

# intouch



## **Anunciando Cristo às nações na Copa do Mundo!**



*Proclaiming Christ  
to the Nations  
during the World Cup!*



See Page 34

I wanted select a topical theme and article for this month's cover, but which to choose? The Tour de Yorkshire (read about Brian's neglected bike on page 3 and news of a smaller bike ride on page 43)?

Commemorations for the centenary of World War One (Cyril Snell's personal reflections on page 38)? July's Commonwealth Games (Gemma Eastwood writes about "passing the baton" on page 14 - OK, a bit tenuous that one)? Bigger than all these is the World Cup which starts this week. Don't miss Kleos Cesar's fascinating take on how Brazil is coping with this "mega event", how the church is growing there, and how you can pray for the opportunities it presents to proclaim the name of Jesus this summer (page 34).

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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

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# From the Ministry Team

## On Your Bike

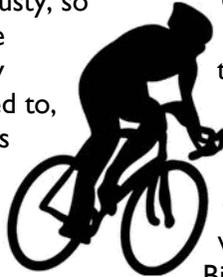
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It seems cruel to disturb them. They look so peaceful resting side by side under the redundant wooden blind slats and the rather useless plastic shelves. All four tyres are flat, and the chains are rusty, so Le Grand Départ will not be departing from our shed any time soon. Even if we wanted to, I'm not sure that either of us would get far.

I can only speak personally, but I've not ridden a bike for over two years, and that was my grandson's, in a field where the landing was soft. He wasn't impressed, and neither were my knees. It's questions of balance and breath that defeat me, not to mention the fear of traffic and potholes.

Our "get-out-of-jail-free" card is a borrowed exercise bike which sits on our landing. It goes nowhere of course, and to be honest it makes a better clothes horse than a velocipede. All promise but no



action! A bit like church sometimes – static spirituality to be engaged in privately, when we get round to it. It's a shame, because I used to love cycling – there's hardly a place in County Durham where I haven't pedalled as a teenager.

A month before the nation celebrates Le Grand Départ the church around the world will have enjoyed The Biggest Birthday Party Ever. When the Holy Spirit came on the first followers of Jesus he confirmed all that Jesus had said and done, and the Jesus Message of his death for

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*My prayer is that this Pentecost we might have the courage to remember what the Lord can do. Divine breath is enough to enliven us and get us ready to roll.*

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our salvation and his raising from the dead became personal to each one in a new and living way. Most Christians know the narrative. Spiritual balance and breath were all taken care of by God himself, whatever the surrounding traffic of a pagan world.

**A**round the UK there are many relics of Holy Spirit birthday celebrations – histories of revivals, church buildings constructed to house hundreds and thousands, stories of firebrand preachers and even reports of collections of “revival trophies”. (One chapel I heard of was reputed to have a whole room of prosthetic limbs and walking aids which were no longer required following the outpourings of God’s Spirit).

But in so many places the tyres are now flat, the church unable to ride out with confidence in the message and power of the Gospel. So many communities of believers are not

sure that God still does stuff like he used to.

Whatever Le Tour will do for us in the longer term it’s certainly had the effect of getting people on to their bikes. There has never been such a shameless display of Lycra! My prayer is that this Pentecost we might have the courage to liberate those memories we have of what the Lord can do, testimonies of the Holy Spirit’s work stored somewhere in our collective faith sheds. We won’t need to pump the tyres up. Divine breath is enough to enliven us and get us ready to roll. As King David prayed all those years ago:

*“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me”.* (Psalm 51.10-12)

**Brian**

*Away with our fears,  
our troubles and tears,  
the Spirit is come,  
the witness of Jesus  
returned to his home.*

**Charles Wesley**

# Around the Church

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## **CAP Job Club opening in Bramley**

“Worthless.” “A burden to society.” “Isolated.”

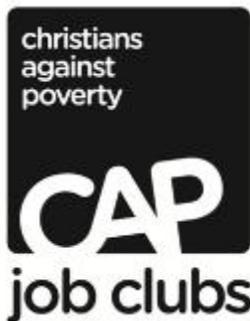
These are just three of the ways that job seekers have described their experiences of unemployment to the charity I work for, Christians Against Poverty. Today there are people living near our church who are feeling this way. They may have no idea that there is a God who loves them more than they could ever imagine, and a welcoming church family right on their doorstep.

That’s why we’re opening up a CAP Job Club in Bramley this summer. The club combines practical job seeking advice and skills training with the support and encouragement of people in similar situations, who understand what they are going through. It also

provides a bridge to our church community where they can have the opportunity to hear about God’s love for them.

We will be joining over 80 churches that are already seeing lives changed through this practical solution to one of the main causes of poverty in our nation. If you too are passionate about making the gospel relevant to our local community then get involved in Bramley’s CAP Job Club!

How can I help?



Whatever your skills or availability, there are lots of ways to get involved, for example you could:

- Help practically through setting up and serving refreshments.
- Welcome members to make them feel relaxed and start to bridge the gap to our church community.

- Connect members to the church by getting alongside them and inviting them to events where they can explore what God means to them.
- Pray for our club and our members; we will be producing a fortnightly prayer email.
- Pass on your professional expertise to members by offering advice, training or work-based opportunities.

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*The club provides a bridge to our church community where people can hear about God's love for them*

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The CAP Job Club will be running every Wednesday from 11 June, 13:00 – 16:30 at Hollybush Primary School, Bramley.

If you would like to get involved, or for more information, please contact me ..

*Bethany Cowling*

## **Thinking About Science?**

Science raises some issues that Christians, and often the church in general, can find difficult or be ill equipped to address. Modern

science can change very quickly and ideas develop beyond recognition. Also science can raise deep moral questions that are very difficult to answer. Genetically modify food crops or let growing populations starve?

Christians in Science have produced a series of “Thinking About” leaflets on these issues that are written by Christians who are professional scientists. They are specifically designed to help Christians who do not have a scientific background to better understand the relevant science, and any difficulties that it presents for the Christian. Each leaflet outlines the basic science behind the issue, how it relates to the Biblical Christian understanding of the world, and suggests some other resources for those who want to take it further.

Titles include:

- Bioethics (Pete Moore)
- Creation Care (Sir Ghillelan Prance)
- Evolution (Denis Alexander)
- Fine Tuning (Rodney Holder)
- Genetic Modification (John Bryant)
- How we interpret Genesis (Ernest Lucas)
- Human Enhancement (Justin Tomkins)
- Miracles (Michael Poole)
- Neuroscience (Peter Clarke)



...The most obvious conclusion to draw from the finetuning is that the universe was designed to give rise to carbon-based life. We have a new form of design argument for the existence of God. If you are an atheist the main alternative to design is the existence of a multiverse. This is a vast (usually infinite) collection of universes in which the constants I have mentioned, and others, take all possible values. This idea is fraught with problems, not least the fact that no universe apart from our own can ever be observed. And in any case the theist could argue that a multiverse requires a "universe generator" which has to produce just the right kind of law-governed universes so that one or more of them contain life...

**Rodney Holder**, *Thinking About Fine Tuning*

- Science and Apologetics (David Wilkinson)
- Science as a Christian Vocation (Andrew Halestrap)
- Stem Cells (Paul Fairchild)

Leaflets are displayed near the church library or available from John Lockwood. They can also be downloaded from [www.cis.org.uk/](http://www.cis.org.uk/) resources.

**John Lockwood**

Cragg Mission Community

## **SENT Summer Holidays**

Several members from SENT are taking part in missions this summer, please pray and support them (us!) as best you can:

**Summer Camp in Lincolnshire - Amy,**

## **Grace and Nathan Shipley**

From 26 July - 2 August, we will be part of the team for NCYH Summer Camp.

Summer Camp is a week-long residential for those aged 11 to 16. We take over a school in Market Rasen, Lincolnshire and host an action-packed week for around 50 young people.

NCYH's events are small enough to create lasting friendships, yet big enough to produce unforgettable memories!

Please check out the website for more information: [www.ncyh.co.uk](http://www.ncyh.co.uk)



Please pray for Jason Griffiths who will be sharing the good news of the kingdom and that the young people present will put their faith in Jesus Christ!

## **SU Camp - Ruth Hughes**

*From 2 - 9 August, I'll be part of a team helping to run two Scripture Union residential holidays at Bilton Grange near Rugby. Spot the Difference is for 8-11 year olds; it's a fantastic week of games, challenges, making new friends and getting to know God better!*

*Make the Difference is for 15-17 year olds and is aimed at those interested in exploring their giftings in leadership. There will be activities to build understanding and skills as well as the opportunity to put it all into practice working with the Spot the Difference team!*

*Being on camp is like having an extended family. This will be my eighth year at Spot the Difference and its*

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*Please pray that  
the camp will be a  
significant week for  
all the young people in  
their walk with Jesus*

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*always an encouraging, slightly outrageous but God-filled week! You can find more information at: [www.spottedifference.org.uk](http://www.spottedifference.org.uk)*

*Please pray that the children who attend will have the best opportunities to discover Jesus for themselves and to build a foundation that will last a lifetime.*

## **Venture Camp Wales - Chris and Megan Dyson**

*From 2 - 9 August, we will be leading on a CPAS Venture camp in Colwyn Bay.*

*Around 60 young people of 14-18 years old will be spending a week getting to know Jesus better, climbing up, cycling over, kayaking through and burrowing under Snowdonia, and enjoying spending a week with brothers and sisters in Christ.*

*For more information please visit [www.colwynbay4.org.uk](http://www.colwynbay4.org.uk)*

*Please pray that God continues to work in the lives of everyone there and that it will be a significant week for all the young people in their walk with Jesus.*

*If you would like more information about any of these missions, please check out the websites listed or speak to me.*

**Nathan Shipley**

*Associate Pastor, Youth and Young Adults*

## **The Gnanakans are coming**

We are delighted that our mission partners Chris, Dorothy, Alethea and Charis are able to be with us from the 21 - 30 of June. An itinerary is being worked out for them, with Chris in particular being available to preach and teach at a number of events across the church. These will be advertised separately once the arrangements are finalised.

Dorothy is a software educator by profession and has significant teaching gifts. Over many years she has mentored new Christians and been a wise guide to women in each of the settings where the family have lived and worked. Alethea and Charis are currently working their way through education – Alethea was baptised at SPBC on their last



**Dorothy & Chris  
Gnanakan**

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*Chris is well known for his accessible Bible teaching, his passion for mission, and his wise mentoring of many young adults*

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visit to the UK, and we are planning for Charis to be baptised here this time round.

Originally trained as an electrician, Chris has worked as a church planter and evangelist in and around his home city, Bangalore and more widely in India, the States and internationally, and for a time was Professor at SAIACS (South Asia Institute for Advanced Christian Studies). They lived in Leeds for several years as Chris studied for one of his three (!) doctorates, and joined SPBC, living in Church House. Chris eventually became one of our Pastors on the Ministry

Team, and was well known for his accessible Bible preaching and teaching, his passion for mission and his wise mentoring of many young adults.

The family now live in Chantilly, Virginia, USA where Chris is the Executive Director of Outreach to Asia Nationals (OTAN). OTAN serves in countries in Asia where traditional missions are restricted, assisting and equipping local leaders to fulfil the Great Commission of Matthew 28.19 and travels extensively across the world,

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Redmire 2014



*Matt working in a cupboard*

*Got to find those sweets...*

*Handsome Chaps!*

*Sleep at last!*

particularly working to develop a curriculum for those training in Biblical evangelism. We are privileged to partner with them.

*Brian Nicholls*

Senior Minister

## **On Location: CBeebies presenter at Redmire**

**In May, a group of young people from the church along with Heather and an army of volunteers spent a weekend at the Jonas Centre in Redmire (see the photos opposite). The centre has had some famous visitors recently.**

CBeebies presenter Gemma Hunt recently spent a weekend in Wensleydale filming with Serious Media, the film production company responsible for the exciting Scripture Union storytelling programmes of recent years. Set previously in great locations like The Eden Project and The National



**Gemma Hunt**

Space Centre, this year the team came to The Jonas Centre as a log cabin was needed as a film location! Gemma has worked with Serious Media presenting previous Scripture Union Holiday Club DVDs, Space Academy and Mega Makers. The Jonas Centre in Redmire had been recommended to the film company and Centre Director Simon Eastwood was only too happy to oblige. "The Jonas Centre has been used as a film location before so we were pleased to be able to help out again" he said. "I am also looking forward to seeing how they recreate the arctic conditions

through the window of the log cabin when the normal view is the Wensleydale Railway!"

The material is going to be called Polar Explorers and will explore the stories of 5 Bible characters - Peter, Stephen, Philip, Saul and Timothy. The DVD will be available later this year.

*Simon Eastwood*

Centre Director  
The Jonas Centre, Redmire

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

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



# The Highest Goal

## News from BMS World Mission

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**Church Treasurer, Adrian Howe, recently received this letter from the treasurer of BMS World Mission**

Dear Mr Howe

**T**hank you for the support your church has given to the work of BMS World Mission over the past year. We ended the financial year on 31 October 2013 with the financial books balanced, and we thank God for his provision, expressed through the faithfulness of church fellowships like your own who support world mission through BMS.

In our recently published vision document *The Highest Goal* we have set out our vision for mission:

*The highest goal of all we do is to bring people to faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and an experience of the abundant life that only he can provide.*

How is this goal fulfilled by BMS in practice? It is shown in the mission activities, and the care for those

who are suffering and marginalised, that feature in BMS projects. To give just a few examples:



**Chad:** Our medical personnel at Guinebor II Hospital are saving lives among a desperately poor community. Witness to their Christian faith is a key part of the hospital's ministry to the surrounding Muslim community through prayer by

Christian staff, showing the Jesus film to patients and visitors, and supporting a Chadian hospital chaplain.



**Uganda:** Christian lawyers are enabling a powerless community to

reclaim their land, and agricultural training has led to an increase in harvests. At the heart of these developments is the local church, through which all this support is given. As a result, the church has grown and its role in the community strengthened.



**Syrian refugees:** In Lebanon, vital food supplies have been distributed to Syrian refugees through the local church. This evidence of practical love and care has prompted many refugees to explore the meaning of the Christian faith.



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*Your gifts are supporting mission in many places around the world, making Jesus known and responding in Christian love to those who are suffering*

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**Y**our gifts are helping to support mission like this in many places around the world, making Jesus known and responding in Christian love to those who are suffering. However, there is so much more we could do if the resources were available. Although we are grateful that our income over recent years has broadly matched our expenditure, we have not been able to keep up with inflation, so in real terms we are able to do less now than we were five years ago. Accordingly, please maintain and if possible increase your support for BMS and our pursuit of *The Highest Goal*.

We pray for God's blessing on your fellowship and thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely

**Robert Ashurst**

Honorary Treasurer  
BMS World Mission

# Passing the Baton

## Gemma's Farewell

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**E**veryone who has in the past fulfilled the role of Administrator for South

Parade has brought their different talents to it: Carolyn Green, Chris Marsden and Margaret Turner. They have been the right people in the office for that time in the life of this church. I came to the post of Administration Manager confident that it was a “holy appointment” and in the last three and a half years I have been encouraged by the way God has used my specific personal qualities and skills. But now it’s time to hand the baton to someone else.



**Gemma Eastwood**

subject in its correct context and who are ready for God’s surprises”.

Well, only the Redeemer Himself will judge if I have fulfilled that requirement when I see Him face to face at my final “Performance Appraisal”. But there certainly have been surprises: my favourite memory is when Claire Ginn led me to the catering cupboard to admire the 18 inch stalks growing out of some potatoes left in there... And when Val alerted me that a “hamster” had turned up in the back kitchen during the Retired Peoples Fellowship Christmas lunch!

In seeking to bring a professional attitude to the role I have been inspired by a chap called John Truscott – himself a church administrator since the 1970s – who organises UCAN: United Kingdom Church Administrators Network which I joined in 2011. He writes that “we need spiritually sensitive administrators who can see the

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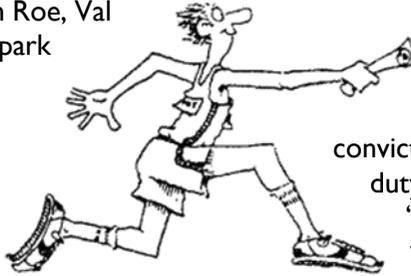
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*I have been encouraged by the way God has used my skills over the last three and a half years. Now it's time to hand the baton to someone else*

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And of course I haven't done this on my own: I have been a member of the Administration Team so I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard Newby-Wright, Debbie Spence, Pam Roe, Val Dooks and Muriel Spark for their commitment and service week in and week out and also the staff who look after the buildings: Delessa Gugsa, Charlotte Cribben, Alison Lingwell and Bedilu Ayele.



the building at Headingley but as we are now in the process of buying a new house both of us will shortly be fully engaged in that project. The word of God that has sustained me during my time as Administration Manager is Nehemiah. I was convicted that it was my duty to attend to the "rebuilding of the walls" and not to my own home so I was careful to ask the Creator's permission to relinquish this commission before I stood down, and He has let me go. But I will still be worshipping at Headingley on Sunday mornings.

So I would like to pass on to my successor this word, "Let there be no sadness, for joy in the Lord is your strength". Nehemiah 8.10.

There are others whose support has been critical, to my being able to stay as long as I have in what is a demanding and often uncomfortable job: Geoff Greer, Claire Ginn, Mike Burkett and lastly but by no means least, Adrian Howe.

## Gemma Eastwood

Church Administrator  
(though not for much longer...)

My husband, Graham, has spent an increasing amount of time assisting Delessa with the maintenance of

<p>C <b>SOUTH</b> H N E C</p>	<p>A D L</p>	<p>C R G G</p>	<p>S E N T</p>	<p>H E A D I N G L E Y</p>	<p>Sunday 15 June Sunday 20 July Sunday 17 August</p>
<p><b>TOGETHER</b></p>					<p>6.30pm</p>

# A Taste of Italy

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**T**here was a hive of activity in the Green House on 3 May as we decorated the room in red, white and green for the forthcoming Pizza and Pud evening to raise funds and awareness of the plight of thousands of asylum seekers and refugees in Italy.

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*It was a real joy and privilege to welcome David and Ann as our special guests*

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These dear folk pay approx €3,000 each to traffickers who put them into a boat and take them out into Italian waters and then leave them. Many have been found dehydrated and hungry, with only the clothes on their backs. They are mostly male but recently included more females with young children or preg-

nant, willing to face possible death to secure a better life for themselves in the west.

David and Ann MacFarlane our church partners in Reggio Calabria in southern Italy work alongside other groups to try to support these folk. Hence this fundraiser, to help them financially provide some



**Pizza and Pud Evening**

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of their basic necessities, when living rough with no electricity, water and accommodation. The Italian authorities give each one registered some aid for three days then after that they are on their own, depending on the generosity of others unless they can find some work.

It was a real joy and privilege to be able to have as our special guests, David and Ann, as they are on home assignment. After a quiz “al Italian” 10 questions on Italy and 10 about the MacFarlanes themselves, Ann showed a PowerPoint presentation of some of their work. Highlighting the desperate needs of the area, the whole council of 19 members has been sacked. Rubbish is mounting in the streets and as the season gets hotter, the threat of vermin is quite high.

**A**longside the needs of refugees they also have the needs of their Italian/Philippino church members, many of whom are poor and in low paid jobs. Praise the Lord there have been some recent new members and baptisms in the church.

I just want to say a big “thank you” to all who made this possible: the deacons for financial support towards the food for the meal, those who helped with shopping and preparing the meal, provided cakes and those who have given generously and sacrificially.

**Pat Dalglish**

BMS contact for David and Ann MacFarlane

**...involved...**

So far £400 has been raised towards the work with asylum seekers. If you feel you would like to contribute, please contact Pat via the Headingley Morning Mission Community.

*“I wasn’t God’s first choice for what I’ve done for China... I don’t know who it was... It must have been a man... a well-educated man. I don’t know what happened. Perhaps he died. Perhaps he wasn’t willing... and God looked down... and saw Gladys Aylward... And God said - ‘Well, she’s willing.’”*

**Gladys Aylward**

# Gnanakan News

## Never Give Up Serving

**Chris Gnanakan is our Mission Partner in the USA working with church leaders in Asia with the organisation OTAN. He writes: "The Gnanakans will be in Leeds two Sundays in June (22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>)! I will be working with (for) Brian on the details of our stay and ministry while with you. My initial thoughts are to do a series called: "Equipped2Serve" and discuss four tools (Prayer, the Word, Gifts and Suffering!) God has given us to serve one another and to reach out to those without Christ. Here's a message I wrote with you all on my mind"**



### I Thessalonians 2

**H**ave you felt like giving up lately? What keeps you going? It must be a meaningful relationship that encourages you and you care to cultivate. When someone becomes "very dear" to you, as the Thessalonians had to Paul, it becomes natural to share life's joys and struggles with them (1 Thessalonians 2.8). A good relationship can "spark off", but strong, significant and lasting ones take time to build and maintain. Here great need can cause tremendous growth. What does this investment look like? Paul paints four pictures for us that help us serve together and not give up in tough times:

#### **A Consistent Steward (2.1–6)**

The basic, essential requirement of a steward is to be faithful with regard to:

- Guarding the Gospel
- Serving Christ's body
- Caring for God's family members.

Trustworthy stewards willingly endure hardship. They use honest methods with pure motives, never for personal gain. Paul gave praise publicly where due, but didn't fall for flattery.

### **A Caring Mother (2.7–8)**

Paul gave himself in the service to others, like a “nursing mother” (2.7). We must offer younger disciples TLC (Tender, Loving Care). It is crucial we feed new believers with milk and honey (1 Peter 2.2; Psalm 119.3) before they can help themselves with bread and meat (Matthew 4.4; 1 Corinthians 3.1-4)

### **A Concerned Father (2.9–16)**

**P**aul perceived the problem in “Bible” churches and chided: “You have many teachers but few fathers” (1 Corinthians 4.15). Children look for heroes. If their fathers aren't spiritual role models, they find others, but often in the wrong places! Fathers lead by example, not force. With sacrifice, hard-earned money (2.6) and tough love, they both warn and encourage.

### **A Compassionate Brother (2.17–20)**

The local church is a fellowship of “brothers and sisters” where service time is family time. The word com-passion literally means

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*Paul couldn't wait to see his family again. But there was someone else all true believers longed to see again: the Lord Jesus!*

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“to suffer with”. So, away from church, Paul felt like an “orphan”! He prayed for, corresponded with and couldn't wait to see his family again. There was someone else Paul and all true believers longed to see, again – the Lord Jesus!

### **Conclusion**

**Think:** What an honour and privilege to be a trustee of the Gospel that changes people, forever!

**Questions:** In what ways do you “love on” new attendees and nurture younger disciples at our church?

A mentor has gone where you want to go, and can help you get there! Do you have one? Why/why not?

What's the best way to be ready for Christ's second coming? Keep serving one another in love, and loving the lost to Christ!

*Chris Gnanakan*

Executive Director, OTAN

# Cragg Matters

## Working Across the Churches in Horsforth

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**Duncan Stow explains his role with Churches Together in Horsforth and how his vision for the area fits in with his work at Cragg Hill.**

**F**or the son of a Methodist, married to a Catholic, who came to faith in an Anglican church, was nurtured through university by a Baptist church, before being sent out to the mission field by a Pentecostal missionary society, Christian unity has always felt very important but also very natural.



**Duncan Stow**

Church life is busy as is life generally which means it is always a challenge to balance what we do as a local church and what we do as the extended family of churches together. Getting the right balance though is worth working out because the opportunities of working together are great and the witness it brings -“people will know you

are my disciples by how you love one another” - is powerful.

Here in Horsforth, there are rich pickings from the fruit tree of Christian unity: Horsforth Live At Home, Primary School Assemblies teams, Hope/Carols in the Park events, a Farmers’ Market, and a Foodbank outlet to name a few. All of these gently but confidently speak of the goodness of God to our community as well as to the church.

I have heard the church’s position in our society likened to the people of God exiled in Babylon, living in a foreign land with different rules, no longer the people of power able to express their voice but called to adapt, to change whilst staying faithful to our God and His ways. Exile is seen as a place of crisis. Crisis can be defined by two words: danger and opportunity. The danger is

we give in and say that's just the way it is now. The opportunity is that with new circumstances come new ways to reflect the love of God to the people He gives us to love.

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*There are new opportunities to be people of influence sharing the good news of Christ if we adapt and work together*

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**I**n exile rather than being a people who hold power we become a people who influence through our lives being salt and light, bringing fresh flavour to those around us and making them hungry for more. Daniel never shirked from worshipping His God in Babylon but he also never shirked from wanting to serve the community he found himself in.

For Cragg the opportunity of Crisis has been a greater willingness in us and other churches to work together in order to impact Horsforth. Many from Cragg play lead roles in outworking that mission. Our unity in Christ and our commitment to our community by working together is

proving attractive and bearing fruit.

For instance, recently I was approached by Horsforth Children's Services as a representative of churches to be the deliverer of two pieces of youth work. A couple of months later, a churches team host 30 children a week at Brownlee Stone centre and also run a weekly music project in the Cragg recording studio. Cragg Hill was later packed to standing room only for a showcase event of the talents of those who had benefited from the project.

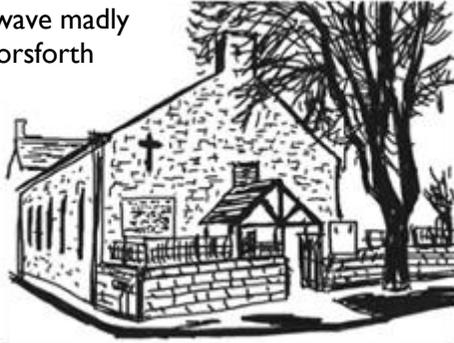
The encouragement for me was that the Horsforth Children's services approached us, trusted us and have helped us to serve and love young people, something I honestly believe the church does better than anyone else.

It is a fruit of the confidence and the warmth in which the church is being received here in Horsforth. I love Farmers' Market days, not just because I know it will be dry when my day starts at 7am putting out stalls but because of the buzz of people being together. But I am not the only one who loves it. I recently visited the local shops who without



exception said it was the best day of their month, the only regret of one was that she was so busy she couldn't get to visit the market herself.

**S**chool children wave madly at us all over Horsforth because they love the fact we get dressed up in costume and tell them great stories from the Bible, and schools willingly promote our shared events because they think they are good news.



As the people of God perhaps we are exiled, removed from the privileged position we once held society, but there are new opportunities to be people of influence sharing the good news of Christ if we adapt. I am convinced that working together is part of the adapting that we need to persevere with.

## *Duncan Stow*

Cragg Hill Mission Community/  
Horsforth Churches Together

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

Contact Duncan to find out more about his work, or visit the Horsforth Churches Together website at [www.horsforthchurchestogether.btck.co.uk](http://www.horsforthchurchestogether.btck.co.uk).

The Farmers' Market is at St Margaret's Primary School car park, Town Street on the first Saturday of every month, 9 - 12.30.

Cragg Hill Mission Community meets every Sunday morning at 10.30am at Cragg Hill Baptist Church, Cragg Avenue and has many other events throughout the week.

*"Is it possible to write congregational songs about poverty, grief or child trafficking and not spoil everybody's Sunday? Is it possible to highlight some of these issues so that in time they move from our heads to our hearts, and we start to respond to them as Jesus would have done?"*

**Tim Hughes, Tear Times, Spring 2014**

# Prayer Focus



*June - July 2014*

*“Don’t be weary in prayer;  
keep at it; watch for God’s answers,  
and remember to be thankful when they come.”*  
**Colossians 4.2 (TLB)**

## **Mission Communities**

Remember the five Mission Communities of South Parade in your prayers as we continue in our theme of *Going Deeper* through the season of Pentecost and beyond. Pray for your own Community, and remember the others too. Pray for Mission Community Leaders and the leadership teams as they seek God’s guidance for the future.

Pray for the Headingley Morning Mission Community on their weekend of fellowship at Cober Hill on 11-13 July and for Lisa Holmes as she leads the sessions.

Pray for the regular services and meetings, that we would welcome all who come through the doors, that people would find Jesus in our midst. Pray for those who preach, lead worship and play music. Pray for those who welcome people on the door or who serve tea and coffee. Pray for the neighbourhoods and communities that we’re based in, that the church would be a source of light and hope in the world.

- Adel
- Connect
- Cragg
- Headingley
- SENT

## **Leeds**

Pray for the city where God has placed you at this time. Remember those organisations that work with some of the most vulnerable in our society. Pray for other churches in your locality, and for your local Churches Together group. Pray for Duncan Stow and his work with Horsforth Churches Together. Find out about the work of some of the organisations listed below, and see how you can continue to support them practically, financially and in prayer. Pray for the people who lead the City Council who continue to have difficult decisions to make on spending and priorities. Pray for students as they wait for exam results and return to their homes. Pray for the CUs at Leeds Uni and Leeds Met and in other colleges in the area as they think about welcoming students again next term.

- St George's Crypt
- Christians Against Poverty
- Leeds City Mission
- Caring for Life
- Joanna Project
- Leeds Network
- Leeds Youth Cell Network
- Leeds Faith in Schools

## **Around the World**

Pray for all those from South Parade currently serving with mission organisations around the world, in training or on leave. Pray that they would know God's presence, His love, His guidance and His peace each day. Pray for the countries where they are working, for peace and stability, and the growth of the church.

- Steve and Ismay Green
- David and Ann Macfarlane
- Becky North
- Jane Waites
- "Jane" in North Africa
- Chris and Dorothy Gnanakan
- Levi Booth
- Tim and Delphine Minard
- Matt and Jude Tindale
- Jayne Godfrey
- Jill and Colin Jones

## South Parade

Pray for the work of the church. Pray for work among the **Under 5s** as they meet each week, and the regular Teddy Praise and Play services. Pray for the work with **children and young people** as Heather goes into local schools, and as schoolchildren visit our buildings from time to time. Pray for the young people who recently went away to Redmire, that their enthusiasm about their faith would be continued as they return to school.

Pray for the mentoring done by **TLG volunteers** at Little London and Hollybush schools. Pray for the **Junior Church** sessions on Sundays and youth events and cell groups meeting throughout the week.

Pray for the regular Messy Church sessions at **Little London**, and the meetings of the **Cafe Church** in Holt Park. Pray also for the **ABC Coffee Shop** and its volunteers, the **Drop-in** at Cragg and regular events in the **Green House**. Pray for the visitors and volunteers at **Rooted** on Tuesday evenings. Pray for the **Barnabas Bunch** and the **Retired People's Fellowship**.

Pray for the work of the **church office** and the volunteers there as they deal with the admin of the church and welcome visitors to the building and deal with other groups who we come into contact with. Pray for **Delessa** and those who care for the church buildings.

Pray for the **CAP centre** at South Parade, and for Andrew Bedingham as he leads this work. Pray for the clients he sees, that he would be able to help them practically and spiritually.

Pray for the visit of **Chris and Dorothy Gnanakan** to SP in June, that God would use them and their gifts while they are with us.

Pray for the **Elders** and **Deacons** and for the responsibilities they have in leading the church and its Mission Communities. Thank God for their willingness to serve the church in this way. Pray for them as they meet and pray and make decisions on the future direction of the church. Pray especially for **Geoff Greer**, the Church Secretary and **Adrian Howe**, the Church Treasurer. Pray for the church meeting on 26 June.

## Ministry Team

Pray for the Ministry Team. Pray for each of them as they look to God for guidance and strength. Thank God for their enthusiasm and commitment. Pray for Gemma Eastwood as she leaves in June, and for the interviews on 18 June for her replacement. Continue to pray for Richard Pollard, Nicholas Mutonji, Dave Bartram and other former members of the team.

- Brian Nicholls
- Paul Rockley
- Nathan Shipley
- Heather McLeen
- Geoff King
- Gemma Eastwood
- Lawrence Cockrill
- Kate Burkett

## Missions this Summer

Pray for everyone who's taking part in short term mission activity over the summer (see page 7 for details of some of these). Pray for Amy and Nathan Shipley on Summer Camp in Lincolnshire (26 July to 2 August), for Ruth Hughes preparing to go on a Scripture Union Camp in August, and for Chris and Megan Dyson going on a Venture Camp in August.

## Summer of Sport

Pray for Brazil as it hosts the world cup, and for the church in that country as it welcomes visitors and uses this opportunity to proclaim Jesus to the Nations who come.



Pray for churches like New Road Baptist Church and Lockwood Baptist Church, both in Huddersfield, who are on Le Grand Départ route, that they would make the most of this opportunity to use their buildings and welcome visitors coming to see the race on 6 July. Pray for the sponsored bike ride later in July on part of the Tour de France route, that this would raise money for good causes and build friendships (see page 43).

# A Week in the Life of...

... Paul Rockley

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**27 April - 3 May**

## Sunday

**T**he week starts with an early morning walk and then some final preparations before I head off to Cragg, where I'm warmly greeted by Duncan Stow (who I've known for about 15 years). A visit to Cragg wouldn't be complete without a hug from Patty, who duly obliges, and the service gets underway. My title for the sermon is "Jesus: the one and only" and I'm focusing on Luke 24.40: "Jesus showed them his hands and feet".

In the evening I'm at SENT and Claire Ginn is speaking about grace and reminds us "All day every day we need Jesus". She plays a song by a friend of hers and the words are powerful:

*I turn away*

*From all that takes Your place*

*Ignores the cross*

*And cheapens costly grace*

*I sought Your hand*

*But now I seek Your face.*

*For You*

*More, more, more than anything, Jesus*

I leave just before the end in order to meet for prayer with some of my neighbours from other churches. We pray for one another's needs and especially for the people in our neighbourhood to come to know the love of Jesus for themselves.

## Monday

Today is my monthly Retreat day. Having spent most of my ministry being "too busy" to take regular time out for spiritual renewal I made a commitment when I started at SPBC a year ago that I would block out a day at the end of each month for that purpose. The form varies but I focus this time on renewing my Induction vows, writing in my journal, reading, meditating and intercession.

In the evening I join with some of the Rooted team to listen to Steve Hoey from Canopy, a self-help community housing project based in inner-city Leeds who renovate derelict houses to create decent homes for people that are homeless. Having started with a wheelbarrow and £5 they now have 100 people in 55 houses and their staff

and volunteers work with the new tenants to furnish the homes they then move into.

**Tuesday**

CAP church leaders' day in Bradford which Sian Wrangles from Connect recommended to me and I'm glad she did. The whole day was inspirational and very moving. I found myself crying as I listened to CAP's founder John Kirkby telling his story and then again a little later when the bell was rung in the office and we heard of two people who had just become Christians. It was good to hear about Job Clubs and Release Groups as CAP diversifies into other desperately needy situations in partnership with local churches. There was even a curry lunch which I enjoyed while chatting to Bethany Cowling from Headingley Mission Community.

**Wednesday**

I was due to have a mentoring meeting today, but my friend from

Leeds Youth Cell Network phoned to cancel as he needed to be in Corpus Christi High School to support staff and pupils after the fatal stabbing of one of their teachers. After praying that he would carry the presence of Christ into that difficult situation I take the opportunity to go to my tennis club. It's really important for me to spend time with people who aren't yet Christian in a neutral context and sport provides a vehicle for this. One of the guys is new and (unsurprisingly) asks me what I do. I tell him. "I've never played tennis with a Baptist minister before", he replies.

In the afternoon I spend some time with Lawrence Cockrill for supervision, study and pastoral support. We are currently reading through *Unreached* by Tim Chester, a challenging book about growing churches in working class and deprived areas.

House group in the evening at Colin and Sarah Holton's is a Bible study on Mary, which is thoughtfully and creatively led by Sarah. I look forward to going each week and appreciate the hospitality, support and friendship as well as the freedom to just be myself without having to fulfil any particular role. For me it's a key part of being "Community in Christ".



## Thursday

My son is off school having been vomiting and retching the night before and again in the morning, so I'm glad of the flexibility to work from home as well as look after him. I catch up on emails, do some sermon preparation and have a long phone call with Brian about "Mission North of the Ring Road". In the evening it's the Elders' meeting at Val Dooks' where there's further discussion and prayer about Mission Northside and Val spoils us with her sumptuous homemade cakes when we break for refreshments.

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*The Saturday morning  
"Green House of Prayer" is  
the highlight of my week*

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## Friday

Day off!

## Saturday

The "Green House of Prayer" is normally the highlight of my week as we meet across the Mission Communities to seek God together. We begin by reflecting on

Isaiah 55 and use those verses to launch into adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are joined this morning by David and Ann MacFarlane. David is due to lead the service at Swarcliffe the next day and was planning on using the same passage which is a confirmation for him and an encouragement to us! We pray as the Holy Spirit leads us with a focus on David and Ann and their work with BMS.

The afternoon is taken up with producing flyers for Café Church and the Internship scheme and then more sermon preparation for the service the next day at Adel Mission Community as we work through our church vision statement. This week we're looking at "being passionate followers of Christ".

In the evening I'm back in the Green House for the Pizza and Pud fundraiser that Pat Dalglish has organised for destitute asylum seekers in Rosarno (see page 16).

**Paul Rockley**

Minister

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

*In the next edition of Intouch read about a week in the life of **Andrew Bedingham, CAP Centre Manager**. But he can't wait till August, Andrew needs help now from women who are free on a Thursday or Friday to visit and befriend female clients he can't see on his own. If you can help contact Andrew via the church office.*



# Recommended Reads

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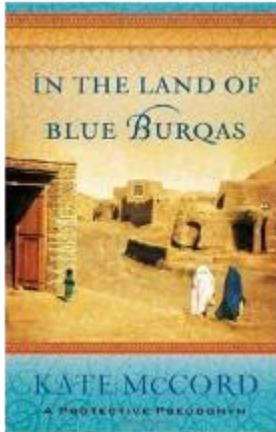
## In the Land of Blue Burqas by Kate McCord

**W**hy do we read what we read? Some Christians limit themselves to devotional books, Bible notes and commentaries. Does this keep us fully in the world? And are secular works consistent with being not of the world? They often tell a story of people who practise some of the fruits of the spirit and of some who do not. Secular literature is not usually neutral. There was a time when many homes had just two books, The Bible and Pilgrim's Progress. Do you have a book which might stand now, as Bunyan's allegory of the walk to faith and in obedience did centuries earlier? For the first time, for me I think the answer is yes.

Kate McCord, a protective pseudonym, records five years of witness in Afghanistan. She writes of her own path to faith and how she worked with an NGO often at

personal risk on projects to support women in rural areas, for which certificates and stamps were required from officials.

There is brief reference to the history of Afghanistan from the first liberal, left leaning elected government through a series of damaging international interventions to the current expectation of a return of extremism. The rural world she describes is not unlike descriptions elsewhere of life in three major cities, but all seem worlds away from national politics. It has yet to be seen whether wide support for the electoral process will make any change to the life of most Afghans.



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*She was able to speak of her faith in the teaching of Jesus. She writes, "I saw how wonderfully revolutionary Jesus is and how amazingly beautiful."*

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Her colleagues were mainly Afghans. Individual projects required permits and stamps from unhelpful, often corrupt officials against a background of frequent claims that she was an American agent.

She had to convince the people she went to help, that her salary and all costs including gifts of blankets for the poor came from herself and her Baptist church in America. She listened with respect before offering comment and questions. The questions were returned so she was able to speak of her faith in the teaching of Jesus. And she knew her Bible. She writes, "I saw how wonderfully revolutionary Jesus is and how amazingly beautiful."

**B**y sharing hospitality and conversations mostly with women, she was able to demonstrate that Islamic concepts of God, prayer, judgment and authority have no common ground



with Christianity. There are many books on Afghanistan portraying the endemic violence, corruption and tyrannies, but only this gives voice to the people, mainly women, of what Islam requires of them.

Toleration of dissent is to them incomprehensible. Authority rests with the mosques. The scriptures are memorised in a foreign language, Arabic, without understanding. The concept of the Holy Spirit is incomprehensible in a culture of obedience to rules in order to obtain merit with God, but it shows how the words and teaching of "The Honourable Master Jesus" can be made real in loving dialogues. These covered being grateful instead of grumbling, forgiveness replacing resentment, love expelling hate, all leading to a different recognition of the greatness of God, which provoked discussion and often led to agreement. And the strap line? This is what Jesus taught.

It tells of a truly astonishing pilgrimage. The author was warned of the imminent danger of kidnapping, disappearance and death. She fled leaving everything behind.

*Cyril Snell*

Headingley Morning Mission Community

# Step of Faith

## My Journey

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**M**y journey to faith began in South Parade's Sunday School many years ago.

Teaching then was very formal but in the hands of dedicated and caring people. As teenagers our faith was challenged at an evangelistic weekend. Several of my friends committed their lives to Jesus but I chose not to go along with it so I left for college ready to enjoy life in a wider sense.

At the end of my training I got a job in Leeds and returned to South Parade beginning to regret the opportunities I'd missed.



**Val Dooks**

Two things stand out in my mind about those days. I knew I loved Jesus and wanted to follow him but

I was too shy to do anything about it. Communion then came at the end of the service when, during a short break, those who were not members were expected to leave and the rest then shared communion together.

This caused me great heartache. Today I love to hear that everyone is

welcome to stay and those who are not yet ready to take the bread and wine are reminded that Jesus loves them and died for them too.

The other thing I clearly remember was during a time when we were without a minister and so different people preached for us. One of these was Rev Puttock who worked for the YBA. He had a wonderful speaking voice and during one sermon he read the poem by Francis Thompson called "The Hound of Heaven". In archaic language it describes a man trying to escape from

God and his call on his life. Wherever he runs or tries to hide, God is following. Finally he realises that there is no escape and no peace and so he submits to God's call on his life. WOW. This was one of those moments we have sometimes when we feel the message is aimed at us and this was for me.

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*Life is never a steady journey and I have been through difficult times but God is faithful and during these times we learn to trust him more*

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For years I'd been running away and all I got was misery and a lack of peace in my life. Eventually David Green was called to lead the church and I was challenged. That was all I needed and so I was baptised and publicly made my commitment to Jesus – the best day of my life.

Life is never a steady journey and I personally, and the church too, have been through difficult times but God is faithful and during these times we learn to trust him more.

**W**hen I retired early from teaching and was praying for direction about other work, God listened and answered again. I was asked by the church whether I would help with the pastoral work. David Morris was working on his own and the church was growing. What an answer to prayer. This was the start of the Ministry Team as we know it and as God has blessed us we have been able to strengthen the work by calling others too.

I feel hugely blessed to be a part of a church like SP with its vision and commitment to "build community in Christ". My church family has been an encouragement and support over many years.

Today we are blessed by a growing number of younger people. I feel very strongly that we should always be looking out for any who may be finding it difficult to take that first step and who just need someone to help them as I was helped.

**Val Dooks**

Headingley Morning Mission Community

**...inspired...**

*If you want to share part of your spiritual journey for the "Step of Faith" column to inspire and encourage others, email [magazine@spbc.org.uk](mailto:magazine@spbc.org.uk)*

# The Football Country and the Church

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**Kleos Cesar and his family returned home to Brazil in 2007 after living in Leeds for four years while Kleos studied at Leeds University. They worshipped at South Parade, and Kleos played in the Headingley Music Group and helped to produce this magazine. We asked him to share some thoughts on life in Brazil as the World Cup approaches, and how the church is preparing for this massive event.**



**Kleos Cesar**

*“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness”*  
(1 Timothy 2.1-2 NIV)

**F**rom 12 June this year, 11 men (and several more supporting) each from 32 countries, appropriately dressed in colours representing their population, will be chasing a ball. After 64 matches of 90 minutes each, the best team

(perhaps) will be declared champion with much confetti, fireworks and honours. This mega-event takes place every 4 years in a country previously chosen and supposedly prepared to host the tournament. This year (just like in 1950, when Brazil lost the championship against its neighbour Uruguay), the country where I was born and live, will host the games. There is generally a mixture of joy and worry about it.

Brazil is experiencing economic growth and the consolidation of its democracy after 21 years of military dictatorship that began 50 years ago. The beautiful teenage “football country” is learning to live in a democracy. Because of corruption, unfortunately still very active in this great and blessed tropical land, we suffer serious social problems. Public health is abandoned. Hospitals are sick, starved of funds. Education suffers with increasingly meagre budgets. Underpaid teachers give up their vocation for a better chance to buy things or

happiness. Drug trafficking controls certain regions of the peripheries. Some policemen, poorly trained and poorly paid, are eventually caught supporting the crime in exchange for a wage supplement. That is unacceptable.

Many political demonstrations have been taking place against the realisation of the World Cup. The Brazilian government is expecting to spend R\$25 billion (approximately £8 billion) in the refurbishment of football stadiums and the expansion of the airport and other infrastructure. In June 2013 millions of people expressed their dissatisfaction with the government on the streets.

For the first time in my life, I see the press reporting that a significant part of the population will not support the green and yellow team, under the main claim that “we do not need more world cups. We need education, health and security”. I agree and add (when talking to my students): “We need to revise our concepts, our consumerist attitudes, our Christian origins and values”. I guess Brazil is no longer the “football country”.

This tropical, naturally gorgeous and sunny country, whose population is

fun, talkative and friendly, will soon be visited by thousands of foreign visitors. People are aware that this is a good opportunity to treat them well, to invite them back to enjoy our landscape and our friendship.

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*People complain that there is a church on every corner. Many cinemas in the country have been turned into churches.*

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**T**he Christian church is growing significantly, particularly evangelical churches. According to IBGE (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics), evangelicals have already reached 22.2% of a 200 million population (3.7 million of which are Baptists, in 6,000 churches, according to the 2010 official census). “There is a church on every corner”, complain the sceptics. Churches which were small and simple until a few years ago are being expanded and renovated. Prime areas of cities are acquired and big churches built on them. Many cinemas in the country have been turned into churches. This is all awesome! Looks like good news doesn't it? It is and is not.



On the one hand many homeless people and drug users are widely being assisted by a cluster of churches in the capitals (particularly in the city of São Paulo); but on the other hand some non-believers openly wonder why the water levels of the moral reservoir are increasingly found to be so low.

Despite some controversy and some rejection, the Church (in its many denominations) prepares for various campaigns of evangelisation of Brazilian and foreign football lovers. For example the Igreja Batista do Amor (Baptist Church of Love) and several others launched a

campaign against sexual exploitation during the world championship. Churches in the host cities are preparing services and activities in English. Foreigners will be invited to participate in their programmes during the World Cup, welcomed to one of our famous barbecues... Many activities are being prepared and it is beautiful to see brothers and sisters at work to let others know about Jesus.

Several other campaigns are planned in several regions of Brazil with a view to evangelisation and communion among our brothers and sisters.

Some smaller churches, away from the big centres, like the one I attend (Igreja Presbiteriana Vale do Sol), are preparing something simpler: we will watch the games on the church's big screen, accompanied by free meals. The whole neighbourhood is being invited to participate.

Please pray for the various campaigns and the day-to-day testimonies of every Christian who treads this blessed ground.

Thanks for this opportunity to share my thoughts at this time. We miss you.

Kleos Cesar



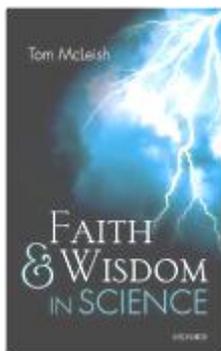
**Church advertising: “proclaiming Christ to the nations...”, “...pray for Brazil”**

# Recommended Reads 2

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## Faith and Wisdom in Science by Tom McLeish

**T**om McLeish is Professor of Physics and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research at Durham University. He is also a Reader in the Church of England. Before the post at Durham he was Professor of Physics at Leeds University. It was during discussions with both clergy and lay people in urban and rural parishes of Yorkshire that it first became apparent to Tom that the church had need of a theology of science rather than to stand merely a bewildered observer of a battle between theology and science.



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*This world-class physicist makes no attempt to hide his deep Christian faith*

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*Faith and Wisdom in Science* challenges much of the current “science and religion” debate as operating with the wrong assumptions and in the wrong space. Tom has also discussed much of the content of the

book in a series of lectures, including one at South Parade. Those who missed Tom at SPBC can hear him again at a conference at Leeds Trinity University from 4 - 6 September.

Speakers include Geoffrey Cantor, Nancy Cartright, Tom McLeish and Eric Priest. For preliminary bookings, email [hilarymartin@lineone.net](mailto:hilarymartin@lineone.net) before 31 July. Full details at [www.srforum.org](http://www.srforum.org)

The book is divided into 8 chapters reaching a climax with a Theology of Science via the Book of Job and the New Testament creation narratives. A major feature of Tom’s work is that he is not just interested in the creation narratives found in Genesis but also in others found in the Bible. He recommends that scientists read the last part of Job; they will find that it asks many deep questions. They will also enjoy reading the thoughts of a world-class physicist who makes no attempt to hide his deep Christian faith.

**John Lockwood**

Cragg Mission Community

# Questions

## To End All Wars?

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**As the commemorations for the hundredth anniversary of the start of World War One begin, Cyril Snell considers how his own family was affected by the conflict.**

In 1914, Brixham in South Devon was a small, but busy fishing port. The same families had lived there for generations and most of the men were seafaring or employed in work allied to the sea, such as boat building. On the day war broke out, my Uncle Harry was on a Merchant Navy ship in Bremen. It was illegally detained and he

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became a prisoner of war for the next four years, sustained by the Red Cross parcels which dominated the lives of his younger siblings.

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*The lessons of the war  
are neither learnt  
nor understood*

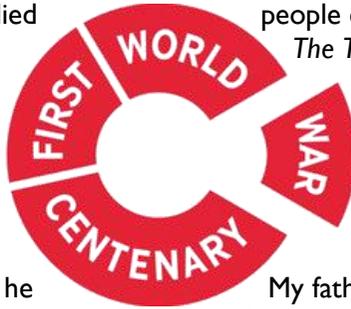
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It was not until 1916 that British people came to know, courtesy of *The Times*, the true cost in lives of resisting the Germans. I was born ten years later, but the reality of that war dominated my childhood.

My father's brother was so disturbed by his life in the trenches that he was sectioned when I was seven. My mother's brother-in-law was torpedoed and the period in the water awaiting rescue left him with damaged lungs.

Granny often told the story of the



parade when volunteers left by train. We had a Regatta every year. Captain Marden of the Yacht Club who never went to sea, was the chief organiser. Two men who were off to join the Admiralty tugs, considered safer and better paid, called out to him "Hold the Regatta till we get back. This won't take long." They were both drowned within the year.

**O**ne uncle in the Merchant Navy, sailing to and from America was discharged during the ship's repair and refit. He was seen returning home and within a day was presented with the "white feather". Grandad told him to go back to Liverpool and sleep

on the ship until it was recommissioned.

The deeper reality circles around the concepts and the lessons, neither learnt nor understood. Patriotism, Volunteers or Conscripts, Causes of War, War to end Wars, League of Nations, Collective Security, Pacifism, Betrayal, Homes fit for Heroes, all tumble through my head whenever WWI is mentioned. I have strong opinions on all of these. People who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat ancient follies.

**Cyril Snell**

Headingley Morning Mission Community

### **How Long, O Lord?**

*How long, O Lord, how long, before the flood  
Of crimson-welling carnage shall abate?  
From sodden plains in West and East, the blood  
Of kindly men steams up in mists of hate,  
Polluting Thy clean air; and nations great  
In reputation of the arts that bind  
The world with hopes of heaven, sink to the state  
Of brute barbarians, whose ferocious mind  
Gloats o'er the bloody havoc of their kind,  
Not knowing love or mercy. Lord, how long  
Shall Satan in high places lead the blind  
To battle for the passions of the strong?  
Oh, touch Thy children's hearts, that they may know  
Hate their most hateful, pride their deadliest foe.*

**Robert Palmer (1916)**

# Come Prepared

## Preaching Themes and Readings

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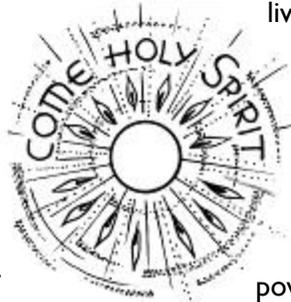
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### Ascension and Pentecost

**T**he first two weeks of June help us to think about the Ascension of Jesus and the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost with readings from Acts 1 and 2, Isaiah 35, Ephesians 4.1-16, Colossians 2.6-12 and Luke 3.1-20

Christians have a range of understandings about the work of the Holy Spirit based on a spectrum of Biblical interpretations and this will no doubt be reflected in the different ways preachers address

the topic. Whatever view we adopt, the promise is that God does not leave us to try to live our Christian lives alone, but chooses to live in us in the Person of the Holy Spirit and through his presence in us is able to equip us to serve effectively in mission. No one doctrine can contain the awesome power and provision of God in and for us. In simple terms we need to keep our doors and windows open to him – we never know when the Divine breath will blow through us in fresh ways.



### Colossians

Morning preaching from 15 June to the end of July centres on the book of Colossians under a general title of “A faith worth having”.

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*God promises to live in us  
in the Person of the Holy  
Spirit and equip us to  
serve effectively in mission*

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Colossae was a town in Asia Minor, east of Ephesus. As often happened a group of false teachers had infiltrated the Christian community and so Paul writes to correct their teaching. The heart of his reply is that Jesus Christ is able to give full salvation. In his writing he teaches clearly about Jesus' Divinity and how the whole of creation depends on his saving and sustaining power.

Typically he rounds it off with practical advice for everyday witness and paints an exciting picture of the kind of church that really loves Jesus.

### **The Purpose Driven Life**

In the evenings we are continuing through Rick Warren's classic, *What on earth am I here for? - the purpose driven life*. One recent commentator describes how we have a "discipleship deficit" in the UK church. We have a wealth of good teaching and fellowship resources

and yet we still struggle to produce consistent followership of Jesus.

Warren draws from Scripture with some memorable images to help us focus on how we can honour God and find robust purpose in our lives.

### **Small Groups**

Sunday evening themes are also taken further in Small Group material which is made available to every cell/home/study/small group (different names for same activity) on a weekly basis. Some groups look at alternative material from time to time to suit their particular needs, but the main material continues to be produced for those who wish to use it. Individuals can ask for copies by emailing [brian@spbc.org.uk](mailto:brian@spbc.org.uk) and they will be added to the weekly mailing list.

## **Brian Nicholls**

Senior Minister

*He was supreme in the beginning and - leading the resurrection parade - he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is he, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe - people and things, animals and atoms - get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross. **Colossians 1.18-20 (The Message) (22 June)***

# Church Noticeboard

As the church around the world celebrates Pentecost you are invited to join them with **Headingley's very own "Songs of Praise"**



- Sunday 8 June, 3pm
- The Rose Garden (the Arc), North Lane. Headingley



## Leeds Sacred Harp Singing

Traditional hymn singing from the American South

Saturday 28 June 2014

10.30am – 4 pm, South Parade Baptist Church, Headingley

Fa ▽ Sol ● La ■ Fa ▽ Sol ● La ■ Mi ◆ Fa ▽

- **No experience necessary – all welcome**
- Books will be available for loan or purchase
- Please bring a ready prepared dish to share for Dinner on the Grounds
- **Admission Free**
- A voluntary collection will be taken to cover expenses
- For further information please contact: Arja and John Copperwheat

## Le Grand Ride Out



A colorful poster for the Le Grand Ride Out event. The background is green and yellow with large yellow circles. At the top left, the text 'LE GRAND RIDE OUT' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. To the right, 'SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014' is written in yellow. Below the title, there are three circular logos: 'lfis' in a blue circle, 'Kidz Klub' in a red circle, and 'Transformations' in a white circle. In the center, a silhouette of a cyclist is riding a bicycle. To the right of the cyclist is a large white rose with a yellow center. At the bottom, the route 'LEEDS - SKIPTON - THE DALES - RIPON - HARROGATE' is written in green. Below the route, the website 'WWW.LEGRANDRIDEOUT.COM' is written in large, bold, yellow letters.

This is a fundraiser for Leeds Faith In Schools (LFIS), Kidz Klub and Transformations Leeds and organised by folks involved in these local ministries. Riders will have the option of following the route of the first stage of Le Tour De France, from Leeds to Harrogate via The Dales, or a couple of shorter routes.

Please pray for lots of participants (hopefully including loads from outside the church) and for safety and enjoyment for all.

Visit [www.legrandrideout.com](http://www.legrandrideout.com) for more information

*Nathan Shipley*

### Latest News

Don't forget that if you miss the weekly notice sheet you can download the latest one from the church website [www.spbc.org.uk](http://www.spbc.org.uk) - click on the "resources" section

Welcome to South Parade.

If this is your first time here, we warmly invite you to introduce yourself to us. If you feel we can help in any way, please ask. Tea and coffee will be served after each of our services.



Pentecost, 2014

This Sunday, 25th May: The morning reading is John 2:1-11 - 'Empty Vessels ready for new wine', and the evening is 1 Corinthians 13 - 'What matters most?' We meet at Adel (10.30am, Adel Primary School, Tile Lane - Sue Brady), Connect (11am, Hollybush School, Broad Lane, Bramley - Gaynor Hammond), Cragg (10.30am, Cragg Avenue, Horsforth - Jill Jones), Headingley (10.30am, South Parade, Headingley - Geoff Greer) and as SENT (6.30am, South Parade).

# South Parade in Numbers

## Part Eight

Number of **spoons** Claire Ginn gave out (and collected in again) during her sermon on “Grace” at SENT on 27 April: **at least 60.**



If you weren't there, download and listen to the sermon from [www.spbc.org.uk](http://www.spbc.org.uk). You'll be glad you did.

Number of **Church Administrators** since the role was created in the 1990s: **4**

The process has begun to appoint Gemma's successor. Pray now for number **5**

The number of words in the “notes” Gemma has written for her successor: **7060**



**1** intern needed to work alongside the Ministry Team from this autumn. Could it be you? Speak to Brian Nicholls for more information.

**50.1°C** :  
temperature recorded in Chad by **Becky North** working there with BMS World Mission.



She says, “while I await spontaneous combustion to finally take me, or to melt into a pool of sweat, it is very easy to let the misery take over. A few weeks into this, however, enough is enough. I have decided that now is the time to think positive”.

Read on at her blog at [rebeccainchad.blogspot.co.uk](http://rebeccainchad.blogspot.co.uk) for **10** reasons the extreme heat is good a thing.





**32** external groups or individuals made a contribution for using our premises last year.

It costs **£157** per day to keep all of the church premises open and safe and comfortable to use.

## CAKE OR DEATH

by alex baker

ABRAHAM, YOU KNOW HOW GOD SAID YOUR DESCENDANTS WOULD BE AS NUMEROUS AS THE STARS? WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE ALL SENT YOU FATHER'S DAY CARDS...



For more "Cake or Death" cartoons  
by Alex Baker visit:  
[cakeordeathcartoon.wordpress.com](http://cakeordeathcartoon.wordpress.com)



*"Christianity is like knitting.  
Basically good, but appears  
to be responsible for a lot  
of bad things."*

**Milton Jones**

## **Pentecost Prayer**

*Lord God, as once your Holy presence filled the temple on Pentecost we thank you that your Holy Spirit now fills your people the Church.*

*Fill each of us with your Spirit that our lives are daily transformed from one degree of glory to another.*

*Ignite in us a passion to seek your will, a desire to know your word, and a readiness to respond.*

*So fill us with your Spirit that our lives cannot help breathe out your praise.*

*Make your Church a temple of the Holy Spirit.*

*Where there is injustice, make your church a royal priesthood and a holy nation.*

*Where there is violence, make your church an ambassador for Christ.*

*Where there is greed, hatred or pride, grant your church a truly prophetic voice.*

**Fill your people with your Holy Spirit, that we might be a holy presence in your world.**



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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)**



“

*I press on toward the goal to  
win the prize for which God has  
called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

”

**Philippians 3.14 (NIV)**

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**intouch**

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