what I have found.

So, this 13 December I will have been a Christian for 50 years and I would love to do it all again! I look back on my life with great gratitude and of course marvellous joy. I can't say it has always been joyful but even God's son had to go through dark times – such as we will never know. Overall, nevertheless, it has been lovely and I have been blessed.

This joy on my journey has driven me, in the first place, to get properly educated, then thoroughly motivated to bring this transforming message to nothing less than multitudes over these long and blessed years. He gave me Gillie, my wife and then a ministry that has taken me into every corner of this England, N. Ireland and the Isles around.

By His grace I have seen remarkable answers to prayer over and over again and many men, women, boys and girls become Christians. By His leading these feet have stood to preach the Gospel in thousands of places; from cowsheds 'I am living proof that a man or woman can hear the Gospel for the first time and it can convert them then and there.'

to cathedrals, from hilltops to high churches, from public houses to private homes, from barracks to ballrooms, from streets to living rooms, prisons to crèches, the seaside to sitting rooms; from the back of vehicles to the back of beyond......and in it all the glorious Gospel of the living Lord has found a home in tens of thousands of hearts. Glory be to God.

I have thanked the Lord for a wonderful wife and family, for an outstanding partner in Peter, a dear and faithful friend and 'buddy' in Keith, for safety over 900 thousand miles, for hundreds of missions, for lifting my heart when it has been cast down and for the forgiveness of my sins.

I thank the Lord with all my heart for the wonderful people, throughout the land, who have given up their time to join the missions. For all the tremendous support of the Prayer Partners, for praying so faithfully and giving so generously; for all the friends made along the way, for those who have "given a cup of cold water in the name of Jesus"; for the many Missioners now in Glory; the goodwill of the churches, the bishops and leaders who have welcomed us, for the hall floors, the snoring men, the laughter and the tears – the sheer wonder of it – the atoning blood and the amazing grace. God be praised.

My love to you all,

Daniel

"But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong." 1 Corinthians Ch. 1 v. 27



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## **Missions for 2016**

Sawston and Babraham, Cambs
30 April - 8 May
Fairlight and Pett (E Sussex)
7 - 15 May
Wallasey, Wirrel
7 - 15 May
Bridport
25 - 28 May
Orpington (Cudham and Downe)
5 - 13 Nov

Anyone wishing to apply to join a team should contact the TFM office. Please note the retraining requirement mentioned earlier in the newsletter.

#### **CONTACT US?**

## Please tick a box below and complete your address details. I wish to become a Prayer Partner Please note my address change or email address below Please remove my name from the mailing list Please send me the weekly email Prayer News (need email address please) I enclose a gift to support TFM's ministry (Cheques to Through Faith Missions Ltd or go to www.throughfaithmissions.org for online giving options). I want to gift aid my donation I would like to remember TFM in my will. Please send details. Name **Address** Postcode Tel **Email**

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## Missions to Uganda and Kenya in 2016



TFM's foreign arm is primed once again to send teams to Kenya (January 2016) and Uganda (February 2016). Having advertised in our last newsletter, the Kenyan team is now more than full, with 8 TFMers joining 10-13 medics in a mixed medical/evangelistic mission to Maasailand. There will also be a mini team of 4 Americans. The idea is that those in the evangelistic half will work in and around the medical clinic areas. Pastor David Kereto is placing the team in Naroosura (where we've worked previously), Orkarkar and Ereyiet Oltome, Enkongu Enkare and finally Nkoilale. Fortunately you don't need to pronounce them, merely to pray for the mission! The team then return to Nairobi via the obligatory stop in the Maasai Mara game park. Mission can be tough ...

The team planning the Uganda Mission for three weeks next February/March met for a planning day on 24 October in Bedford. The team will be led by Sid O'Neill from Widnes, who is an experienced missioner in Uganda. His Second in Command will be Martin West, who also has much experience of Uganda visits. About a dozen others, old and new Uganda TFMers, have expressed an interest in joining the team, so it should be full. They hope to spend a week supporting mission in west Uganda with Archdeacon Eric Twine, another with David Katende, a Pentecostal pastor in a suburb of Kampala, the capital, and a third possibly in Nakaseke, some fifty miles north of Kampala in a rural setting. The variety of tasks that the team will do include hut to hut work, talking to groups of boda boda men (motor bike taxi drivers) on the streets, acting Bible stories and giving a Gospel message in schools – complete with a prayer of commitment (imagine what would happen if we did that in a school here!), giving a message in hospital wards, again with a call to commit, as well as in prisons and holding crusades. They will also preach in churches and lead seminars on topics as requested for churches and leaders.

The teams would greatly value your prayers for both these missions.

