



in partnership with local churches
as they engage in mission

Newsletter



August 2019



P2: Training Weekends



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Tim writes ...

'How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"'
Romans 10:14-15

Over the past few months it has been an enormous joy to spend time with part of the great TFM family. In churches, in homes, in halls. I have gathered with brothers and sisters – we have remembered teams, characters, missions – we have praised God for all He has done and is doing in and through TFM and it has been good.

But it has reminded me of two things. Firstly that our family is not as big as it should be... for a whole variety of reasons (including Data Protection), men and women who used to be part of the family – perhaps on our mission teams, or a prayer partner - are no longer in touch, no longer on our mailing list, and we miss them! Please can you think of anyone you know who has dropped off the list – give them a call, tell them we miss them and ask

them to get back in touch? And secondly that our TFM family needs to grow. We are seeing great opportunities for the Gospel – and we will need a large family to make the most of all that God is preparing. We are looking for prayer partners – weekly pray-ers – We are looking for Team Members... We are looking for finance – regular givers...

Please can you help? We would like people to speak of TFM in their



churches: - to speak of the opportunities and the needs.

There is a new TFM leaflet (ask the office to send you some copies). We are working on new resources for those wishing to speak about us (ask the office for details). The new style training is open and accessible for all – come along, even if you aren't sure about joining a team – come along and decide afterwards.

And do you know the best bit about spending time with the TFM family? It's the effect that they have on those around them. For whenever the TFM family gathers for learning, for worship, for fellowship, there is such joy, such passion for the gospel. And time and again we get beautiful reactions from people who have been inspired, enthused, encouraged – truly it is a

living out of *"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

TFM family – it's a privilege to know you, work with you, worship with you: – but we must grow – for everywhere cries out for Jesus and how can they hear without someone preaching to them?



Tim Hall

T: 01954 210239

E: tim@throughfaithmissions.org



TFM's new logo

We have a new logo. We were keen to be able to incorporate our old oval design, which many of our supporters are still familiar with, with the new logo and colour scheme that we have been using in recent years. We asked our designers to incorporate the two together into something that both reflects our heritage but had a smart modern feel. We hope you agree that they have done a great job. We already have the new logo on our website and social media and will be using it on future copies of our printed material.

Poster

Included with your newsletter this month is a small poster. In recent months we have placed an advert using this poster in several national Christian magazines and papers to encourage people to join us on mission. With the permission of your church leader, please consider putting this poster in a prominent place in your church and perhaps add your name and contact details so church members can contact you for more information.



Share your Story

One of the most effective ways we can share our faith is to share with others the things God has done in our lives. We are hoping to put on our website and use in our publicity, stories of the way God has worked in the lives of those of us who are part of TFM. This can be the testimony of how we came to faith in Christ or it might be something encouraging that happened while you were on a mission.

If possible, we would like a short video of you telling that story, you can easily do this with a smart phone or digital camera. If you can't manage a video then write it down.

Please email or post your stories to the TFM office with a note confirming that you give us permission to use the material both in printed form and on the web.

Training weekends - Can you help?

So the rule is that all TFM team members need to fill in a new application form (with references and all the rest...) this form will then be valid for three years before we ask for another form to be completed. **WHY?** Because we need to stay up to date with our skills and abilities - so we can be best used on the mission field. **AND!** We ask you to attend a training day ... recently I met a very experienced TFM personage who was a bit disgruntled about another training day. However, she came along and was amazed at how good it was, how refreshing, how new. The thing is, our world is changing, our culture, our language - we have to, we must, be continually thinking about how to communicate the unchanging love of God in today's language, in today's world. So, sign up now for a training day! **AND** - if you want to come for a training day before you sign up for a mission team, that's absolutely fine.

Then the actual training day - it's a Saturday from 9 - 6pm roughly. But rather than just using a church venue for this day, we thought how good it would be to help the church we are meeting at - so we offer that church a 'mission weekend'. And on the Saturday members of that church are welcome to attend the training day; on Saturday evening we hold an event - whatever works for the church (we have held a 'grill the vicar'



event; a shared meal with the wider church family; team members being invited back to church members for a meal; anything is possible) And on the Sunday we are available to preach, to give testimony, to worship with that church. The thing is, that to do this well we need some experienced TFM team members. So, we need TFM people willing to come along and help out at these mission weekends - with the training (some small groups work and some door to door) with the Saturday evening event and with the Sunday worship.

Would you be willing to come along and help? Let David know in the office.

Stratford Mission 4 to 12 May

Our thanks to all who prayed for the Stratford mission. It was a mission involving 3 churches; St John's, St. Saviours and St. Matthew's in Stratford, Forest Gate and West Ham. It is always a privilege to work with churches where the clergy and many of the people have a real heart for the gospel and it is why Paula and I have always found we get so much out of being on mission there. It was a special joy to be working with Dave and Carol Richards again. Many of us now live and worship in places with a great diversity of people and cultures and this is especially the case in the east of London. St John's have their welcome leaflet printed in 180 different languages. I get a real buzz from this diversity which I think helps to open a door for the gospel.

Although our team was small, the churches partnered seriously with many parishioners coming to the training morning and joining us on the doors. It was good for me to see Tim in



action leading training and good for me to do some door to door, which I hadn't done for a while. Actually, the variety of people living in this area made door to door both inspiring and interesting. The very first door I knocked on, a gentleman answered and asked if

he could share his testimony with us! Paula found being back on the doors to be a real highlight of the mission. The team did a serious amount of door knocking through the week and an afternoon of town centre outreach in St John's churchyard. We supported an outreach in the park in Forest Gate on the Bank Holiday Monday and this was the highlight for me. So many people from all sections of the community were happy to relax and dip in and out of seeing and hearing the gospel presented in various ways. A team from Open Air Campaigners were with us and they did a fantastic job sketch boarding parables and pulling the crowd into Jesus' message. I had a steady stream of people speaking with me over the Jesus Deck and I was able to share the gospel many times. Paula often recalls Daniel's advice to her about asking the Spirit to show her the ram caught in the thicket, so she chatted to a lady that had been watching the sketch board from the side lines and was delighted to be able to gently lead her through a Knowing God Personally booklet and to Christ. As I looked around the park and saw TFM folks doing surveys and having conversations I realised more than ever what super people we have in the TFM family. Paula and I came away having really enjoyed being back on the front line of evangelism together and so encouraged.

Our focus is increasingly on doing what the churches want us to do to help them achieve mission. The following comment from the vicar, Dave Richards encouraged me:

"The Team were great - they got on with doing with what was needed and related extremely well to a very diverse group of local Christians, and quickly became part of the local church."

Paula & Paul Preston

Farewell to Roger - 40 years of service



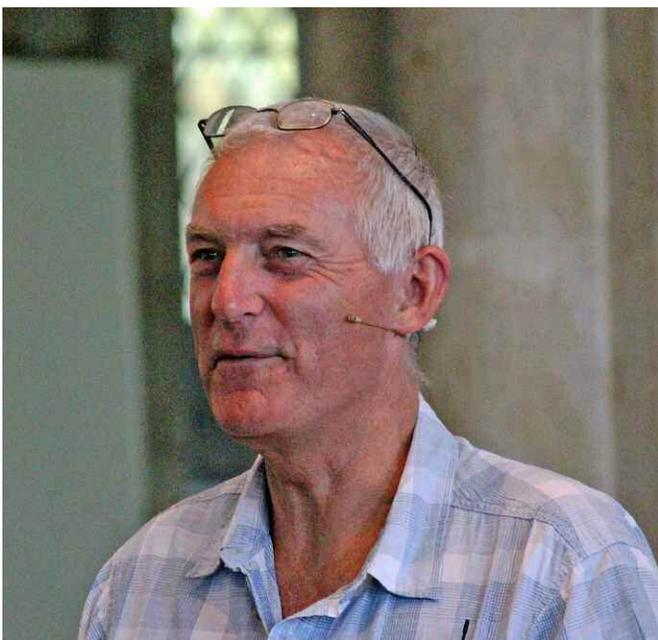
At the annual conference we said a farewell to Roger Murphy who has recently retired after 40 years of association with TFM; initially with Daniel Cozens and Peter Adams when Roger was employed as a Church Army Captain and then employed by TFM since 2004.

Roger was presented with a photomontage of images from his time and a Chelsea FC shirt. Jill, his wife, was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Roger gave two talks on the day. The first, a reflection on John 15:1 – 8, I am the true vine, a passage he has used many times and continues to use when he preaches the gospel.

He reflected that we are often known for what we do rather than who we are. As we begin to explore who we are this then defines what we do rather than the other way around. We are called to be more Christ like and in this passage we are presented with the image that God is the gardener, Jesus the vine and the Holy Spirit the sap running through the vine.

Christ withdrew to spend time with His Father. To keep ourselves on track we need to learn from this principal of spending time with the Father. Also, a successful garden requires successful pruning. We must learn to cut out the things in our lives which are not of God if we are to grow well.





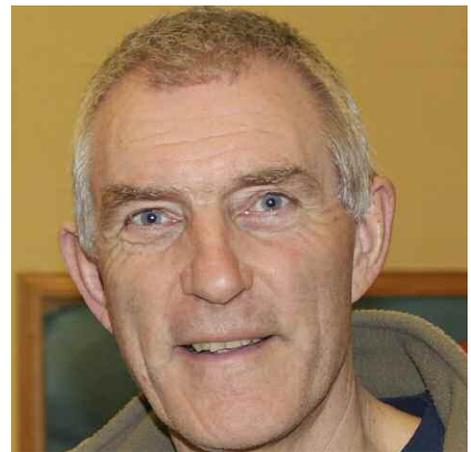
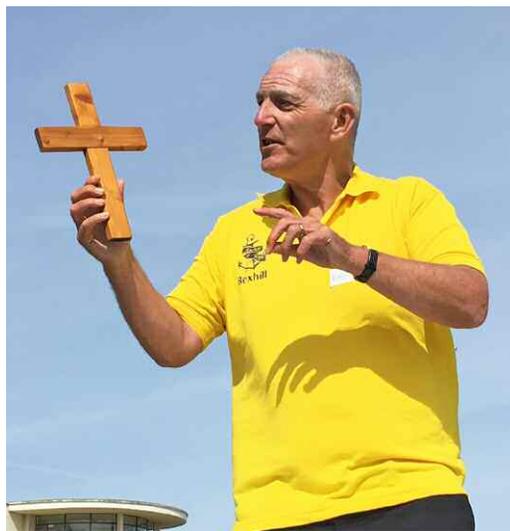
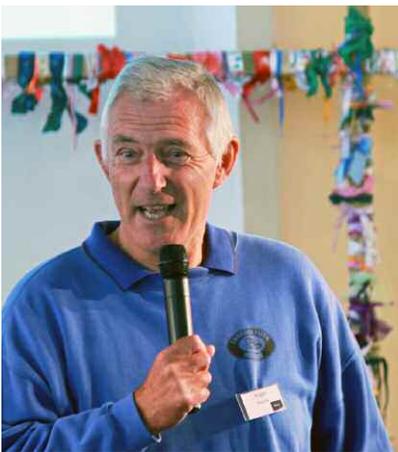
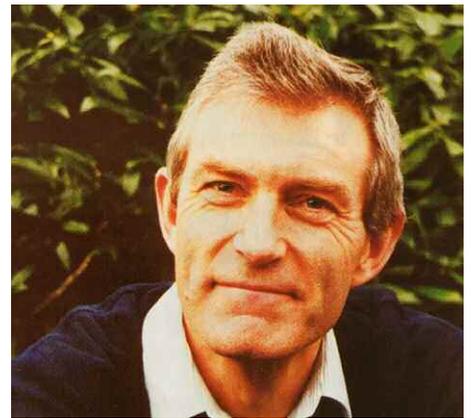
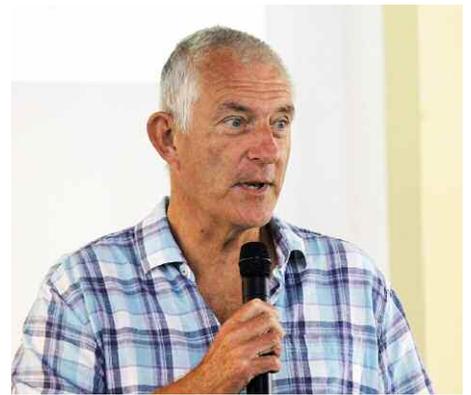
In the second talk Roger reflected on what he has learnt from his 40 years. He reminisced on many amazing times using the headings; Prayer, Privilege, Partners in the gospel, People coming to faith, Perseverance and Prophecy.

Although not with us for the conference, Daniel sent a message to say 'Congratulations to Roger! I send my love and admiration for the work you have achieved so far. God bless you in your retirement.'

You can listen to both these talks as well as other recordings from the conference on the TFM website.

Although Roger retires, he is not stopping sharing the gospel and he is very involved locally in Seaford, where he and Jill live, to encourage the local church in outreach.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
John 15:5 NIV



Through Faith Mission's Associate Evangelist from 2003 to 2019

Gathered In Mission Ireland Sept 21 to 6 October



It is taking place in the Church of Ireland Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh. That is a massive geographical area covering counties Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Longford, Roscommon. While the bulk of the Diocese is in the Republic of Ireland there is a 'slither' into southern county Fermanagh in Northern Ireland. The mission is taking place between 19 September and 6 October. Seventeen of the Parishes in the Diocese are signed up to partner with us in this exciting mission during the harvest period. We have spent the last seven months travelling through the Diocese, from north to south and east to west, to chat to Rectors, Bishop's Curates and Lay Pastors about their plans for the mission. It has been excellent getting to know these guys, understanding their particular locations and sensing their hopes and aspirations for the mission. Each Parish will be running a four day 'mini-mission' at some stage during the period when they will put on a range of events and host a team from TFM who will assist at the events, working alongside the Parish to reach and evangelise those who do not yet know Jesus. As well as the TFM teams working in the Parishes we will be bringing in guest speakers, Crown Jesus Ministries from Belfast, New Wine Ireland, Christian Vision for Men, Operation Mobilisation Ireland, and David Kelly from Coleraine who will bring his 'Johnny Cash' tribute to many towns and villages during the two weeks. We

may even roll out Roger Murphy! It is shaping up to be a very exciting mission and we are praying for a spiritual harvest, for many in the area to become followers of Jesus.

We have been busy hosting training days during the last few months and had an excellent one in Cavan town over the weekend 7th to 9th June. As well as training twenty Team Members we had the pleasure of around forty from the



Diocese join us on the Saturday. It was fantastic for us to meet and get to know clergy and lay people from the various Parishes and also great for those from the Diocese to get a feel for TFM, put faces to names and hear David Kelly perform a couple of his Johnny Cash songs. David takes audiences on a spiritual journey through Johnny Cash's life culminating with an opportunity to put their trust in Jesus.

The Bishop of the Diocese, Bishop Ferran Glenfield, invited TFM to come and partner with the local churches two years ago and he has been a great support and source of encouragement



during the set-up period. After the training weekend he stated; *"We talk a lot about the importance of partnership in the church. Sadly, it is mostly talk. TFM have walked the talk with us in the Diocese of Kilmore Elphin and Armagh as partners in the Gospel and that has made all the difference."*

2020 Vision for Thanet

Eighteen months have passed since I last formally worked for TFM. Funny how God closes some doors, whilst always re-directing our efforts through opening others! I'm delighted that my good friend Tim Hall has taken up the reins at Coton and equally pleased that, as we talked recently, he remains open to all manner of outreach - including 2020 Vision for Thanet.

Having re-energized Churches Together in Thanet (CTiT) 5 years ago, we wanted to do more than simply celebrate together annually. In particular, believing that "this is Thanet's time", and responding to the many prophecies spoken over our geographical patch as a focal point for revival, we wanted to focus on outreach. I felt this should involve the whole isle in terms of geography, denominations and size of church. Historically, coordinated mission locally has been a rare event (the honorable exceptions being Hope 08 and, of course, Walk Kent, can you believe, 20 years ago!)

Accordingly, I presented the vision to the CTiT celebration in May 2018. Immediately, 121 members from 31 different churches pledged their support and came to a follow-up meeting in October. Enough to get cracking!

2020 Vision for Thanet comprises 2 key elements: training churches to share their faith and a week's mission in May 2020. Training, following preaching, began in November, with several churches trained thus far and more joint church training sessions planned for May, June and 4 evenings in the Autumn. A 2020 website is under construction on which individuals will be

encouraged to share their out-reach experiences. There's still much more to do, for there are 63 churches in Thanet and some, notably the Catholics and those in our villages, are proving hard to reach!

Individual Christians sharing faith naturally is the main goal. However, at the end of each training session, each member is asked to consider giving up a week to be part of a HOME team for mission, next May. This is the icing on the cake. And where YOU - TFM - come in!

Roger Morgan and I would like to match HOME team members 1 : 1 with an experienced AWAY team. With 40 HOME team-ers thus far (and no doubt many more to come as training continues), we will need a considerable AWAY team presence. Part of your role will be to train locals "on the job", not least in door-knocking, that mission may continue into the future. Roger will provide some folk - many of whom I've worked with and are universally excellent! I'd like to do the same, joining his team members with equally fine TFM-ers, a strategy which has worked well before in Purley, Breaston and Dover.

This mission week is now just a year hence. I'm aware that there are many missions in 2019 for you to already get stuck into - good! Do the business, but PLEASE make room in your diaries for: 2020 Vision for Thanet : May 16 - 24, 2020

R.S.V.P : richard@throughfaithmissions.org

Dr Richard Scott



TFM Conference 2019

This year's annual TFM conference was held at St Peter's church in Yaxley near Peterborough. Many thanks to the members of the local church who made us very welcome and supported us on the day. We were blessed with a warm and sunny day and the beautiful church grounds provided a lovely setting for us to sit and have lunch. The worship for the day was led by Tim Hall's daughter Floss and her husband Josh. Josh is Worship Director at Gold Hill Baptist church in London and he and Floss led us in several worship sessions throughout the day. Prayers were led by Tim's wife Georgina who had produced some art work as a focus for our prayers.

Roger Murphy opened the conference with a reading from John 15 telling of the importance of leading lives that are close to God and that comes from spending time with him. He reminded us that who we are is the most important thing and not what we do, and we must spend time with God to keep our lives focused on him and to bear fruit for him. When we keep close to Christ, his will becomes our will. He emphasised the need to keep watch so that over time we do not drift away from Christ and lose focus on what he is calling us to do.

Next Jim Fleming updated us on his work in Ireland over the last year and the preparation for the Gathered in Mission to be held in Ireland from 21 September to 6 October. The invitation to do the mission came from Bishop Ferran Glenfield who Roger had worked with previously. Much of Jim's time this year has been spent travelling around trying to encourage churches to get involved in the mission. He talked of his love for street evangelism and the opportunities that he and his wife had to work together and also his work with David Kelly a singer and evangelist who will also be involved with the Gathered In mission.

During the afternoon Roger reflected on his 40 years of working with TFM and what he had learnt and the team took the opportunity to present Roger with a football shirt and a framed collage of pictures taken from various missions Roger had served on over the years. Roger spoke of how he had led over five hundred missions and lead many thousands to Christ. He had met Daniel Cozens and Peter Adams from TFM

early in his Christian life and during his years had been blessed by many others who had worked alongside him.

David Baslington, Paul Preston, chair of the trustees and Tim Hall took the opportunity to speak of some of our plans for the coming year. David mentioned that the current lease on the office is due to run out next year and TFM was in discussion with the Diocese of Ely, who own the office, over our future in Coton. Recruitment for a new evangelist to replace Roger was well under way with some good candidates who had already applied, and interviews were coming up in the next few weeks. David summarised our current financial position which is strong because of a number of legacies we had received recently but the number of regular monthly donations was continuing to fall and we would need to encourage more regular donations and legacies if we are to carry on our work in the future. Missions next year included Light 2020 which was to be held from 30 May to 7 June and cover a large portion of Cambridgeshire along with a growing number of other requests for us to come and lead missions. Along with more missions it was acknowledged that we would need more team members to come forward and a number of training weekends had taken place and more were planned for the future.

If you are interested in hearing more of what was said on the day the main speeches were recorded and are available on the TFM website.



Warmington Mission Easter 2019

The mission to Warmington, Tansor, Fotheringhay, Cotterstock and Southwick began with an invitation from Rev Anne Hindle to come and help! So we went – initially for a few Sundays where we took services, or preached, or just gave testimony.

Then in the week running up to Easter, a small team lived in Anne's house and went out into all five villages: with door knocking, clubs, groups, pub quizzes and invitations for meals the team were busy. The mission concluded on Easter Sunday - a perfect day to end a mission that was indeed about resurrection: - restoring hope and restoring faith.



Rev Anne's reflection on this mission: - "TFM was a great encouragement, and I certainly enjoyed hosting the team. It helped to boost my faith no end, and I know other people have been inspired by them. Their sensitive, non-judgmental, and caring approach endeared the villagers, both of faith and no faith, to them. The whole experience was enlivening to the churches and villages of the Benefice."

Rev Anne is retiring in September, but we are very much looking forward to a return visit to these parishes, Saturday and Sunday 29 Feb/1 March 2020. It'll be great to catch up with all the relationships we have begun and to see all that God continues to do in these parishes...

Tim Hall

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 (need old address also)
- 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/giving for online giving options).
- I want to gift aid my donation
- I would like to remember TFM in my will. Please send details.
- I authorise TFM to contact me as I have selected below
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THROUGH FAITH MISSIONS
58 High Street
Coton
CAMBRIDGE
CB23 7PL

Tel: 01954 210239

Email: admin@throughfaithmissions.org

Visit: www.throughfaithmissions.org

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Peterborough Easter Mission

St Pauls, Peterborough invited us to take a TFM team of 6 people for the Easter weekend. Ron and Val Watkinson, TFM members of old, exercise ministry at St Pauls and are keen that they build up an ongoing partnership with us for the next few years. Tim and Georgina Hall, Tom and Claire Robinson, Cheryl Allen and I made up the team. The parish area around St Pauls is multi-cultural with a lot of middle European families where the parents spoke little or no English, but their children did. And so, the door to door survey was translated and discussed by children and parents and neighbors alike! Door to door work was very productive and interesting with a large number of differing beliefs: - Muslim, Buddhist, Pagan, atheist – all willing to talk about their faiths – but surprisingly few Christians. The Easter weekend is always special and this one was no exception with a particular highlight of a walk of witness on Good Friday and praying for folk under the cross after the 14 stations of the Cross.

Rev Ron reflects: - *"I have known TFM for many years, they are Christian Missioners with character, integrity and a passion for Jesus, encouraging others to have that same passion, but always taking time to discover the context into which they are invited! That's why I invited a small team led by David Culhane, to "come over and help us" this Easter. To help us become more Missionary Minded and help us to become a church where Mission is part of our DNA! I/we were not disappointed, more people than I expected took part in active mission & outreach in the Parish, especially encouraging as most had never done it before, and they enjoyed it and now want to continue doing it! Fruit, since the Mission we have four men now doing an Alpha Course, and ladies now meeting regularly for Breakfast together!"*

We pray for St Pauls as they continue to celebrate their 150 years of existence and look forward to returning there for their harvest weekend in September."

David Culhane

