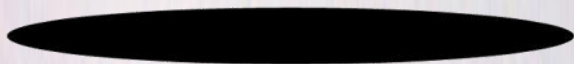
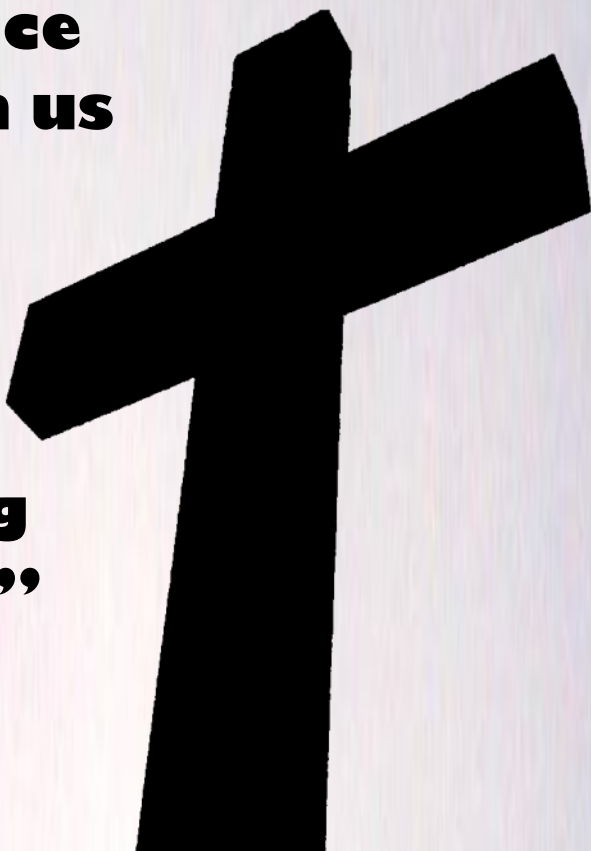


# intouch



**“This grace  
was given us  
in Christ  
Jesus  
before  
the  
beginning  
of time...”**



*2 Timothy 1.9*

Not many *Intouch* readers will remember the James family leaving South Parade in April 1974 for a lifetime of mission in France, but it's good to catch up on their news (page 18) after all these years. As Levi Booth leaves for Japan (page 16), it's tempting to wonder what stories of God's faithfulness he will send back for the April 2014 edition of this magazine (though I'm sure we'll hear from him before then!). Elsewhere this month, Jane Hepworth (page 29) reminds us that we can serve the worldwide church right here in Leeds by praying for fellow believers in North Korea. As you reflect, remember and rejoice through Holy Week and Easter (page 25), thank God that he so loved the whole world that he sent his Son for each one of us, wherever we are.

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**Matthew Newman** Editor

## **Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!**

Contributions to: [magazine@spbc.org.uk](mailto:magazine@spbc.org.uk) or to the Church Office  
Deadline for contributions: 23 May 2014  
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# From the Ministry Team

*For All Time*

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**“But what has the death of Jesus all those years ago got to do with me here and now?”**

**T**hat was a question I remember asking my Dad when I was 16 years old. I can't remember what he said, but I do remember I wasn't convinced and was troubled by that question for quite a while afterwards.

It wasn't that I didn't believe Jesus died on the cross that first Easter to “take away the sins of the world”. It was just that classic thing of knowing something in my head but not in my heart. And that distance between the head and the heart is not measured by centimetres but sometimes by years. That's how it proved for me anyway.

Like fitting together different pieces of a jigsaw, over the next two to three years God began to answer my question in a way that satisfied

me. An example of this process was one time when some of the words in Galatians 2.20 seemed to jump out at me: “The Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me.” That truth exploded into my heart.

Even now, many years later, I still wouldn't pretend to understand all the mystery, wonder and joy contained in those amazing words.

Recently though, I have been intrigued by some phrases that occur a few times in the Bible referring to things before the world began. (The general consensus on just how long ago that was seems to be around the 4.6 billion year mark, but that's not my

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*Before there was a tree of life there was the cross of Calvary. Before there was any sin, there was a Saviour.*

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point!) Here's one of them. I Peter 1.19-20 speaks of the "precious blood of Christ" and goes on to say about Jesus: "He was chosen *before the creation of the world.*"

**O**r there's 2 Timothy 1.9 which mentions God's grace and then adds, "This grace was given us in Christ Jesus *before the beginning of time*" which is going back even further. That's mind-blowing! In other words, before there was a garden of Eden there was a "green hill far away". Before there was a tree of life there

was the cross of Calvary. Before there was any man or woman Jesus had already chosen His bride. Before there was any sin, there was a Saviour.

Suddenly I discovered something that is also part of the answer to my teenage question. Jesus's death is relevant for all people, everywhere, for all time because it is somehow in the eternal purposes of God outside time as well as before it.

**Paul**

*In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
all the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.*

*When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me.  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.*

*When the sun of bliss is beaming  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more lustre to the day.*

*Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.*

**John Bowring**

# Around the Church

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## Adel Update

The first few months of this year seem to have passed really quickly. It doesn't feel long since we were singing carols and celebrating the birth of our Saviour and now we're full steam ahead looking at plans for Easter and beyond.

Each Sunday in Lent we reflect on an incident in the last week of Jesus life. We hear a reading, listen to some music and watch as a symbol is hung on the cross. We've already reflected on Mary anointing Jesus with precious oil and on Judas's betrayal as he accepted the money offered by the chief priests to betray Jesus. So we have a jar of oil and a bag

of coins hanging on the cross.

Over the remaining Sundays in Lent we'll be reflecting on Jesus washing the disciples' feet, sharing a final meal with his disciples, and the mocking by the Roman guards and the Jewish priests; and we'll add bread and the wine cup, the purple robe, a crown of thorns, a sign



saying “King of the Jews” and a collection of nails. We’ll remember too that on Good Friday as Jesus died the curtain in the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and through his death we can enter into the presence of God knowing that Jesus sacrifice is complete. On Easter Day the cross will be transformed into a place of joy, it will be beautifully decorated and will remind us that Christ is risen and he is alive.

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*As with all the challenges  
God lays before us we find  
it exciting and a bit scary.  
We know that God is good  
and that he has promised  
that he will guide us.*

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As part of our ongoing outreach into the community we will be delivering leaflets inviting people to join us for our Easter Day service. We’re also planning to call at some of the new houses in Centurion Fields, to knock on the doors and give a “real Easter egg” and personally invite the people to join us on Easter Day.

We’ve also been challenged this year to consider the work of South Parade “North of the ring road”. As with all the challenges God lays before us we find it exciting,

challenging, unsettling, a bit scary, it’s hard to know which adjective to choose to describe our emotions. We do know that God is good and that he has promised that he will lead and guide us and as we prayerfully seek God’s guidance to make him known in this community he will be with us.

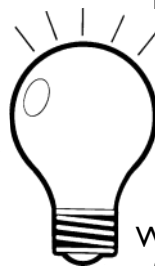
We know too that this is a discussion for the whole of South Parade. “North of the ring road” is a huge area where we long to see God’s love proclaimed in meaningful ways and we look forward to seeing where God leads us all.

*Margaret Greer*

Adel Mission Community Leader

## **SENT out in Headingley**

A small but enthusiastic group of SENT folks recently went out again into the neighbourhood around the church as part of our programme of outreach that included giving out washing-up liquid and light bulbs in the autumn.



We visited about 50 houses and offered to take away people’s glass recycling. There was a range of responses from very eco-friendly households who’d already taken theirs or been stockpiling it for ages, to those who said they just

throw it in the bin! Nevertheless we still handed out loads of leaflets about SENT Lounge and information about the church.

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*We continue to make the church known in the neighbourhood*

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There was more opportunity to chat with people as well, since often we would chat with one person on the doorstep while another was gathering the bottles inside. On the whole people were positive and appreciative and some remembered us from the other outreach events. We twice filled up Nathan Shipley's car with bottles and continued to make ourselves and the church known in the neighbourhood.

The next outreach is in the works, so come along if you want to get outside your faith comfort zone!

Blessings

*Megan Dyson*

SENT Leadership Team

## **Busyness at Cragg**

Cragg has entered into a busy time. In conjunction with Horsforth Churches Together we are running a Lent course up to Easter week and for six weeks following, running

the Grace Course that other parts of the church are using. Our intention is to provide an opportunity for people to go deeper with God and we are trying these formats on a Wednesday evening, but it's open to review to see what is best for the widest number of people.

Drop-in continues to be encouraging. The numbers vary from week to week, sometimes quiet, other times very lively. It is a great point of contact with the community with many of the people who attend living within walking distance.

As the weather improves with spring(!), walking and cycling weekends are planned as well as a canal trip from Skipton. Various games evenings happen from time to time and there's a women's group that meets regularly: there's usually something to join in with.

In August a party of 17 from Cragg (including some from the local high school) will be visiting South Africa to continue with the links that have been established at Sethani, working with children and young people who have suffered loss due to Aids.

On a different note we recently had someone drive into our front wall and knock it over: no damage to the

building but the entrance has a “new look” until repaired.

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*We're providing opportunities for people to go deeper with God*

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Our prayer is that as we offer all this activity up to God, He will use us to extend His Kingdom.

*Geoff King*

Associate Pastor, Cragg Hill

## **Connecting People**

At the beginning of 2013 Connect decided that our strategy for the year was to consolidate as a fellowship, building upon the relationships we'd established within the Broadlea Estate community. Here are some of the highlights of the year:

- Maddie and Henry Hamilton-Eve rededicated their vows on their tenth wedding anniversary because they wanted to “get married in church”. It was a great joy to celebrate with them.
- Three of our younger children (Ben and Josh Twine and McKensie Scatcherd) were dedicated last year and one of the older ones (Alisia King) attended Redmire.
- Our Family Fun Day was again a great success with some 450

local people attending. We had good support from Bramley Baptist Church and also from other SPBC Mission Communities without which we would have struggled!

- Particularly exciting was the decision by Maddie and Vered Thompson to attend Alpha and Beta courses.

As for 2014, we sense God moving us into a new season of growth. We have already seen an increase in numbers of regulars on a Sunday.

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*We've had an explosion in the number of children coming to Connect!*

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Having decided to split the children's work by setting up a pre-school group, we have had an explosion in the number of children coming! It's been great to witness one of our local regulars, Zoe Taylor, sharing the lead of the pre-school work.

Our relationship with Hollybush School has deepened and the Head Teacher is very willing to allow us to increase the ways in which we are able to use the school. We now have an extra room available on Sundays and we have a “family film afternoon” planned for Saturday 26 April. We are also



hoping to set up a CAP Job Club there within the near future.

A number of our women are regular supporters of the Craft Club at Bramley Baptist and our men have not gone unnoticed either as we recently held a “film and food” evening at the church. This promises to be a regular event and we continue to seek other ways in which we can serve the local community together.

As you can see, so much has been happening with Connect and we are very excited about the way in which God is already answering our prayers. As well as our Sunday meetings, we are now meeting once a month for a “Team Tuesday” when we might hear a message from a visiting speaker or spend time in prayer and planning for the future.

Please pray that the spiritual growth that we’ve seen will continue. Pray also for our children, especially those who are going to be dedicated this year and for those who are going to Redmire this year. Pray too for the planning and success of our community outreach events - our family events at Hollybush School, our men’s film and food evenings at BBC, and especially for our Family Fun Day and our 2014 Christmas Carol service.

As our numbers increase so does our need for your prayers and also for your practical help. Three new families have joined us within the last month and we know that more will follow as the Lord continues to prosper His work in Bramley.

Please prayerfully consider whether you can be part of this exciting work. Our growth is wonderful but at the moment we can’t realistically grow any more without more help. Could you, like Helen Vipan and Debbie Bedingham, come and be part of us from time to time to help us practically with things like refreshments, children’s work (no preparation needed) or preparing a craft? We would be so grateful.

If you feel moved to help, please contact either Sian Wrangles, Sue Walker or John and Ann Pelham to find out more.

*Sian Wrangles*

Connect Leadership Team



## Church Meeting

“A really positive meeting with news of many mission activities and decisions made to initiate others” is how one member described the March church meeting to me immediately afterwards.

During the AGM part of the meeting it was indeed good to see in the annual trustees’ report just how many initiatives we are involved in across the many expressions of our church. Also encouraging was the surplus shown in the accounts for 2013.

There were many matters raised in the ordinary church meeting too:

- The need for more help so that certain ministries can grasp all the opportunities that are presenting themselves – Connect and the ABC Coffee Shop being specifically mentioned.
- The election of Chris Dyson (SENT) as a mission community leader and Mark Twine (Connect) as a deacon.
- Our outreach “North of the Ring Road” where there were huge opportunities but a need to think radically about the shape of our work and how we resource it. See page 39 for details of an open

meeting on 7 April to give further consideration to this.

- An internship scheme is planned to start this autumn using DNA’s comprehensive training programme. We want to think about what we can do for the internees as much as what they can do for us!
- A closer relationship was agreed with Leeds Arabic Christian Fellowship whereby we would walk with and watch over each other. They would look to us for appropriate support and for informal accountability, but we would have no governance or financial responsibilities.
- It was particularly encouraging to accept as new members two of our own young people – Emily Boggs and Steph Ricketts – who had recently been baptised.

It’s good to be involved in lots of activity for God but we should always remember that it’s only effective when God Himself acts. As Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3.6: “*I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase*”.

**Geoff Greer**

Church Secretary

**...informed...**

Share news from *Around the Church* by emailing [magazine@spbc.org.uk](mailto:magazine@spbc.org.uk).



# BMS World News

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## **Baroque jewellery from Bangkok**

**Sales from a BMS mission worker's first jewellery collection are helping Thai women from the red light district build new lives.**

**S**arah Brown, a BMS World Mission worker in Bangkok, Thailand, once made jewellery for fun. Now she designs collections that are handmade by talented women who have escaped from Thailand's sex trade. Since July 2013 Sarah has been working full time for BMS partner NightLight. For the

last eight years, NightLight has been making jewellery to raise money for its work amongst women in the sex industry and also to give these women a new trade.

In her first two months at NightLight, Sarah started working on designs and researching general fashion trends with another designer. "I've been looking at the season's trends, what went before and what's coming in, like I did when I was in the fashion industry," she says.

The most important thing for Sarah is that the women who work with her benefit financially and grow in confidence. "The important part is that all of the money from every piece purchased actually goes to the women's salaries."



The women also give their input, throughout the process, even after production has started. “When I was doing this collection I didn’t want it to be exclusive so I listened to the women’s ideas. I value their judgement because,



at the end of the day, they are good at what they do. Respecting their opinions gives them encouragement that they are doing a good job, that what they are doing is worthwhile.”

*Pray for Sarah Brown, NightLight International and the women who have escaped from the red light district and produce the beautiful jewellery.*

## **Ugandans reaching Western tourists for Jesus**

**Evangelism, happy customers and heart-shaped biscuits from everyone’s favourite Kasese café.**

**L**ast March Jambo! café threw open its doors for business. A year later, with the help of BMS World Mission worker Bethan Shrubsole, three of the original Jambo! women, Alice, Eliza and

Moreen, are hard at work making their café a success. What’s more, they are now realising their vision to share God’s word, as well as God’s love, with their customers through running a weekly Alpha course.

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*We are happy because people from all over the world are coming here to know God and can ask questions they wouldn't ask in church*

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“We are happy because people from all over the world are coming here to know God and to get the services they like at a place where they can ask questions they wouldn't ask in church,” says Alice, whose husband, Pastor Alfonse, is

leading the Alpha course.

Since the course started in November it has been attended by people from all over the world and everyone who's come has been open to hearing more of the gospel.

"It seems that when Westerners travel, their minds open up to both new cultural and religious experiences and they leave behind the idea that discussing faith is embarrassing or taboo," says Bethan. "It is in this light that Jambo! hopes to help people meet Jesus."

Jambo! has been receiving a steady stream of Western customers since its opening – from tourists to regulars who are based in or near Kasese.



Bethan believes God has provided these customers and given Alice, Eliza and Moreen opportunities to share their faith. "Alice's husband is a pastor and so he is always out evangelising," says Bethan,

"but God's bringing people to her so that she can also take part in sharing the good news!"

### **...inspired...**

*BMS World Mission recently set up a major campaign for people to pray for North Korea. Find out more at [www.bmsworldmission.org/cyrus](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/cyrus)*

#### **Why Project Cyrus?**

Cyrus the Great was one of the most powerful and remarkable rulers in the sixth century BC: a Persian praised no less than 22 times in the Jewish Scriptures for his liberation of the Jewish people from their Babylonian captivity. It is this spirit of benevolence and commitment to the liberation of the oppressed that Project Cyrus seeks to pray for in North Korea.



*For more news on North Korea see the article on page 29.*

# A Morning in the Cells

## Leeds City Mission Update

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**Mike Burkett has been regularly visiting the custody cells at Leeds Bridewell as part of the work of Leeds City Mission for many years. Here he presents a snapshot of the people he saw on a visit one Sunday morning in March.**

### **“D” (Male, aged about 18)**

**H**e wanted to know when he will be interviewed and released. He was arrested for causing trouble with a neighbour. He has been arrested many times before. Upon questioning how he has come to this point in his life he broke down crying. His father used to beat him and abuse him and he left home at the age of 14. He has his own flat and has been seeking to find work for several years, without success. I gave him a gospel tract and prayed for him. I told him that he is deeply loved by God and He can give him hope for the future should he turn to Christ.



### **“S” (Female, aged about 25)**

She had been arrested for neglect towards her children and the authorities had taken her children away. She was in a deeply traumatised state and was tearful throughout the exchange. She claimed that she didn't know she had done wrong. She wanted a copy of the Koran. I prayed for her briefly.

### **“B” (Male, aged about 60)**

He has been out of trouble for the past four years since spending ten years at Full Sutton prison in York. His girlfriend is a drug addict and she often gets into trouble with the law. “B” was arrested in connection with his girlfriend's nefarious activities. His friends advise that he should part company with her, due to her

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*I prayed for him...  
I prayed for her... I prayed  
for him and his girlfriend...*

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needy lifestyle. He willingly received a tract and a copy of Mark's gospel. I prayed for "B" and his girlfriend and that God would send someone into her life to help with her addictions. I passed a leaflet to "B" to give to her in relation to addiction. I suggested she contacts New Hope in Beeston, a Christian charity that specifically ministers to addicts in the city.

## Mike Burkett

Headingley Morning Mission Community

### **In a recent article in the Leeds City Mission magazine, one of their evangelists wrote:**

**J**oan and I went to witness at the Police Cells on Sunday morning. LCM evangelists have often been denied entry into the cells lately (due to staff situations and cell busy-ness). Thanks to God, a cheerful police officer said, "Come on in!" We experienced Emmanuel's leading that Sunday morning.

I had a brilliant chat with a young man named Dan. Introducing myself, Dan came closer to listen.

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*Before I left for another cell, Dan said, "I wish you knew what it means visiting people in this situation. Thanks for coming"*

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As I went over the Gospel story he was so attentive. With God's clear assurance that Dan was going to be released that day, I gave him contact details. Before I left for another cell, Dan said, "I wish you knew what it means visiting people in this situation. Thanks for coming". That was a great encouragement.

Barely three hours after we left the cells, Dan called saying he had been released and could I come and see him. At his flat I further explained the Gospel and Dan accepted the Lord Jesus. Since that day Dan asks lots of questions and we pray and study the Bible together. Praise be to God!

## Nickolaus Masukume

LCM Associate Evangelist

### **...involved...**

*If you can spare a couple of hours each month Leeds City Mission would be very pleased to consider you as a volunteer in the Leeds Bridewell to partner with them in the Great Commission. See Mike Burkett (Headingley Morning) for more details.*



# Sent to Serve

Levi Booth

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**After Levi Booth's commissioning service at SENT in March, *Intouch* caught up with him before he left the country to ask, "What are you actually doing in Japan? And how can we pray for you?"**

If you were at the commissioning service, you would have heard me talk about how Jesus totally messed up the plans I had for my life. Rather than working a "nice" job with a sideline in kung-fu choreography, I am soon heading out to Japan to begin my first four-year term with OMF (Overseas Missionary Fellowship).

After the service I had a couple of people come up to me and point out that in my talk there was one major omission - I hadn't mentioned what I was actually going to be doing in Japan.

A fair point. But not one that I can easily address. Because I don't rightly know. I have ideas of course. I'm not just going to

rock up in Japan and go, "OK, I'm here, now what?"

But my plans are vague. They have to be because I am going to Japan to serve the Japanese church, and that means that I need to go with a willingness to listen to the Japanese church - to shape my ministry around what they want me to do.

My plan, or rather I should say my passion, is this:

**To make disciples of Jesus,  
who can make  
disciples of Jesus,  
in Japan.**

What will that look like? I don't know. Where will I be based long-term? Not sure. Who will I be working with? Yeah, I don't know that either.



**Levi Booth**



My vision is to be working alongside/under Japanese pastors, supporting and encouraging them to get churches established, especially in the areas where there are as yet no churches (there's lots of these in Japan).

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*Pray that the Lord would  
fill my heart with  
humility, wisdom,  
endurance and love*

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I can tell you that my first eight months will be spent studying Japanese in the city of Sapporo. And during that time I will be meeting with OMF leadership and Japanese pastors to work out how and where I can best serve the Japanese church long-term.

In that uncertainty, how can you know what to pray for me? And come to it, what can you pray for

other missionaries you know, if you're not sure exactly where they are or what they're up to?

**W**ell there are some things that you can always pray for missionaries like me - you can pray for my heart. As Solomon put it, "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the well-spring of life." (Proverbs 4.23)

So wherever I go and whatever I do, you would not go far wrong to pray that the Lord would fill my heart with:

- **Humility** - for serving the Japanese church
- **Wisdom** - for engaging the Japanese culture
- **Endurance** - for learning the Japanese language
- **Love** - for the Japanese people

*Levi Booth*

### **...informed...**

*Levi adds: if you would like to be kept up to date with my ministry in Japan then I would be very glad to stay in touch. I will be sending out monthly updates that you can sign up for here: [www.omf.org/omf/uk/get\\_involved/pray\\_for\\_omf\\_workers](http://www.omf.org/omf/uk/get_involved/pray_for_omf_workers)*

*If you'd like to read my blog (which has an FAQ section as well), then go to: [reversedthunder.wordpress.com](http://reversedthunder.wordpress.com)*

*Or you can just drop me a message to say hi and tell me you've prayed for me (you've done that right?): [levibooth@gmail.com](mailto:levibooth@gmail.com)*



# Forty Years On

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**Intouch was delighted to receive an email from Mike and Liz James who left South Parade exactly forty years ago to serve in France. They still receive news of the church through the magazine and from friends in Leeds from that time, and they felt that it was time to update us on their story.**

**W**e left Headingley for France at the end of April 1974 with a babe-in-arms, Mary, and a toddler, Peter. Friends at South Parade gave us

maps of Paris but we knew little else about what we would find. On our way to Paris, driving over Tower Bridge late in the evening, we saw new significance in the red neon signs saying “COURAGE”. In our first two months in Paris we stayed in three different hotels and a flat before moving to a house in the suburbs.

The dank cellar under a house we rented early on was full of wildlife. Sweeping the earth floor, Mike’s broom disturbed the remains of a cat. Beneath was a small sack containing thirty-one gold coins



***The James family in the 1970s (left), and in 2011 (above)***

hidden during the Second World War. In Britain, found articles are someone's lost property. But, in France, "l'objet trouvé", the found article belongs to the finder! Our landlord at the time, the owner of the gold in our eyes, remains surprised to this day that we handed it over.

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*During nearly forty years  
here we have been  
through many trials and  
dangers: we thank God for  
his faithfulness to us.*

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***The testing of your faith is more precious than much fine gold.***

**D**uring, or sometimes enduring, nearly forty years here, we have been through many trials and dangers. Our commitment to God and to one another has been severely tested but by God's grace in five years' time we hope to celebrate our Golden Wedding. We thank God for his faithfulness to us. We have received many blessings of which not the least are our four children, their four spouses from three different countries, and six grandchildren.

After a five year break teaching in South Carolina, US, from 2007 to

2012, we were called back to France by our French pastor. Although we experienced reverse culture shock, much like homecoming missionaries, France definitely feels like home. For both of us, our time in US was a time of healing from wounds sustained from being immersed in France's often hostile culture.

While in the States, Mike set up an undergraduate business program for a Christian university, Columbia International University (CIU) and, encouraged to further his studies, he started a PhD. He enjoys the challenge. He now teaches here in French on personal finances for churches and individuals. Even at 70, the idea of retirement doesn't please him. He has just been invited to help with financial aspects of relocating France's only evangelical seminary, a project that will take several years.

Liz spent much of her time in the States writing her first Christian novel, a tome of 75,000 words. Next step is publishing for which she recently received an offer from the Geneva Bible Society. So the novel about a Welsh (I wonder why?) Christian musician will, to our amusement and amazement, probably appear in French first.

Although we returned to the same

town upon our return from the States, and in spite of our preference to live within walking distance of the church we attend, we are involved with a church plant, half an hour from home, in Versailles. The church meets in premises rented from an Adventist

Church just under the walls of the chateau. For anyone visiting on a Sunday, the address of the church is 22, rue des Riverains, Versailles.

With our love in Christ

*Liz and Mike James*

## **Why do we have church meetings?**

**In a recent blog post, Ernie Whalley, President of the Baptist Union, considered the purpose of church meetings and asked “Do we want a Kingdom-shaped church or a church-shaped Kingdom?”:**

*Church members’ meetings are often the low point in our church life and for understandable reasons. As a former regional minister, I have probably attended church meetings in over 100 churches in the past 15 years. In the pastorates I served, I chaired well over 200 such meetings. I think I can safely say I’ve seen much of the best... and the worst! Power politics, imitations of the worst of Westminster, packed meetings when there’s a proposal to remove pews... or terminate a ministry... to name but a few. However, I’ve also experienced the best when there has been careful listening in tough meetings and people have changed their minds, when there has been space for the prophetic and the quiet voice on the margins has been listened to and heeded. I understand how the church meeting has become a forum for the leaders’ plans to be shared with little opportunity for discussion. I understand why many people avoid them like the plague because they do not want a sleepless night.*



*So where do we go? I believe the time is right to consider*

- *Why do we have church members’ meetings anyway?..*

*Ernie Whalley*

Read the rest of this article at [www.baptist.org.uk](http://www.baptist.org.uk)

# Prayer Diary



April - May 2014

*“Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”*

**Luke 18.1 (NIV)**

<b>April</b>		
Sunday	6	Paul Rockley
Monday	7	The Easter Holiday Club all this week
Tuesday	8	Rooted
Wednesday	9	Levi Booth ( <i>see page 16</i> )
Thursday	10	Heather McLeen
Friday	11	Jayne Godfrey
Saturday	12	Nathan Shipley
Sunday	13	Brian Nicholls
Monday	14	<b>Reflect</b> on the events of Holy Week
Tuesday	15	Adel Mission Community
Wednesday	16	Other Baptist churches in Yorkshire and the work of the YBA
Thursday	17	The Elders
Friday	18	<b>Remember</b> the events of Good Friday
Saturday	19	All those bereaved during the last year

*Pull out and use!*

## **April**

Sunday	20	<b>Rejoice</b> in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus
Monday	21	Someone you know who doesn't know Jesus
Tuesday	22	Volunteers in the church office
Wednesday	23	Your Mission Community Leadership Team
Thursday	24	Headingley Mission Community
Friday	25	The ABC Coffee Shop
Saturday	26	Geoff Greer, Church Secretary
Sunday	27	Those who can't get to church on a Sunday any more
Monday	28	Adrian Howe, Church Treasurer
Tuesday	29	Lawrence Cockrill
Wednesday	30	Our friend in North Africa ( <i>see page 24</i> )

## **May**

Thursday	1	TLG volunteers in local schools
Friday	2	Cafe Church at Holt Park
Saturday	3	Steve and Ismay Green
Sunday	4	The Deacons
Monday	5	Cell Groups that meet this week
Tuesday	6	Leeds City Mission ( <i>see page 14</i> )
Wednesday	7	The Outtakes Drama Group
Thursday	8	All the activities that happen in the Green House
Friday	9	Those in hospital or waiting for treatment
Saturday	10	The work with Under 5s
Sunday	11	David and Ann MacFarlane in Italy ( <i>see page 26</i> )
Monday	12	The James family in France ( <i>see page 18</i> )

Tuesday	13	Gemma Eastwood
Wednesday	14	Church @ Little London
Thursday	15	SENT Mission Community
Friday	16	Jane Waites
Saturday	17	Andrew Bedingham and the CAP centre
Sunday	18	Barnabas Bunch
Monday	19	The Arabic Christian Fellowship
Tuesday	20	Cragg Mission Community
Wednesday	21	Ed Preston and his work with UCCF
Thursday	22	Chris and Dorothy Gnanakan
Friday	23	The work of St George's Crypt
Saturday	24	Redmire Youth Weekend
Sunday	25	Becky North
Monday	26	Kate Burkett
Tuesday	27	The Retired People's Fellowship
Wednesday	28	Jill and Colin Jones and their work in Normandy
Thursday	29	The work of the church office
Friday	30	Geoff King
Saturday	31	Connect Mission Community

*Very early on Sunday morning, as the sun rose, they went to the tomb. They worried out loud to each other, "Who will roll back the stone from the tomb for us?" Then they looked up, saw that it had been rolled back - it was a huge stone - and walked right in. They saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed all in white. They were completely taken aback, astonished. He said, "Don't be afraid. I know you're looking for Jesus the Nazarene, the One they nailed on the cross. He's been raised up; he's here no longer."*

**Mark 16.1-6 (The Message)**

# Postcard from Africa



Dear All,

By the time you get this the beginnings of summer should be here! Over the past few days the cold blast as I open my windows each morning has been replaced by an increasingly mild rush of fresh air. The bougainvillea is starting to flower, and the gas heater is preparing to hibernate! The changing weather mirrors my life here just now, as I move from spending almost all my time trying to learn Arabic, to mainly working with the palliative care project. (But I have lots of Arabic still to learn!)

Much love,

An SPBCite Overseas xxx



Everyone at South Parade  
c/o Intouch Magazine  
South Parade Baptist Church  
Kirkstall Lane  
Headingley  
Leeds  
LS6 3LF  
UK

AIRMAIL



# **Reflect, Remember, Rejoice**

## *Holy Week & Easter at South Parade*

Lots of things are going on across the church during this season: ask in your Mission Community about what is available locally to you. One of the things we could encourage each other in is to make time each day from Palm Sunday to Easter Day to reflect particularly on the death and resurrection of Jesus. Here are some things that might help.

### **Monday 14 April 6.30pm**

Guided prayer for about 30 minutes in the Sanctuary at Headingley

### **Tuesday 15 April 11.15am**

Communion, probably in the Green House at Headingley

### **Wednesday 16 April**

Passover meal at Cragg (booking essential)

### **Thursday 17 April 7.30pm**

Healing Service in the Sanctuary at Headingley

If you can't attend, prayer requests can be left in the box in the foyer, emailed to [brian@spbc.org.uk](mailto:brian@spbc.org.uk), or phoned into the church office.

### **Maundy Thursday 17 April 2.30pm**

Communion Service at the ABC Coffee Shop, Holt Park

### **Good Friday 18 April**

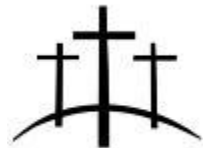
Witness in Headingley, starting with prayer walks from each of the churches and gathering at 10.45am at the Arc for a dramatic reading of the Passion Story. (There is also a walk of witness in Horsforth).

### **Good Friday 3pm**

Readings, songs and preaching to mark Christ's death for us, in the Sanctuary at Headingley

### **Easter Eve 19 April 8pm**

An informal service in the Sanctuary in which we will renew our Baptismal promises. Open to all regardless of the church tradition you are from.

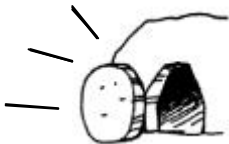


### **Easter Sunday, 20 April 10.30am**

Morning worship at Adel, Cragg and Headingley, celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

### **Easter Sunday 6.30pm**

South Parade Together celebrates that Jesus is alive



# Mission in Italy

## Update from the MacFarlanes

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**Ann and David MacFarlane, our link missionaries with BMS World Mission in Calabria in the south of Italy, are visiting South Parade in May (details below). Here is an extract from their most recent newsletter.**

**C**hristmas and New Year as usual was our busiest time of the year. We had our usual annual concert (One way Jesus) in aid of Rosarno. We did not have one night free for three weeks with all the rehearsals. Ann and I found it particularly hard as we continued with all our usual activities. After all that, our usual routine felt like a holiday!

We raised €180 for Rosarno, and with money given to us anonymously we were able to make it up to €300. We are going out there

next week to give them the money and take out some clothing and two mattresses that we have collected recently.

We are still getting food for the food bank, praise God, but we cannot add any more people on to our list. We have more and more Italians now out of work and desperate.



**Ann & David MacFarlane**

With Christmas and the New Year out of the way we now begin to think about our preparations for Easter. Last year we had five people baptised and maybe this year we will have others.

We have a group of young people, most of them Filipinos. Two of them have made decisions and they are all involved with Bible class with the majority of them coming from Sunday school. Five of them are in the puppet team. Mary Grace, who also plays in

the worship band, will be 18 shortly and she has said that she wants to be baptised after her birthday.

**W**e believe this might spur some of the others who have professed Christ to be baptised also. Their names are Roland, who gave his heart to the Lord after last year’s concert, Mary Grace Ranson, Robin, Christopher and Omega.

Prayer points:

- Praise God for the continual spiritual and numerical growth in

the church.

- Praise Him for the new people that are coming.
- The people in the Philippines, Rosarno, the African and Syrian refugees, Lucia.
- For Graziella whose son has a mental illness and she has a terrible life.
- The Food Bank.

God bless you all

## *David and Ann MacFarlane*

### **Macpac Fundraiser: Pizza and Pud**

- 5pm Saturday 3 May
- In the Green House, SPBC, Headingley
- With our BMS church partners, David and Ann MacFarlane
- Minimum donation: £6 adults £3 child, families welcome
- Please sign the list at Headingley or contact Pat Dalglish by 27 April



C R S H  
 SOUTH PARADE N T  
 N G I  
 H E C A D N G L E  
 TOGETHER Y  
 L

*Sunday 20 April*  
*Sunday 18 May*

6.30pm

*“Next to worship, witness is the primary and urgent task of the Church. Compared with evangelism everything else is like re-arranging furniture when the house is on fire.”*

**Archbishop of York John Sentamu,  
Christianity Today, March 2014**

# Step of Faith

## *The Best Decision*

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**At the morning service at Headingley on 16 March, Steph Ricketts and Emily Boggs were baptised. Steph gave the church her testimony:**

I have grown up in a Christian family and have been going to South Parade since I was born. I have always been encouraged by my parents and grandparents to read the Bible and pray regularly. There has never been a definitive moment where I decided to become a Christian but I know it is the best decision I have ever made.

When I was younger I often didn't understand why we went to church every Sunday and sometimes didn't want to go, but as I grew older I started to fully listen to the stories and started to understand more. As I moved up through Sunday school I

started to know God for myself and started to have conversations with other Christians I knew and often with friends in my Sunday School groups.

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*As I grew older I started to know God for myself*

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In summer 2008 I let God into my heart and have grown since then. I became involved in more camps and groups with others my age and found that this really helped me. Since then I have grown apart from God many times but have always been welcomed back with open arms. In the last few years both at Redmire and camp at Bassenfell, I have felt God's presence with me and I have got very involved in worship there, often not wanting to leave.

Since becoming a Christian I have seen God work in many amazing ways, both in myself and in others, and I know that being baptised is the next step on my journey with God.

*Steph Ricketts*



# The Most Secret Christians in the World

*Following Jesus in North Korea*

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**Jane Hepworth from the Headingley Mission Community passed on the following article that she read in *Open Doors* magazine. She says, “North Korea is number one in the top 10 countries in the world where it is hardest to be a Christian. We can easily take our freedom to follow our faith for granted and I found these true stories very moving and challenging and wanted to share them.”**

**B**y day, Hye learnt about Kim Il-Sung, North Korea’s beloved leader. But every evening her grandmother told her a different story: “You must believe in Jesus,” she said. “You must not believe in Kim Jong-Il or Kim Il-Sung because all the things in this world are useless. God created the world.” She would point out of the window, up to the sky, “We have to go there.” Hye remembers, “Whenever she told us this, she was always sobbing.”

On Saturday nights visitors would

arrive at Hye’s family home. Usually five or six of them; no more than ten. They stayed overnight and left the next day. Nobody took much notice; after all, everyone knew that Hye’s father had a job that required him to meet a lot of people. But these visitors were Christians. And Hye’s home was a church.

“They would gather in a small room,” Hye recalls. “They read from the Bible, and sang songs, but there was almost no sound coming from their mouths. They were almost silent. The other Christians didn’t own a Bible. They shared books which my grandmother had written by hand. She was the leader of the group and also the preacher.” Her grandmother’s most prized possession was a very old Chinese Bible – a forbidden object in North Korea. “My grandmother hid her Bible in a basket where she placed her socks and other things. She hid it immediately if she heard someone coming to the house.”

Hye’s job was to play outside and act as lookout. “We had to watch

out for other people. As soon as someone came near to our house I ran home to warn my grandmother.”

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*She wrote whatever scriptures she could remember on paper and hid it somewhere in secret to look at in difficult times.*

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Then, several years later, some different visitors arrived. The security forces raided the house during a worship meeting. Hye’s father was arrested and taken away. “When I came home, I expected my father to open the door,” says Hye. “He always greeted me as soon as I came back from school. He wasn’t there.” She never saw him again.

Two weeks later, her grandmother passed away. Before she died, she told Hye’s mother to fetch her Bible.

“We knew they were coming for us,” Hye remembers. “We had to burn it. My grandmother said it was okay as long as we stayed true to

our faith in God. But when the flames devoured the pages, my grandmother wept intensely.” Hye’s family were fortunate. Instead of being sent to a labour camp, they were deported to a remote mountain area.

“**M**any people died of starvation. We were somewhat better off than the others because we lived close to the mountains, where we could find plants and trees. We were grateful that God had saved our lives.”

The only scriptures she had were those she and her sister could remember. “My sister wrote whatever she remembered on paper and hid it somewhere in secret. She

would look at those papers whenever she was going through difficult times.



“The scariest sound was the sound of cars in the middle of the night. There were hardly any cars where we lived. Every time we heard a car, we thought they had come to take us away. Next morning, people would peek through the window and look at the chimneys of other houses to see if any family was missing.”

For more than ten years the family lived like this. Then, one day, a man showed up at their door. He said he had been sent to find them by a Chinese pastor who they used to know and who had somehow found out where they were. The family were suspicious.

“We thought he was a secret agent,” said Hye. “We wanted to send him back. However, he had walked almost four hours to come to our house so we listened to him.” The visitor called their pastor-friend in China on his mobile phone. It really was him. He urged Hye and her family to try to come to China where there were many North Korean defectors in their church.

**H**ye did not want to leave her elderly mother. But her mother urged her to go. “I was sure I would never see her again. I could not cry outside the house, or someone would become

suspicious.”

In recent years the Chinese authorities have become less tolerant of North Korean escapees. But, with help, Hye eventually managed to make her way past the barbed wire, the electrified fences and the military patrols, across the river to China, where the pastor and his wife were waiting for her. One of the first things the pastor and his wife did was take her to church.

She could hear the sound of people singing. “Can people really sing so loud?” she asked, anxiously.

As soon as she set foot inside the church, she burst into tears. “So many things shot through my head. I couldn’t stop thinking about my grandmother and father. They would have longed for this service.”

## Open Doors

From Open Doors Magazine, January 2014, used with permission

### ...informed...

*Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide. They supply Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services. They also seek to mobilise the church in the UK to serve Christians living under religious persecution. Find out more by visiting their website [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org), or speak to Jane Hepworth. See also news of BMS*



**OpenDoors**

Serving persecuted **Christians** worldwide

*World Mission's Project Cyrus on page 13.*

# Come Prepared

## Preaching Themes and Readings

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The beginning of April sees us completing our Sunday morning series in Matthew's Gospel with a talk on "Secret Treasure" from Matthew 6.19-34 on 6 April, followed by a Palm Sunday look at "The Lure of the Big Parade" from Matthew 7.13-29. Apparently wide gates, showy people and cowboy builders are not the way to go. Evening preaching on these days takes two brief peeks at the meaning of the cross as the place of victory (Colossians 2.13-15) and the place of reconciliation (Ephesians 2.11-22).

Easter morning and evening services look at Luke 24's resurrection story, to be completed on the morning of 27 April. Luke 24 has a sort of pilgrimage feel to it, as the first disciples gradually come to terms with Jesus' resurrection and its life-changing significance for humanity. The evening of the 27th gives us an opportunity to explore what resurrection life looks like for us, drawing on Galatians 2.11-21.

Throughout May and up to Pentecost Sunday on 8 June the morning series is entitled "Return to Pente-

4 May	Acts 1.1-5	Return to first base: wait for the gift
11 May	Psalm 133	Unity – where God commands the blessing
18 May	Acts 1.15-26	Getting your act together
25 May	John 2.1-11	Empty vessels ready for new wine
1 June	Acts 1.6-11	Look up, get ready! The Ascension
8 June <b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>	Acts 2.1-11 and Isaiah 35	Streams in the desert



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*The morning series encourages us to prepare for the Holy Spirit's work to permeate our lives more thoroughly*

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cost". It plugs in to our overall theme for the year of "Going Deeper" and encourages us to prepare for the Holy Spirit's work to permeate our lives more thoroughly. The headings in the table on the previous page should give a sense of the kind of things we will address.

**E**venings during this period will delve into a series on "Robust Purpose", drawing hints from the old Rick Warren classic, *The Purpose Driven Life*. Subtitled "What on earth am I here for?", Rick's book has recently been up-



dated (2013). It's available from Amazon both in paperback and for Kindle. (I got it for £5.72 in paperback). Each week's topic can be looked at as a one off, so if you don't get to SENT or South Parade Together very often you can still find something worthwhile to stimulate you when you are there.

Sometimes preachers go off piste, usually for good reasons, leaving the ordinary congregation member somewhat bemused about where we are up to in any particular series. If you want to catch up on a series, either because of this or because you've been away, Headingley and SENT are pretty good at sticking to the script and barring technological hitches talks are available from the website ([www.spbc.org.uk](http://www.spbc.org.uk)) within a few hours of them being given.

Home Group material is produced in written form most weeks and for the current season will be based on the Sunday evening passages at the beginning of each home group week. This is sent out as an email attachment a few days beforehand. Individuals can receive this too – email [brian@spbc.org.uk](mailto:brian@spbc.org.uk) to request regular copies.

**Brian Nicholls**

Senior Minister

# Recommended Reads

## *How Can Christians be Scientists?*

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**These three books are by scientists who are also deeply committed Christians. I know all three authors; two have delivered talks at South Parade. They all illustrate the point that Christians who are scientists are whole, integrated people - body, mind and spirit.**

***In the eye of the storm: The autobiography of Sir John Houghton***

**T**his is a book for everyone. The Rt Hon John Gummer, Lord Deben, commented that John Houghton is a seminal figure in modern British science. His contribution to the understanding of climate change was crucial to the development of the science. John Houghton is animated by a search for truth and by his deep belief in the stewardship we owe to a Creator God. The book is an essential read for anyone concerned about the future of the planet. John makes a number of important challenges, including:

- Looking after the earth is a God-given responsibility. Not to look after the earth is a sin.
- Christians need to re-emphasise that the doctrines of creation, incarnation, and resurrection belong together. The spiritual is not to be seen as separate from the material.
- Our stewardship of the earth, as Christians, is to be pursued in dependence on and partnership with God.



***Sir John Houghton speaking at South Parade***

***Big Bang Big God: A universe designed for life? Rodney Holder***

Rev Professor David Wilkinson, Principal, St John's College, Durham University

writes that Rodney Holder combines expertise in both science and theology to explore the exciting question of the origin of the universe; and he does so in a way that reflects the importance, complexity, and fun of these big questions.

Rodney has spoken at South Parade on “God and the Multiverse: A response to Stephen Hawking”, at the time both were associated with Cambridge University. Scientific discovery is one of the most impressive achievements of human culture. The universe that we observe today has been shown to have a finite history, stemming from an originating event some 13.8 billion years ago. One highly surprising fact is that the fundamental laws of physics are just right to allow the emergence of intelligent life. This is known as “fine-tuning”. Small variations in the strengths of the basic forces of nature would have rendered the development of carbon-based life, as we know it, impossible.

Is the fine-tuning of our universe a sign that the will and purpose of a divine Creator lies behind its history? Rodney Holder gives a careful and fair-minded discussion of these metascientific issues.



***The Polkinghorne Reader: Science, faith and the search for meaning.* Edited by Thomas Jay Oord**

The third book was produced in celebration of John Polkinghorne’s eightieth birthday. This clearly organised volume weaves together selections from his extended writings on the religion-science dialogue.

It was while a student at Cambridge that John felt the call of God towards a deeper commitment to faith in Christ, a commitment that has lasted up to now. He served for many years as the Professor of particle physics at Cambridge, but in 1977 he decided to take a different direction with his life - he was ordained in the Church of England. After several years as a parish priest he became Dean and Chaplain at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He was then elected President of Queens College, Cambridge.

John Polkinghorne is a prolific interdisciplinary author and this book contains a selection of the best of his writings. Some people may find this book hard going, but it contains many gems that are worth seeking.

*John Lockwood*

Cragg Mission Community

# Questions

## Accurate, or True?

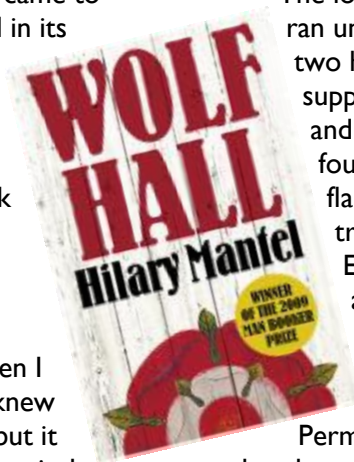
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**Cyril Snell presents an alternative review of the multi award-winning novel *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel.**

**H**ave you ever wondered how England came to worship God in its own language? The story is almost as unexpected as the forty years in the wilderness. This book offers a fascinating picture of the route march.

Seventy years ago when I was taught history, I knew it might be accurate, but it wasn't true. Now historical novels may not be accurate but they have the smell of truth. A novel

uses conversations, situations and thoughts of which no evidence remains, but few historians have said of this book "that can't be true".



The longing for a true gospel ran underground for almost two hundred years, after the suppression of John Wycliffe and his Lollards in the fourteenth century. It flared up with the translation of the Bible into English by William Tyndale and also through Lutheran writings which were pouring into the country from Antwerp.

Permitted by Henry VIII, the church tortured and killed "sectaries" by the score. The Chancellor Thomas More, now a saint of the Catholic Church, was said to be an excellent stretcher and bender of victims sometimes on the mere suspicion of reading seditious literature.

This book follows the progress of Thomas Cromwell from being the



runaway son of a drunken, brawling blacksmith to becoming the King's confidante to whom the highest nobility appealed for help. As one of the evangelical sectaries, he gave help sometimes at the risk of the King's displeasure; but having risen in favour, he found as had Cardinal Wolsey, that what the King wanted, the King must have. Also, that to fall out of favour was terminal.

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*Mantel's story of Tudor horror contains a record of the triumph of God's faithfulness to his people against all probabilities*

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The Tudor Court and the country were violent, vulgar and obsessed with intrigue and power. Brooding over it was an erratic tyrant who built people up to break them with cruelty if they did not deliver what he wanted. The Court was deeply committed to status and rank.

The Gospel survived due to the faithfulness of its martyrs under

God's provision, but this book provides a narrative that seems to depend also on the intelligent instinct of self-preservation by Thomas Cromwell and later his friend Cranmer.

**D**uring the years when Cromwell and Ann Boleyn were useful to each other, he was able to use her influence with the King to appoint priests and scholars favourable to the new learning. When Ann was out of favour and a liability, Cromwell did what the King demanded. The execution of Ann and others must be one of the greatest abuses of justice ever.

It is not a book for the squeamish. I think it tells it as it was. There are few impossibilities in this historical novel, but without intending it, Mantel's story of Tudor horror contains a record of the triumph of God's faithfulness to his people against all probabilities.

**Cyril Snell**

Headingley Morning Mission Community

*"DNA works so well because trainees are based in a local church. Having DNA students around has been invaluable, as they have made all kinds of contributions to the life of the church. In return, church has been the perfect proving ground for their growth throughout the year."*

**Tim Anderson, City Life Church, Cambridge.** See page 10 for more about plans for an internship scheme in partnership with DNA.

# Church Noticeboard

## 10 Reasons to Come to Soul Survivor



1. You will get to know God better!
2. Heather is co-ordinating the cooking. Yum! Yum!
3. You get to spend five whole days with your friends.
4. There are loads of activities to do during your free time!
5. There is live music from some of the best Christian artists around!



6. You will worship God alongside thousands of other young people.
7. You can kick-back and enjoy a coffee in one of the on-site cafes.
8. There will be plenty of opportunities to hold Baby Shipley.
9. There are seminars which cover almost everything!
10. We will have an inflatable as our mascot.



## SPBC Mission in North Leeds

Over the last few weeks we have been gathering together information from those who live, work and worship in the Leeds 16 area, including Adel Mission Community, Cafe Church, the ABC Coffee Shop, Outburst, Home Groups and individuals. It now seems right to widen the circle of conversation to include the whole church - there are some radical ideas bubbling up which could affect not just those who have a heart for the area, but for the whole of South Parade. With this in mind you are invited to the next stage of the conversation. We want to ask a number of questions based on information received so far:



- What kind of a God are we serving?
- What kind of a world does he call us to serve?
- What kind of a church does he need for the task?
- What kind of resources might this church need to carry this out?

**Join the conversation on Monday 7 April at 7.30pm  
in the Green House at Headingley.**

## Holy Week with Churches Together in Headingley



Tuesday 15 April 7pm: **United Service** at St Luke's Lutheran Church (Alma Road)

Thursday 17 April 9pm: **Tenebrae Service** at Headingley St Columba UR Church. A quiet, reflective time to lead us into Good Friday.

Good Friday 9.50am: **Walk of Witness**. Meet at SP Headingley. We walk together up North Lane to meet other church groups (10.15) at the junction of Wood Lane/Otley Road (near KFC), for drama/reading/singing. We then walk together via North Lane to the Arc (10.55) for our main act of witness/worship. After our time at the rose garden, make your way to the Methodist Church Hall for coffee & hot cross buns (definitely free! – our Easter gift to you).

# South Parade in Numbers

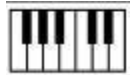
## Part Seven

### South Parade People:

- 8** Ministry Team staff
- 5** Stalwart members of the Admin team
- 3** Cleaners, including Bedilu Ayele who took over from Rolinde at Headingley in March (welcome!)
- 1** Long-serving Buildings Manager (**7** years!)

### South Parade Equipment:

- 7** First Aid kits
- 6** Hot water boilers
- 5** Display boards
- 4** Food safety temperature probes
- 3** Flip chart stands
- 2** portable data projectors
- 1** spare electric piano



**9,503** account transactions made in 2013 (that's **26** per day). **1,816** so far in 2014.



**STOP PRESS!**

**28/3/14**

Date of birth of **Grace Elizabeth Shipley**. Congratulations all round!

**37**

People attended a recent Cafe Church meeting at Holt Park

**14**

of them have no other church connection



Number of times Brian asked church members “are you happy...?” on decisions taken at the March church meeting: **at least 5.**

Don't Worry  
**BE HAPPY!**

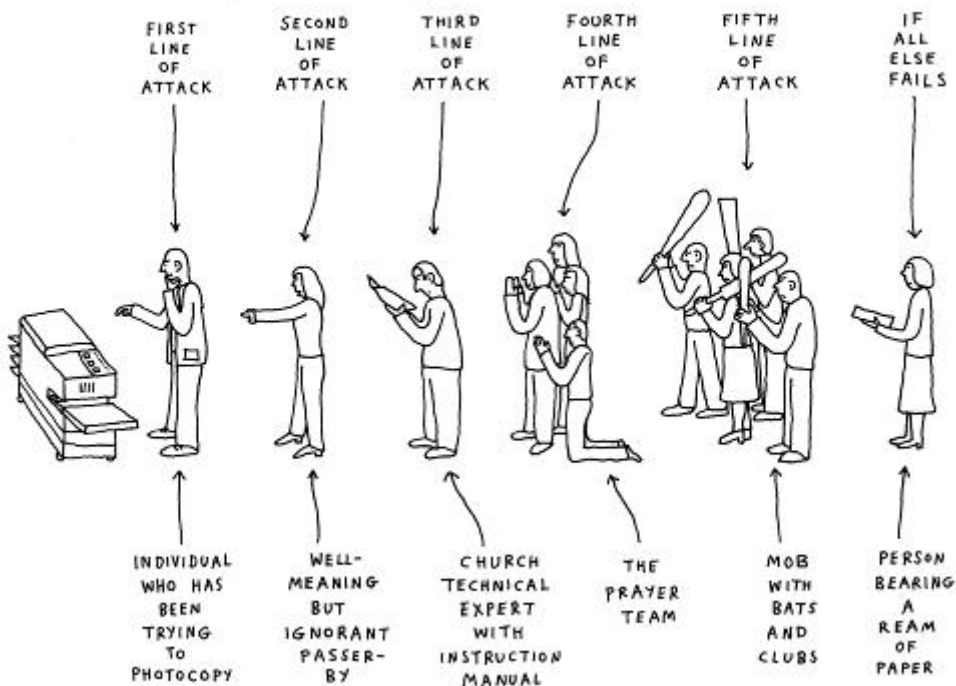


The church voted each time to say that we were. Read what happened on page 10.



*Intouch and the Church Office sincerely apologise for the “holes” that appeared in the printed edition of the magazine in February. The church photocopier has now been fixed/replaced/prayed over (we hope). Anyone still struggling to make sense of the last edition can find the complete magazine at [www.spbc.org.uk](http://www.spbc.org.uk). This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times and is used with permission.*

## THE PHOTOCOPIER



CartoonChurch.com

### **“Pillar of the church:**

- (1) person who is consistent and reliable in their commitment to the well-being of the congregation
- (2) big thick thing that holds everything up and restricts vision.”

**Adrian Plass**

## **Love Is Come Again**

*Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*In the grave they laid him, love whom men had slain,  
Thinking that never he would wake again.  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green,*



*Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain.  
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

**John Crum, 1928**



South Parade meets as five distinctive Mission Communities across Leeds: in **Headingley, Adel and Cragg** on a Sunday Morning, and as **SENT** at Headingley on Sunday evenings. **Connect** meets at different locations in the community in Bramley. We also have projects in Little London and Holt Park. To find out more, visit the website or contact the church office.

Together, we have a shared vision to **build community in Christ**. We hope that all who meet us will be helped to **belong** to Christ and his people, will discover what it means to **believe** in him, and will **become** all that he invites them to be in character, lifestyle, witness and service.

Senior Minister  
Minister

Brian Nicholls  
Paul Rockley

Associate Pastor for  
Youth and Young Adults  
Children's Worker  
Associate Pastor  
Administration Manager  
Associate Pastor  
Under 5s Co-ordinator

Nathan Shipley  
Heather McLeen  
Geoff King  
Gemma Eastwood  
Lawrence Cockrill  
Kate Burkett

Elders

Andrew Bedingham, Judith Briggs,  
Adam Clayton, Neil Cowling,  
Claire Ginn,  
Geoff Greer (Church Secretary),  
Adrian Howe (Church Treasurer),  
John Pelham, Rosemary Stirk

**South Parade Baptist Church**  
**Kirkstall Lane, Headingley**  
**LEEDS LS6 3LF**

**0113 275 4989**  
**[www.spbc.org.uk](http://www.spbc.org.uk)**  
**[gemma@spbc.org.uk](mailto:gemma@spbc.org.uk)**

“



*...but it has now been revealed through the  
appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus,  
who has destroyed death and has brought  
life and immortality to light through the gospel.*

”

**2 Timothy 1.10 (NIV)**

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 **SOUTH PARADE  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Building Community in Christ