

NEWSLETTER



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I've just returned from a particularly memorable Maasai mission. More details follow later in this newsletter, but here's a taster: the first woman convert (40 years previously) in our 3rd location (Nkoilale) spoke a word over team members: "in receiving men, some people welcome angels." That felt good, but what we learnt earlier was even better. In Katakala, Pastor Eric was particularly delighted to see his flock respond to our words. On arrival twelve years previously, he'd been given an ultimatum by local Maasai: either stop preaching and stay, or leave, but if you refuse we'll kill you. Well you'll have to kill me then, he replied. Slow to accept his message, the fact that our Gospel was the same as his convinced them it must be true! And giving a lesson to some UK churches, he gleefully told us about his Monday to Friday Discipleship Bible Study planned for the next 3 weeks, following up the fifty adult converts.

His story chimed with that of an old man who used to shoot arrows at evangelists, for fear that his wives and children might convert. Indeed, when we first went to reach the Maasai, men were quite suspicious, with the added knock-on that their wives couldn't convert without their say-so. But in the fourteen years since, the womens' prayers have borne fruit, with many men giving their lives in the past fortnight. As ever, prayer and the Word do not return empty, if you like, "the truth will out"; but here lies a conundrum which came up during the mission and no less for the church worldwide. For what is the truth?

Recently, Justin Welby has excluded the Episcopal Church in America from the Anglican Communion over its stance on gay priests. Street preachers like Mike Overd get a hard time (and the opportunity to experience the inside of a police cell) for sharing God's Word, whilst in Ireland, Pastor James McConnell has been heavily criticized for his tough



comments on Islam. Many Christians, privately at least, would share their views, basing their position on what the Bible teaches. Tough questions require biblically-informed answers, which is why I have dedicated the final third of the new TFM training manual to apologetics. Unlike in Kenya, where some pastors have had no training whatsoever and where Bibles have the rarity and value of gold-dust, we have no excuse for not familiarising and fortifying ourselves daily with God's instructions. Which leads me neatly to Elijah.

Prior to each day's work during the mission, I was able to dip into 1 and 2 Kings. In 1 Kings 17, Elijah had just announced a drought and was told by God to hide in a ravine. There he drank water from a brook and was fed by ravens twice a day. We know the story, but consider this: apostate Israel was going hungry, but Elijah received bread and meat twice a day, fed like a king from King Yahweh's

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table. Why did God look after him so royally? It was a question I asked over breakfast in Kenya, when our cook, John, had once again produced a magnificent feast from unpromising circumstances! Because Elijah relied on the Lord and was prepared to speak God's Word, whatever the situation and however it might be received. He put God first, with kings and men very distant also-rans.

This year, our motto is taken from 2 Chronicles 16:9 – "The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." God is actively seeking out those whose lives are fully sold out on Him, His Word and His Spirit. In short, to those who wish to know the truth and to proclaim it unreservedly. But to preach the Gospel, we must know what it is first! And whilst that might sound simple, the questions that follow may not be so straight-forward. The challenges we face in the future require us to keep sharp, keep reading and learning. In so doing, we can be sure of God's strengthening arm, never leaving nor forsaking us. The Gospel works in Maasailand. I personally can't wait to hear of its effect in Uganda, in February – and in all the UK and Irish missions ahead this year. Bring it on, Lord!



Richard Scott

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St John's Lurgan mission, 4U 26 - 30 November 2015

I had a great mission in Lurgan where we saw 40 adults plus children respond to Christ. Some lovely stories emerged including many who had come to faith during my last mission there 8 years ago. One of them shared his story on a very special Sunday and others also came to faith! A big Christingle service saw a good response also. Later that day I sensed that God was speaking to a person and as I approached her she suddenly burst into tears and gave her life to the Lord – she looked a changed person, which of course she was!! Another good evening saw 4 people respond to Christ – a very good weekend with God's presence seen and felt!!

An Alpha course started in January with some of those followed up attending.

Roger Murphy

Staff and Trustees Retreat December 2015

Paul Preston, one of TFM's trustees, reflects on the staff and trustees retreat at St Mark's College Audley End in Essex.

Settling into the retreat and noticing the Chelmsford Diocese coat of arms quickly underlined Essex and my thoughts were much about Peter Adams and his key focus of communicating the gospel. Here we were to pray for TFM to continue to do this, seeking after God as Daniel and Peter so often had done. Hebrews 13:13 remained in my mind throughout the days of the retreat. I remembered how my first walk mission was about stepping up to the challenge and discovering God was faithful, as we faced risk and uncertainty, He enables us to undertake His work and purposes. As we prayed, worshipped and studied together I felt such a sense of privilege to serve with my fellow trustees, I respect them so much. It is with a unity in His Spirit that we have committed the resources of prayer and finance of TFM to putting full time evangelists to work in the field. And it is with the same vulnerability of that first Walk Mission that I sense we have done this. Our resources of prayer and finance will need constant renewal if this is to move forward and many of us must step up to the challenge of this.

Our message is unchanged but it is our duty to see it is communicated effectively, relevantly and with courage. From every section of society, from our schools, work places, family and friends, modern conversation brings challenges for us to speak the gospel into. These range from the God particle, to euthanasia, the popularity of Buddhism and fresh attacks on the Trinity. Under Richard's leadership our training materials are updated and offer a comprehensive but very readable and concise resource to equip us to be effective and relevant and I am looking forward to retraining to help my effectiveness in His work.



Roger writes...

I continue to lead missions and see people come to faith in Christ which is a great privilege. Please see separate reports on missions in Belfast, Lurgan and Darby Green.

We are just emerging from a winter of storms down here on the South coast with spectacular views of the sea – lovely to look at but not so nice to venture out in!! Jill is fine and enjoying her role at Waves as a Family Worker in a new job share with Ceri which is going well. We look forward to seeing our son Chris, wife Abbi and granddaughter Annabelle, now 2 years old, when they are over for a family wedding in March.

I have missions coming up in Sligo, Ireland, Aghadowey Derry and Raphoe, NI, and in Fairlight and Pett, near Hastings and as ever value your prayers.

Diary

- 19-27 March Holy Week mission with 8 churches in Sligo, Ireland with Rev Isaac Hanna
- 17-24 April Mission in Aghadowey, Derry and Raphoe, NI with Rev Louise Crawford-McCafferty
- 7-15 May Hope for Fairlight and Pett mission, nr Hastings with Rev Richard Barron. David Culhane and Roger will be leading a team of 12.

Re Charge Mission St Donard's, East Belfast 17-25 October 2015

I had a very good mission week at St Donard's working alongside Reverends Ken and Ann Higgins. The events were all well attended by the church and community and there were around 100 adult responses, evenly balanced between those from within the church coming to Christ and a new raft of younger parents and others responding to Christ for the first time. There were also around 30 children who responded. I was joined by Paul Woodman the escapologist for the second half of the week. All are being contacted and invited to a Christianity Explored course. A few highlights from the week;

- At the Ladies breakfast 12 ladies responded to Christ.
- Good response from services on the first Sunday and opportunities to pray with many coming to Christ with tears.
- A whole family from well outside the church came to Christ at an evening event.
- A good turnout of Dads at the Scouts Dads and Lads event saw 7 men respond. A great evening.
- A teenage scout came to me later in the evening saying he had given his life to the Lord.
- At the men's breakfast 2 young men responded to Christ among others.
- On the final Sunday a very big turnout of parents at the Family Engage service. A good and an attentive crowd for the Gospel with more encouraging response.
- At the final service many came forward for prayer to confirm their commitments to Christ.



Christmas Hope Mission at St Barnabas, Darby Green 17-20 Dec 2015

David Culhane, Richard Foot and myself led a Christmas mission in the Darby Green area near Camberley with Rev Mike Saunders. We had a number of events which saw 27 adults and 20 children respond to Christ. Events included a quiz night and carol singing in the local pub, 2 skittle evenings, a men's breakfast and 2 carol services plus some D2D work using a revised Christmas questionnaire with some varying views on what people thought about the Christmas story and also that many thought spiritually about their lives at this time of the year. Some great conversations with some good weather and a few responses on the doors.

Highlight of the weekend was the family carol service with the local school children taking part in the service. There was a real presence of God there as many children responded and 12 parents and teachers. It was a tough mission with some hard hearts but there were responses at all events from young and old both inside and outside the church.

Missions at Christmas time are a mixed blessing as many people are open to the Christmas story and its real meaning but of course everyone is also so busy!!

There is an Alpha course starting in January.

Yours in Christ
Roger Murphy



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Central Lancashire University Mission February 2016

By the time you read this, Roz and I will have spent five days reaching out to students at the Central Lancashire University in Preston (February 22 – 26). We hope to use our TFM questionnaire, along with their more modern techniques including video cameras, picture boards and a soularium! I am the main evening speaker, with my talks taken from songs and reflecting the modern age in which we live:

- **Let me take a selfie (Jesus and image)**
- **I want to break free (Jesus and freedom)**
- **How deep is your love (Jesus and love)**

I will let you know in the next newsletter how we got on, but Boaz, the university UCCF staff worker, was particularly thrilled in advance to have Roz involved.

Richard Scott



J. John's Conference for Evangelists January 2016

After experiencing our TFM staff and trustees get-together in December and the leaders' training event earlier in January, I was intrigued to see how a larger conference involving 192 evangelists would pan out. In truth, I was strapped for time, with Kenya so close, but sensed that net-working as well as teaching would justify the time spent. And so it proved. Highlights included Jackie Pullinger's teaching on Acts of Kindness as a witness to the lost and R.T. Kendall's exhortation to forgive those who've hurt you. One morning at the conference, while praying through his list of those he needed personally to forgive, Matt Redman popped in and asked whether any Christians were on the list. They're ALL Christians, he replied! Lastly, one of the Oxford Centre for Apologetics' leaders talked of the increasing dissatisfaction amongst Muslims with Islam, with Jesus revealing himself in dreams. A great opportunity for us.



in the U.S. All looked good on the outside, but deep inside he was a mess. So he went to see his mentor, the late Dallas Willard, for some theologically-sound advice. And received this: "never, ever, under any circumstance, hurry." Kenyans don't and, with recent reports on multi-tasking confirming its inefficiency, this is a lesson for me – and maybe for you, too.

Richard Scott

never, ever, under any
circumstance, hurry

J. John started, though, by telling a story against himself. Having flushed the toilet before using it, he realised he was too busy! This chimed nicely with a story David Rhodes recounted in Kenya from John Ortberg. Ortberg, who is highly readable, was an up and coming successful minister



J. John

Through Faith Missions Annual Conference

Saturday 18th June 2016

Gt Shelford Free Church

High Street Great Shelford CB22 5EH

Cost for the day £10

Bring your own packed lunch

Tea and coffee provided

10:00am to 4:30pm

9:30am registration

To book your place visit:

www.throughfaithmissions.org/conference2016

Or send a cheque to the TFM office payable to:

Through Faith Missions Ltd

Leaders training weekend 8 – 9 January 2016

Recognising that the world has changed since TFM first started training for mission, one of Richard Scott's first tasks as he took over as leader was to bring the training manual up to date. Now completed, as well as the previous outline of why and how, the manual contains significant sections on other faiths and apologetics. As such it is a great resource for anyone wishing to be able to answer questions about faith.

The next step was to call those who have led teams and been with us many times in the past to come together and review the new manual and be excited about the future.

A group of 51 Team Leaders, experienced team members and staff gathered at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick in early January this year. The group proved committed, enthusiastic and a joy to share with. Challenging as well! They didn't just sit and listen but responded to opportunities to feedback and discuss future initiatives.

The second step will be in March as a larger group come together to go through the training programme, all in preparation for future missions particularly Sawston, Wallasey and Fairlight and Pett. Encouragingly the event includes not only existing team members being retrained but new trainees also who we hope will come on future missions.

Further training opportunities will be set up in the future.



Report on Kenya Mission 2016

The 2016 Maasai mission was notable in many respects. It was the first time we had joined a medical sub-team (EMMA) with a TFM cohort, a combination of nineteen people that proved highly successful, allowing outreach to take place on the road to clinics, as well as in the villages and bomas (homesteads). But it was also notable for the weather. The dry season was wet – with tropical thunderstorms bogging down our lorry twice and necessitating a road repair once, whilst camping in the first two locations became more English than African! The rains also encouraged flies, which did their worst, laying most team members low for 36 hours at a time, requiring much attention from doctors Phil and Cipro (Ciprofloxacin).

But morale remained excellent and for good reason – many Maasai were responding to the Gospel message! In the morning on the roads, in the afternoon schools and following the evening Jesus film, with some even praying the prayer in clinic. Men, in particular, were being saved, with notable examples being a group of 8 casual workers from the Kalangin tribe digging the ground and boda boda (motorbike taxi) drivers who were intrigued with what they saw during their daily work. Indeed, Kenyans in the neighbouring District of Kajiado wanted to know why we weren't going there! In total, I estimate that 600 men, women and children responded, with children not allowed to put their hands up (and have their names taken) if they were already saved!

Another difference from previous missions was that four of the combined team of nineteen were resident in America and with one of the local dentists recruited wanting to join EMMA trips in the future, collaboration remains productive. Pastor Kereto would love us to come to Kenya twice a year – but with requests from Sumatra, South Sudan, Liberia, India and others in the pipeline, tough decisions will need to be made at our EMMA committee meeting planned for 13th February. Fair to say that when we have a clear way ahead (with the Louis twins aiming to scout Sumatra in August), we will put the word out for TFM-ers to join in once more. For my part, I will write an article in the CMF journal, for recruitment of medics remains key here.



Following the mission, we agreed that remaining funds (and any new monies gleaned) would be aimed at

- 1) purchasing more Maasai Bibles (35 so far to be distributed)
- 2) providing a new DVD player for George (the Jesus film man)
- 3) the Katakala Water Project needs a generator, pipes and pump
- 4) the Church under the Tree near Olkarkar needs a roof and pillars to attract more worshippers (currently put off by sun and rain)
- 5) a six year child with severe burns needs plastic surgery
- 6) the ongoing work at the Rescue Centre – which takes in girls fleeing FGM and forced marriage
- 7) training of pastors, notably currently untrained Pastor Rogers.

If anyone would like to contribute to these very worthy projects, please let David Baslington know. I will then redirect all monies to the Maasai Evangelistic Association (MEA UK) account, which, as a charity, allows for gift-aiding.

The last word goes to Dr. Lydia Baffour (25) – who taught us the mission theme song (with appropriate actions attached) :

Who has the final say?
Jehovah has the final say.
I said, Who has the final say?
Jehovah has the final say.
He turns my life around,
He turns my life around.
He makes a way where there is no way,
Jehovah has the final say.

Richard Scott



Peter Adams 1941-2015

Daniel Cozens, Peter's close friend, shares a few thoughts on Peter's life and ministry.

Our dear friend, Peter, died on the evening of November 24th, 2015.

His funeral was conducted by the Bishop of Colchester, at St Andrew's Marks Tey, on Friday, December 11th. On the afternoon of that day there was a Thanksgiving Service, held at St. John's Colchester, and 300 plus attended this.

After the first hymn Peter's family all spoke, in turn, about this extraordinary and lovely man. Tricia related how they met, his College, his parishes and his joining TFM. It was of course very moving. She was followed by their son, Nicholas and then their daughter, Wendy. This dear family honoured him by their courage and delightful reflections. Two close friends also gave warm testimonies. Later, as Peter had asked, I preached. The whole service was a most divine and dignified occasion and when mingling with the crowd afterwards, story after story was told of how Peter had been such a blessing to so many.

Peter and I first met in 1982 when he was the Vicar of St Andrew's, Marks Tey. He had invited me to come over and investigate the possibility of a Mission to his three parishes. We agreed on a date in 1983 and, from the beginning, it was a very fruitful time of outreach. I was impressed with Peter's thoroughness and organisational skills, his inventiveness in creating occasions and his choice of venues where the gospel could be proclaimed and consequently the 60+ responses engendered. When I rang him on the Tuesday following the Mission I was surprised to discover that, to his credit, he had invited all those people to his home on the evening before. He sought to get each person thoroughly established in the Lord. He said, years later, that the Mission transformed all those parishes. This, without doubt, was due to his hard work and ingenuity.

Shortly after this I invited Peter to join me on a Mission to Leamington Spa and it was during this time that we spoke together and I asked him to pray with me for a 'Partner in Mission'. He said, "Dan, if you are looking for such a man, please consider me!" I replied, "That is why I invited you on this Mission!"

Peter then joined me in 1985. Together we formed Through Faith Missions and whoosh! The invitations never



stopped coming in. We worked hand in glove conducting town and parish missions, the Lord blessed the ministry from the start; in no small part due to the prayers and support of thousands of you. That support has been the true backbone of TFM.

One day in 1988 I arranged to meet Peter in Swavesey, a village in Cambridgeshire. We walked around a large lake and I put to him my vision, from the Lord, of the Walk of 1000 Men. He stood there, in his white wellies, smiling and said to me, "Dan, it frightens me to death but I'd love to do it!" After much prayer and an initial meeting of 400 men, who expressed their excitement at such a venture, the Walks were born and the gospel, as a result, was brought to multitudes of those outside the church across the whole of Britain.

I loved the man; we laughed a lot together and rejoiced greatly in all that the Lord led us to. He was as comfortable a companion as the old red chair in my study. I've often said, lightly, that he could organise rain! He was never moody; his mantra was "The joy of the Lord is your strength." All in all we completed something in the region of 400 Missions together.

Hundreds of you, reading this, knew Peter well. He was strong, dependable, deeply caring, organised, intelligent, zealous and with an endearing sense of humour!

I thank the Lord for him ... and Tricia, who willingly released him to this work. Even today I automatically think – 'Oh, I'll share that with Peter!'

Thank you all for your significant part in this beautiful ministry. Pray for us.

Daniel Cozens

"The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few...."

Luke 10:2

"Peter filled with the Holy Spirit....." Acts 4:8



Daniel Cozens

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CONTACT US?

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- ☐ I wish to become a Prayer Partner
- ☐ Please note my address change or email address below
- ☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list
- ☐ Please send me the weekly email Prayer News (need email address please)
- ☐ I enclose a gift to support TFM's ministry (Cheques to Through Faith Missions Ltd or go to **www.throughfaithmissions.org** for online giving options).
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Introduction from Roz

Roz Haycock has recently joined the staff at TFM as our trainee evangelist. Here Roz describes her journey of faith so far.

I grew up in a Christian household, accepted Jesus at 9 and was baptised at 11. Life took a turn for the worse at 16. Relied on God at 18 and my life started to get back on track. I went to university to study Sports Coaching and Physical Education. It was during my time at university that I started to attend church again. I attended an Alpha course and went on to serve on the Alpha team the following two years.

It was in my 2nd year at university that I was introduced to TFM. I had heard wonderful stories of what it was like to be on mission and it was something I had always felt a calling to; however I had never known how to get involved until now! I signed up and underwent TFM training in Peterborough and I was all set for mission on Walk Cornwall 2. I couldn't wait! I felt God had planned it perfectly. Week 1 was the week before I started back at university and it just fitted in perfectly. I arrived, it was all so exciting, it was great to meet so many like-minded people ready to go and share the message of Christ.

It was during the mission in Cornwall after a tough day, and all I wanted to do was to get on a train and to go home. But God had other plans. That night God spoke to me in a dream. God said that I would work for TFM, in a position that had not yet been created.

In my final year at university, I went on to serve in a team at Halstead in the Two Rivers Mission. By this time I had been more involved in church and evangelism than I had been actually working towards my degree. It was this that really spoke to me and showed me that actually this is my calling, to work for God full time, not just in my spare time.

My first year after graduating, I completed a year of internship with The Diocese of Peterborough. During my internship, God really started to bring out and develop the evangelistic colours he had placed within me.



2016, here we are, I am so thankful, thrilled and delighted with what God has done in and through my life. I look forward to working with many different people: TFM members, churches, universities, vicars and evangelists, etc. I see what great work God has used TFM to do in the past, I hear great stories of God working in people's lives and I look forward to all the stories God has ahead for Through Faith Missions.