

intouch



Spirit-Filled People



*Paul Rockley
takes a look at
South Parade's
Vision Statement*

Page 3

intouch

June & July 2013

The coming of the Spirit at Pentecost equipped the disciples to take the Good News around the world, and we're still feeling the effects of that great day at South Parade each week. If we do what Paul Rockley urges us to, and take our Vision Statement seriously, who knows where the Spirit will take us: to Kolkata (page 27), Italy (page 14) or to a Teddy Bears' picnic (page 12) or just to the person on the next desk at work (page 30). Be inspired!

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Matthew Newman Editor

Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!

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From the Ministry Team

Wanting More

We don't know much about Terah. He seems almost incidental, as if the biblical narrator is in a hurry to get on to his much-more-interesting and famous son, Abraham. All we have is some biographical detail about where he was from, who was in his family, how old he was when he died and in between just one verse about what he did.

And what was that?

"Terah took (his family)... and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran they settled there." (Genesis 11.31)

That's it. Pretty uninspiring, don't you think? He was in what would now be Eastern Iran, wanted to go somewhere else about 1,000 miles away (Israel), but settled in Turkey, which was roughly half way between the two. Now I may be pushing this a bit far, but what comes across to me in this all too

*Our vision of where
we believe God wants
us to be needs to
dominate our horizons,
shape our priorities
and burn in our hearts*

brief account is an unfulfilled vision and a sense of complacency. He wanted more but he settled for less. And the story moves on...

Since joining the church I've been thinking a lot about the vision statement which is pinned up in the foyer at Headingley. I remember reading it the very first time I came and thinking, "Yes! That's what I want!" Let me remind you what it says:

"A world populated by Spirit-filled people, passionate in following Jesus Christ and wholehearted in their commitment to build community in Him, so that all whom the Lord our God calls can belong, believe and

become all that He wants them to be."

I love that. I love the breadth of it. I love the full-on language. "World", not just some areas in North-West Leeds; "Spirit-filled" rather than well-intentioned; "passionate" and not merely quite keen; "wholehearted", not half-hearted; "building community", not just doing church or having services; "all" not some.

The problem with vision statements is that they can too easily be overlooked.

They get relegated to something discussed at a church meeting or flagged up once in a while, but then people focus on what appear to be more immediate concerns. And when that happens vision statements are not worth the paper they are written on, however well expressed. For it to mean anything, our vision of where we believe God wants us to be needs to dominate our horizons, shape our priorities and burn in our hearts. Otherwise

we content ourselves with where we are, without thinking about where we're meant to be going. We settle in Haran when we should be moving on to Canaan.



So where do we begin? Where the Church began. At Pentecost, which we've just been celebrating together. As we understand and appropriate all that is entailed in that phrase "Spirit-filled", we discover the Resource to be all that God wants us to be and the Power to do all He wants us to do. That's

what happened to those first Disciples. That's why Jesus told them to wait. And they waited.

And then the Promise came. "*All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2.4). Thank God they didn't settle for anything less.

And nor should we.

Paul

"And afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions."

Joel 2.28 (NIV)

Around the Church

Special Church Meeting

At the special church meeting on 16 May two very significant matters were considered that could give a major new impetus to the church's vision and ministry.

A call was given to **Nathan Shipley** to become our Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults, a role that had been agreed by last November's meeting.

Nathan worshipped at South Parade whilst a student in Leeds and served on the University Christian Union executive committee with Dan McLeod and Geoff Park. He holds a secular certificate in youth work and has an MA in Youth and Community Work with Applied Theology. For the last five and a half years he has been the Youth Worker at Burwell Baptist Church in Cambridgeshire. He and his wife

Any hope to join us from the start of October.

We are very much looking forward to working with them in developing our ministry amongst youth, students and young adults, especially as we seek to walk with them as they transition through key life stages.



Notice was given of a proposal from the elders that would be brought to the June church meeting "that 17 **Becketts Park Drive** be sold, with the proceeds not being spent on day-to-day activities, unless a future church meeting decides otherwise".

The elders think there is a decreased likelihood of future ministers requiring us to provide a manse. Additionally this manse was no longer in an ideal location and would need some refurbishment. Releasing resources from the manse could open up more possibilities for

funding the developing vision of the church, but the elders were not recommending the sale proceeds (other than the interest thereon) be used for day-to-day activities.

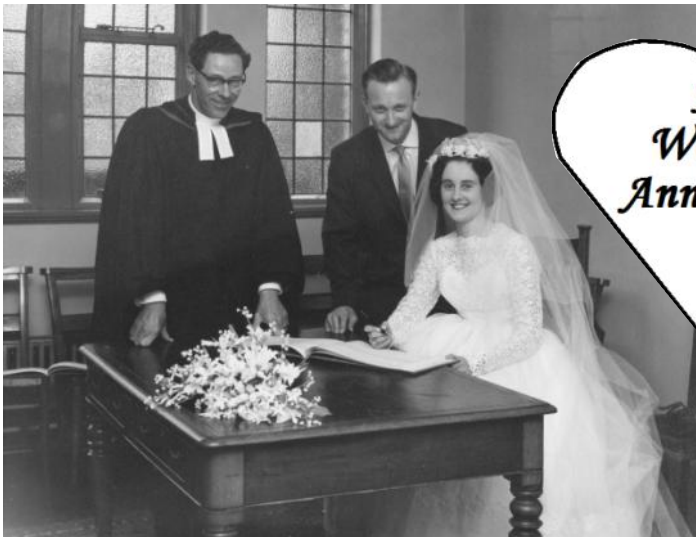
Geoff Greer

Church Secretary

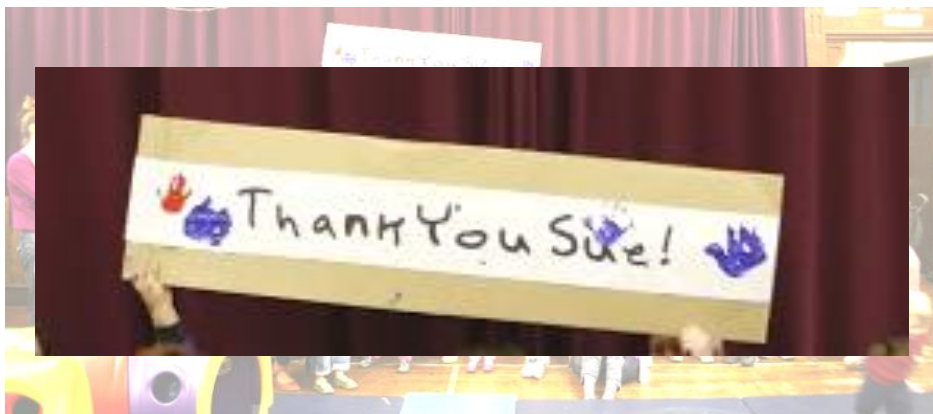
Headingley Highlights

As spring has come and gone at Headingley we've:

- shared a lovely welcome service with Paul
- asked the question "what shall we do next?" and sought God's guidance during a service with an interval in the middle to generate ideas over coffee
- met Nathan Shipley who challenged the congregation to a mass game of Rock, Paper, Scissors
- transformed the garden behind the main building (thanks Raymond!)
- had a magnificent day out climbing the three peaks (well, some of us did)
- heard the newly-reformed youth band as they led worship (more to come in June!)
- explored the book of Romans



Congratulations to **Keith and Margaret Galliford** who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this month. They were married at South Parade, Headingley on 8 June 1963. This photo shows them signing the register with the minister, Rev David Rigden Green.



Sue Ricketts' farewell session

- commissioned Irene for an exciting period of service overseas

Why not join us for all that the summer has to offer?

Barbara Crosse

Headingley Morning Mission Community Leader

Thanks Sue!

A big thank you to Sue Ricketts for eight faithful and committed years as leader of the Wednesday Under

5s toddler group. Sue has stepped down to take on more hours at work and will be missed greatly by all the tots, parents, carers, childminders and volunteers. Thanks again for all the love and care you've poured into this group Sue - and for your scrummy cakes!

Love from

The Under 5s Team

Rebecka, our Swedish volunteer has kindly agreed to lead this group until the end of June: thanks Rebecka!

The Heat is On

4C Leeds (Christians Combating Climate Change Leeds: SPBC, St George's, St Chad's, St Andrew's United Reformed) wants to help church members to save money on their energy bills by installing energy efficiency measures. Initially, we are focusing on radiator foil.



Much of the heat from a radiator can get absorbed into the wall behind it rather than heating the room. Fitting reflective foil behind radiators is a very cheap and effective DIY measure, which can increase the useful output of a radiator by as much as 12%. 4C Leeds would like to facilitate church members to take this step by demonstrating, or undertaking, the fitting of the foil.

Time-dependent, we may also be able to advise on other ways to save energy in your home or church, as one of our members is a qualified Low Carbon Consultant. We will not charge for any advice.

If you are interested, please contact John Lockwood or Ewan Jones.

John Lockwood

Cragg Hill Mission Community
www.4cleeds.co.uk

When the Spirit comes?

Just before Easter, we held a "Kingdom Day" featuring Cragg's now famous hospitality, bouncy castle, craft activities and a group of

the stronger ones on garden clearing duty. We hired a skip and offered our neighbours some help. We created some goodwill, a few families came to see what was going on, and we enjoyed meeting them.

This would have been enough for most of us, I think. But as we've reflected on it together, the whole event seemed more important than that. Did we feel the wind of the Spirit on our faces?

Our new minister Paul reminded us last week of how it is not possible for us to live as Christians by ourselves. We need each other to hold us up (you can't have a building made of one brick!), and we need to draw on the depths of the Holy Spirit for the power to make the hardest and most blessed choice of all.

"I'm ready. Do it your way" (Matthew 26.42)

I'm praying for the Spirit to come at Cragg. Would you join me?

Judith Briggs

Cragg Mission Community Elder



...informed...

Share news from Around the Church, from your Mission Community, homegroup or meeting by emailing magazine@spbc.org.uk.



BMS Update

The Treasurer of BMS World Mission, Robert Ashurst recently sent this letter to supporting churches.

Thank you very much for the support your church fellowship has given to BMS World Mission in our last financial year which ended on 31 October 2012. Despite a challenging financial environment, I am pleased to say that we finished the year with only a small shortfall. This was due to the generosity of the churches and to our policy of constantly exploring ways to reduce UK costs, which has again resulted in 95p in every £1 donated being used for our core mission activities.

You may have seen the BMS Finance update video at the Baptist Assembly, outlining both last year's results and also plans for the coming year. If not, I would

encourage you to take a look at www.bmsworldmission.org/finance13

How have your gifts been used? To build up local churches, empower national partners, demonstrate Christ's compassion and, at the heart of all these activities, to make Jesus known:



Church: We believe that actively engaging to build up the World Church is one of the most important ways to share our faith. In India this has led to dynamic growth in church planting, and in the Muslim-majority world mission to initiatives in Bangladesh and Lebanon. Within

Europe BMS is strengthening the Church through church planting and ministerial training.

National Partners: "The highest goal of all we do is to bring people to a saving faith in Jesus Christ, and an experience of the abundant life

that Jesus described.” This key phrase from our strategy document For God... confirms our commitment to integrated mission. The principles of local ownership, dignity and empowerment are at the heart of all our partnerships.

What does this mean in practice?
To take two examples, it means:

- bringing ex-prisoners to faith in Jesus Christ through the 2nd Chance Rehabilitation Centre in Zimbabwe which provides carpentry, agriculture and tailoring training as well as Biblical teaching.
- empowering the Church in Uganda by working with local leaders to secure land rights and provide agricultural training, and using this environment for Christian witness.

Compassion: Care for people in need drives our commitment to sending people and resources to help alleviate poverty, prevent sickness and respond in times of disaster. For example, our medical mission workers in Chad are providing vital healthcare and, when the harvest failed, gave specialist treatment to malnourished children and supplied emergency rations for families without food. When Syrian

refugees fled to Lebanon to escape the fighting, BMS personnel responded by providing emergency provisions such as food and blankets, and welcomed them within the local church.

The highest goal of all we do is to bring people to a saving faith in Jesus Christ, and an experience of the abundant life that Jesus described

Mission: Mission is at the heart of all BMS activities, and we support local churches in the UK in exploring their call to mission. For some this will mean sending mission workers or teams and for others developing Church Partner relationships with BMS personnel, ministries or regions. Some UK churches are exploring cross-cultural mission within their local community with support from BMS.

We give thanks to God for the faithfulness of UK Baptist churches in supporting the work of BMS World Mission. With your support, we have been able to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to those who have never heard the gospel message. Please continue to share

with us in mission this year, through prayer, giving and perhaps other ways, so that together we can take up the exciting opportunities that God is opening up to us.

We pray God's blessing on your fellowship.

Robert Ashurst

Honorary Treasurer, BMS World Mission

“The best thing I’ve ever done”

Waving goodbye to home comforts and donning their linen trousers, seven **BMS Action Teams** flew off to volunteer around the world. Six months later, they’re back! So, how was the experience?

Seeing enormous poverty first hand was a struggle for Uganda Action Teamer Dan Wilton, from Eastleigh Baptist Church. “Walking through the slums it hits you in the face,” he says. “These are not just faceless people on an advert, they’re real people with real stories and your heart goes out to them.”

Huw Hides, from St Andrew’s Methodist/UCR Church, Sedgley, was placed closer to home. “When I signed up for the gap year I was thinking extreme mission in India or something,” he says, “so Italy seemed like the safe option.” But he still encountered poverty, and a real need for the gospel.

“God has definitely changed my perceptions,” says Huw. “I’ve seen a massive need in Italy and I’m now really excited about mission in Europe. This year’s definitely changed me as a person and given me a passion to fight injustice – where I see injustice God is just breaking my heart.”

Rachel Sword, from Stirling Baptist Church, was based in Delhi, India. She was thrown in at the deep end, teaching 50 disadvantaged children who spoke no English every day. “It was a bit crazy,” she says. “But it was good – it forced me to learn more Hindi and to really think about how to communicate. I learnt to show the children how much God loved them without being able to say it.

“I really have fallen in love with India. The Action Team is the best thing I’ve ever done.”

Teddy Praise!

Hi! Let me introduce myself. I'm Darcy Bear and I'm stuffed! Both with picnic food and polyester wadding. You see on Thursday 2 May, a beautiful sunny day, me and my furry mates (Carrot, Paddington, Dave, Maude and Quentin) were invited to a teddy bears' picnic in a very tall building called South Parade Baptist Church. Because we're vertically challenged, when inside the Sanctuary we looked up and guesstimated that the roof must nearly touch the clouds!

Some nice smiley ladies said, "Welcome to Teddy Praise," and showed us to our picnic blanket at the front which was awash with teddy-sized plastic crockery. There was also a bloke with a guitar and a scary beard. From my cosy spot on the blanket, whilst gobbling up all the honey-chicken, I counted six really little people plus mummies and a grandma in the back quarter of the Sanctuary. There was gluing and sticking happening on one side and some bright toys to play with. Some of the mummies were sipping tea.



Darcy with his mate Carrot at Teddy Praise!

After a while me and my furry mates were deluged as the little people came running and crawling towards us down the aisle. Tightly in one fist most were clutching the paper man and woman they had been decorating with shiny stuff, and in the other was their favourite teddy from home. When everyone had settled at the front one

of the nice ladies started peering down a big shiny tube whilst playing “I Spy”. She then handed round some Bibles with lots of colourful pictures in especially for little people. Then the bloke with the guitar told everyone about how God made the world, Adam, Eve, you and me! He then did lots of strumming and we sang some songs and jangled our jingles.

*The bloke with the scary
beard and the guitar told
everyone about how God
made the world, Adam,
Eve, you and me!
I decided he wasn't
scary after all.*

After a special Teddy Praise closing prayer, the little people and the mummies and the grandma

scampered off to the back again with the nice smiley ladies and the bloke with the guitar to flap a massive rainbow coloured cloth up and down. They marched round with it, sat on top of it, sat under it, chuckled, chucked balls on it, chucked balls off it – all while singing special Jesus songs! I decided that the bloke with the guitar and the scary beard wasn't scary after all! He told me his name was Brian.

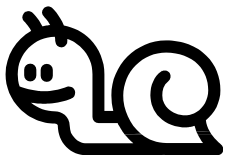
So, don't go down in the woods, but instead join me and my furry friends at the next teddy bears' picnic at Teddy Praise! Remember to bring your favourite teddy with you!

Love

Darcy Bear x

...involved...

Teddy Praise takes place on the first Thursday of every month in term-time, in the Sanctuary at 1.30pm. Dates for the next few months are: 6 June, 4 July and 5 September 2013. Please contact Kate Burkett or Brian Nicholls for more information.



*By perseverance the snail
reached the ark.*

Charles Spurgeon

Italy Update

It was a real joy and privilege on Saturday 18 May at Headingley to hear from David and Ann MacFarlane about their work in Reggio Calabria (the toe of Italy).

David and Ann are one of the longest serving Christian workers in Europe, having worked in Italy in various locations within the past 21 years.



David and Ann MacFarlane

Ann took us through a PowerPoint with much enthusiasm as she shared about:

- The recent "marriage" of the Italian and the Philipino churches, which together total 60 members and is now known as the International Baptist church.
- The recent baptisms on Easter Sunday of four of the members and one of the action team members.

- How they support 45 families in the church through the food bank.
- The continued work amongst the refugees in Rosarno, but

sadly of how Lucia has suffered a stroke. She used to co-ordinate this work and teach Italian to the young men. David and Ann with the help of some students are continuing this work.

- The clubs that mean that Church life is very busy, one being the women's group. About 50 women meet monthly, though recently have asked if they can meet more

Continue to pray for this couple as they return to Italy, and pray that local people will respond to the gospel

regularly. Prayer and Bible study is much encouraged and fellowship around a meal afterwards is often the norm.

- The English classes they hold in the church using material produced by their son David, a teacher who lives nearby.
- Her work in the hospitals - Ann has spent many a day or night in the local hospital with members of the fellowship and some of the refugees when they were injured after a peaceful demonstration.

Please continue to pray for this couple as they return to Italy in early June for health and strength to keep up with all their commitments.

Prayer points:

- David is needing further investigations for pain in his newly implanted hip.
- Harvey (young man with a brain tumour) has had a sudden relapse and his condition is deteriorating rapidly, nothing more can be done medically.
- The mountains of rubbish accumulating due to lack of council workers, some have not been paid, that the Government will intervene.
- And most importantly that the local people will respond to the gospel.

Pat Dalgleish

SPBC contact for the Macpac

...inspired...

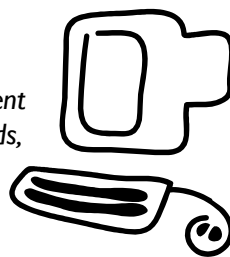
Talk to Pat about finding out more about the MacFarlanes and their work with BMS or check out their page on the BMS website at www.bmsworldmission.org/admacfarlane



...informed...

For details of service times, locations, Mission Communities, small groups, children's work, student events, our vision and structure, sermon downloads, the church blog, the weekly notice sheet and much much more, go to the church website:

www.spbc.org.uk



Pleasure Tunes

Sacred Harp comes to South Parade

*Now shall my inward joys arise,
And burst into a Song;
Almighty Love inspires my Heart,
And Pleasure tunes my Tongue.*

The above lines by Isaac Watts (from the hymn *Africa*, 178 in the Sacred Harp

hymn book) could have been written as a description of Sacred Harp music, a thrilling and vibrant hymn-singing tradition from the Southern states of the USA. On Saturday 29 June South Parade will be hosting its first “Sacred Harp singing”.

Sacred Harp singing dates back approximately two centuries, and is always sung unaccompanied. The music is from a folk tradition, and its exhilarating harmonies have a sometimes strident freshness that owes little to the teachings of conventional music theory. Subtlety and nuance are not part

of the style, but the compelling beauty of the tunes and the magnificent words they support draw a growing body of enthusiasts - believers and those who simply love the music - many times a year for “singings” all over the UK.

*The compelling beauty
of the tunes and the
magnificent words
draw a growing body
of enthusiasts*

The typical Sacred Harp “day” begins with a singing school, introducing beginner and veteran singer alike to some of the peculiarities of the style. Ability to sight-read is helpful but by no means essential, and there are always enough people who know what they’re doing to support even the most unsure.



By the end of the day somewhere between 60 and 80 hymns will have been sung, a prodigious quantity of food will have been consumed (bring a dish to share as well as your voice) and a unique act of praise and fellowship will have been completed.

Have a listen to some of the many examples of the tradition you can find on YouTube, and come along on the day and help make the first Sacred Harp singing at South Parade a success.

John Copperwheat

Headingley Morning Mission Community

Fa ▾ Sol ● La ■ Fa ▾ Sol ● La ■ Mi ◆ Fa ▾

...informed...

Leeds Sacred Harp Singing
Saturday 29 June 2013
10.30am – 4pm

- *Come, enjoy singing and hearing the vibrant harmonies*
- *Morning Singing School with Cath Tyler and Michael Walker*
- *No experience necessary*
- *All are 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*

Further information can be obtained from John and Arja Copperwheat (Headingley Morning Mission Community) or from Chris Brown & Judy Whiting



*Christianity helps us face the music
even when we don't like the tune.*

Phillips Brooks

Consider the Lilies

The Flower Team

When Margaret Galliford was 15 she started training in a florists shop: Margaret Copley of South Parade Baptist Church heard about it and invited her to join the rota for arranging the church flowers. That was more years ago now than Margaret cares to remember...

The Flower Team at Headingley is small but talented: comprising Margaret Galliford, Jane Hepworth and Margaret Chambers and those of us who attend the services at Headingley on Sundays are blessed with beautiful flower displays, as part of our worship to God.

But that is not the whole story; after the evening service Margaret Gale and Joan Spivey disassemble the arrangement and make up bouquets which they distribute. Sometimes this is to folks who attend the evening service but they also take bouquets to people we know at Headingley Hall and Corinthian House, Lower Wortley. And there are others that

Margaret and Joan visit regularly who might be poorly or housebound and would be encouraged to receive some flowers.

The church pays for these flowers but if you would like to commemorate a special occasion such as an anniversary, celebrate a reason for thankfulness or make an act of remembrance then

Margaret Galliford would be happy to make that Sunday's arrangement in particular colours, or flowers if in season, for a specific donation given directly to her.

Both the flower arranging and the distributing bouquets were duties taken over from Margaret Copley some time ago so the team would welcome new members – and you don't have to be called Margaret to join!

Gemma Eastwood

Church Administrator



Weekly Prayer Diary



June - July 2013

“When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

Matthew 6.6 (NIV)

2 June

Brian Nicholls
Heather McLeen
Children's and Youth work
Steve and Ismay in Tunisia
Rosemary Stirk
Cafe Church

9 June

SENT Mission Community
Claire Ginn
Work among students
Adrian Howe, Church Treasurer
and the Finance Team
David Morris and his retirement
service at Cambridge
The persecuted church
throughout the world
Your neighbours

16 June

Headingley Morning
Mission Community
Geoff King
The Retired Persons' Fellowship
Those who can't get to
church on a Sunday any more
Caroline Brown

Pull out and use!

23 June

Paul Rockley
Adel Mission Community
The church meeting this week
Couples getting married
this summer
Dave Bartram
Your small group and its leader
Karl Martin (Edinburgh)
Andrew Goldsmith (Ruislip)
Irene

30 June

Connect Mission Community
The Under 5s work
Kate Burkett
Teddy Praise this week
Colin and Jill Jones and the
project in Lisieux, Normandy
St George's Crypt
CAP and our plans for a Debt
Centre
Jane Waites in Albania

*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.*



7 July

Cragg Mission Community
Geoff Greer, Church Secretary
Someone you know
who doesn't know Jesus
The Arabic Christian Fellowship
Nathan Shipley (see page 5)
Richard Pollard (Bristol)
Matthew Wright
David and Ann Macfarlane
Ed Preston, UCCF and local
Christian Unions

14 July

Gemma Eastwood
Church Office
The deacons
Other local churches
The Baptist Union, Jonathan
Edwards (General Secretary)
and Lyn Green (see page 35)
The Green House
Chris and Dorothy Gnanakan
and the work of OTAN
Street Angels in Headingley
Matthew Rowe

21 July

The Monday meeting
Joanna Project
Diane Horsley
The work of TLG and the Early
Intervention Centres
Those in hospital
ABC Coffee Shop
John Gleghorn (Bingley)
Nick Cook (Market Harborough)
Gaynor Hammond

28 July

Cafe Church at Holt Park
Church@LittleLondon
Lawrence Cockrill
Judith Briggs
Rooted
Leeds City Mission
Jayne Godfrey in Bratislava
Dan Mcleod (Surrey)
Levi Booth

Come Prepared

Preaching Themes and Readings

Date	Morning Services	Evening Service
2 June	Romans 9 In the Potter's hands	Mark 9 A troubling vision of glory
9 June	Romans 10 How will they hear	Mark 10 The Servant King
16 June	Romans 11 All in God's good time	Mark 11 Nothing but leaves
23 June	Romans 12 Therefore... Everyday discipleship	Mark 12 The Big Commandment
30 June	Romans 13 Those "blessed" Romans	Mark 13 The unknown hour
7 July	Romans 14 Living with diversity	Mark 14 The Lord's Supper
14 July	Romans 15 Personal obligations	Mark 15 The wrong choice
21 July	Romans 16 Many expressions of church, one foundation	Mark 16 Accompanying signs

"Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back - whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping."

Mark 13.35-6 (NIV) (30 June)

Constitution Acts

Time to Reflect

At the meeting of the Elders and Ministry Team in April a few of us recognised that we could not honestly say we always live out these principles outlined in the church constitution. We wondered if other members also recognised this in themselves?

BELONGING TO THE CHURCH

6.1. In response to God's grace and mercy, the responsibilities of membership include:

- to live a life consistent with the Gospel and worthy of our high calling in Christ Jesus our Lord;
- to spend some time every day in prayer and reading of the Scriptures;
- to share regularly, unless unavoidably prevented, in the corporate worship of the Church, and to be regular and faithful in the observance of the Lord's supper;
- to fulfil the ministry of intercession

both privately and by being present wherever possible at meetings for corporate prayer;

- to live in loyal love and fellowship with all the other members of the Church;
- to take some part in the work of the Church according to our calling, gifts and opportunities;
- to accept personal responsibility for the government of the local Church

by being present, whenever possible, at the meetings of the Church;

- to give regular financial support to the

Church in proportion to personal resources and circumstances;

- to attempt, by personal invitation, hospitality and visitation to bring others to the Church;
- to witness to the Lord Jesus Christ by word and deed, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.



The Ministry Team

Step of Faith

What Kind of Love is This?

South Parade member Sue Brady shares her recent experience of resting in God's love during a time of grief.

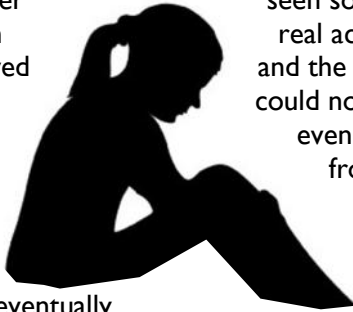
On 22 January this year my mother died. She had just spent four days with Ron (my husband) and myself as she did most weeks and as far as we knew everything was normal. Ron took her home on the Sunday as usual and I said I would ring her later in the week but on Monday teatime I received a phone call saying she had collapsed and was being taken to hospital. She had a ruptured aortic aneurism (burst major blood vessel) from which she eventually died at 5.45am on Tuesday morning.

To say I was shocked is an understatement. I felt as though everything was unreal and I was walking through a thick fog: nothing made sense. It felt as if a huge part

of me had been ripped out, the pain was almost unbearable.

As I cried out to God in my pain I felt as though I was drowning in my sorrow and didn't know how to get relief. Every day I found myself going over the events of the weekend she had spent with us. Had I missed something? Had she been feeling ill? If so why hadn't I noticed? As a nurse, should I have seen something? These were real accusations in my mind and the guilt piled on until I could not sleep properly or even divert my mind away from the thoughts.

I found attending services in church very hard and a few times either ended up in tears or had to leave early. One time that was especially hard was an evening when Ron came with me. I was fine until the last hymn, How Great Thou Art. This had been one of the hymns at mum's funeral. Well, Ron



loves this hymn and was belting it out at the top of his voice totally oblivious to the fact that I was in bits next to him and all he said was "I enjoyed that, it's a good hymn" and him, someone who does not believe!

*God comforted me
and eased my pain
with a love that was
far deeper than
anything I have
experienced before*

But God heard my cry and provided comfort in many ways. I received many cards, texts, emails, telephone calls and visits from people who I am sure didn't really know what to say, but just allowed me to share and cry. I am so thankful to God for prompting people and to everyone who responded and supported me in this way.



There is one thing though that I really want to share and that is how God enveloped me in His deep love. He comforted me and eased my pain with a love that I can only say was far deeper than anything I have experienced before. During the many times that I sobbed before the Lord a gentle calmness would slowly wash over me. One time I was telling Him how much I hurt and didn't know how I could find the strength to go on, I suddenly noticed the little *Footprints* story on the desk in front of me, telling me that it was at these very times when the Lord was in fact carrying me.

So why do I feel the need to share?

I want to share because I am sure there are many other people who have either gone through or are going through similar feelings of loss as those I experienced, or who are suffering in some other way and I want them to know that, "God loves you" in just the same way that He loves me and He will "carry you" as and when you need Him too.

The second thing I want to share is that God has reminded me that His love is not for holding on to, it is for sharing.

Jesus tells us, as He told His disciples, that we are to love one another as He has loved us. The

greatest love we can ever show is to lay down our lives for each other, in other words, put aside self and selfish thoughts and deeds.

Please understand, these are the thoughts that God has given to me and has been speaking into my heart and I recognise that they may or may not be for everyone who is reading this at this time.

To finish I would like to pray the words Paul prayed for the Ephesians:

"I pray that out of His glorious

riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all fullness of God." Amen.

Sue Brady

...inspired...

If you want to share part of your spiritual journey for the "Step of Faith" column to encourage others, email magazine@spbc.org.uk

"I now know that the darkest times are yet to come, but for now I shall live to find the diamonds of joy that each day brings. God has brought me through this far and I have no reason to believe that He won't continue to drag me through, albeit kicking and screaming, what is to come. If there is one thing I've learned this cycle, it is that no matter how desperate life gets, it is God who is in control. What is more, the safest place to be is under His wing so that is where I will stay."

Stari Gunarathne, from her blog, *Finding the Anchor in the Storm* at iwontbewanting.blogspot.co.uk



A Week in Kolkata

Judith Briggs travelled with five others to Kolkata for a week at the beginning of April to meet BMS partners. They hope to work together with them in the future to give Jesus LIFE:style trainees a life-changing experience of mission that will enrich their discipleship.

You may have read a “Rough Guide” to Kolkata, seen images on TV or flicked through a BMS *Engage* magazine, so that the sights of this Indian city may not surprise you. But nothing can prepare you for the actual experience of the place: inescapable heat, continuous noise, crowds of people and crazy traffic. No-one much wears seat belts. India has one of the highest global death rates from road traffic accidents. Once out of the airport we soon saw why!

We stayed in the BMS guesthouse in the heart of the city - an oasis of calm - and went by all sorts of transport (scary and hilarious in equal measure!) to visit projects and make connections with people. When all our comfort zones were

breached we found we saw far more than we usually do.

India is a land of extremes: of wealth and poverty, of wonderful food and under-nourished people, of great learning and ignorance, of natural beauty and man-made rubbish, of corruption and innocence, of splendour and squalor.

In and amongst all this we became aware of people building for the kingdom of God. They are doing this in various ways.

Church planting in rural West Bengal with Big Life ministries

(headed up by Ben Francis, who seems out of a similar mould to Chris Gnanakan!) We shared our baptism stories and then witnessed the baptisms of seven people, both women and men. Four of them had converted from a Muslim background. Their conversion is costly. We had to keep quiet because there had been trouble in the village on the previous night. It's most likely that their families will disown them and that they will find it hard to get work. Their lives might even be in danger. They were all determined to go through

with it, nonetheless. In baptism we identify with Jesus' death to his will and trust in God's will. Our brothers' and sisters' earnest desire to do this was humbling and inspiring.

Medical Missions in West

Bengal. We witnessed primary healthcare in action. Two of our team dispensed vitamins, calcium and some antibiotics following a doctor's examination of a whole queue of people, mainly women and children. Most of these children suffer skin and bone diseases because of poor nutrition. How do you begin to address such a massive need? Well, you just have to start. The doctor preached and prayed for healing, as well. This work whilst financially cheap is personally costly. This is hostile territory.



Judith (front right) and the team in Kolkata

*We came back fizzing
with energy because of
the experience of the
unstoppable power
and love of God*

Women especially face deep opposition from their families if they choose to convert. We heard of one converted wife whose husband was about to slit her throat until he asked himself why she was not afraid to die for this Jesus. He soon trusted Jesus himself. But there are many stories with sad endings too.

Freeset jute bag and T-shirt enterprise in the red light district of Kolkata. Annie and Kerry, NZ Baptists began Freeset

13 years ago. It employs around 200 women, all of whom worked in prostitution before. We were shown round this small-scale craft venture that gives not only work but friendship, healthcare, solidarity, literacy classes, dignity, crèche facilities and the possibility of new life in Jesus Christ.

It's estimated that there are 10,000 prostitutes in the 1 square km around

the Freeset works. The scale of the need is huge. Without Freeset and other similar small-scale initiatives, these women have no option but to earn their bread in this way.

98% of these women have chronic health care issues: STDs, HIV, respiratory diseases and emotional trauma are common. There is opposition to this work, too. It may take years for some women to pluck up enough courage to go to the Freeset training programme.

Going to Kolkata was a challenging experience. We were challenged by the faith of our Christian brothers and sisters engaged in difficult and dangerous work. We were challenged by their high expectations of God to meet their need and to multiply the tiny dent they can make in the huge mountain of need all around them. We were challenged by the spiritually fertile

soil of the India we saw and we came back not despairing at the needs or overwhelmed by the problems, but fizzing with energy.

Why was that? It was because of the faithful service of determined believers, because of the connections we made and the friendships we began but also because what we experienced was the unstoppable power and love of God: the God whom we love and trust too.



When you are out of your comfort zone, it's possible to see and hear your own calling more clearly than you might ever do back home, like we did.

I hope to show my India slides at Cragg some time in June. There will be an opportunity at that time to give to BMS work with Big Life ministries. I do hope you will be able to come.

Judith Briggs

...involved...

Ask Judith about Jesus LIFE:Style: a programme of mentoring, mission training and reflection, plus mission in Kolkata or in one of your Mission Community's partner countries.

Missional Biscuits

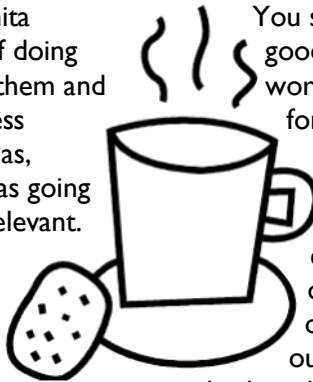
God At Work

Anita worked for a pharmaceuticals company. She and her fellow scientists would come to work each morning and shuffle off to their individual cubicles to carry out important research. And then in the evening they would shuffle out again and go home.

It wasn't long before Anita realised that this way of doing things wasn't good for them and wasn't good for the business either....nobody shared ideas, nobody knew what else was going on that could have been relevant. There was no team work.

So Anita decided to try to change things. She performed an experiment to see how many scientists would come out of their cubicles if offered freshly brewed coffee and chocolate biscuits at 11am on a Friday. And she discovered that 97 per cent of scientists would indeed emerge... and they started to talk to each other... and discovered that they could help each other with ideas and techniques.

Who would have thought that chocolate biscuits could be an instrument of the Kingdom? But they were for Anita. Through those biscuits and coffee she released relational wellbeing amongst her colleagues, and it was good not only for them but for the business as well.



You see, the gospel really is good news not just for our working colleagues but also for our work and workplaces. When we work, we can reflect our working God who created beauty and order, gave us a means of providing for ourselves, our families and others less fortunate, and a way to release the huge potential that lies in people and the world around us.

And as we work we can join in with God's bigger mission: to help fix what was broken when we decided to go our own way in that first workplace, Eden. We don't need to leave God at the door when we go

to work. We can be those who shape the world on God's behalf as we work and be shaped by him through our work.

*Who would have thought
that chocolate biscuits
could be an instrument
of the Kingdom?*

Sometimes though we need help to see what being a disciple of Christ looks like in a world of work that can seem so remote from our church community. Well here's a framework that could help you work it through. We call it "7Ms". Ask yourself these questions:

With God's help, how could I...

- **Make good work?** – doing good work intentionally for the Lord: your best with his help
- **Model godly character?** – how might we manifest the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control?
- **Minister grace and love?** – the way we work, the way we set up a meeting, the way we do an appraisal, with the other person's interests at heart.
- **Make culture?** – how are things done in your workplace? Is there

anything you could do to help change them for the better?

- **Make learners of Jesus' ways?** – how could you show others what Jesus is like by what you do or how you do it, so that they see it's good and join in?
- **Be a Mouthpiece for truth and justice?** – speaking up for what is true and just, or against what is unfair or unhealthy.
- **Be a Mouthpiece for the gospel?** – praying and being prepared for the opportunity to share something of what Jesus has done in your life.

Clearly we can't do all these at once... we need discernment as well.

Ask God for eyes to see what you're already doing... and be encouraged.

Ask God for eyes to see what you might do... and be courageous.

Remember this doesn't need to be complicated – eyes to see and a packet of biscuits could be enough!

Charles Hippsley

Director of the LICC Work Forum,
www.licc.org.uk/work-forum
Reproduced with permission from OMF's
Billions magazine May 2013,
www.omf.org.uk.

Questions

Real People?

Brian in his weekly notes asks, “How can we in our time capture the excitement of those who heard the gospel in the early days of the church?” Is one answer to try to capture more about the life of the man or woman called by God to be prophetic or to bear witness to the Gospel of Redemption?

We could read the epistle from the universally acknowledged leader of the Jerusalem church and test our understanding of the Gospel comments on the family of Jesus. Was he the man widely known as James the Just? Or we could read Habakkuk and ask how his prophetic vision was formed by his time. How do we interpret it in the knowledge of the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Suppose John told his gospel to listeners one of whom wrote it down. Did this teenager remember his tumultuous years with Jesus and vividly share it with his disciples twenty or thirty years later? There is no reason why it cannot be true. Can you feel the sense in which John could describe himself as the disciple whom Jesus loved?

For centuries the greater part of the Epistles was attributed to Paul with little understanding of his life and background. On the road to Damascus, Saul, Pharisee of the Pharisees could not escape from his formal lawyer’s role. It was not God’s purpose that he should. He would need that background. For decades many Christians were Judeans or Greek speakers widely dispersed in Asia. They were under pressure from established Jewish culture in many cities. Paul as minister to the Gentiles had an almost impossible task of honouring Jewish faithfulness to the Creator Yahweh and insisting on the continuity of the new worship of Jesus as Lord with the fulfilment of the law. He needed all the skills in



argument that he acquired in the courts. The conflict of law and grace would be a struggle for both Jew and Gentile.

Paul's letters are more readily understood as being directed to churches with particular histories and problems

Paul presents his credentials to the church in Rome “that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith” (1.2). The economy and directness of chapters 1 and 2 are very obvious. The seven verses from 1.16 contrast the evidence of God the Creator with pagan beliefs, followed by the consequences of not acknowledging God. The seven verses from 2.12 show his skills in debate and end with the nature of God’s judgement. In eight verses of Chapter 3, Paul finds six Old Testament references to confirm his claims for his Jesus gospel. It does not take much effort to bridge twenty centuries to find today’s parallels.

For some decades we have had the benefit of studies in first century Jewish culture in books by Tom Wright and others. We are urged to see justification and righteousness in court language. If we are charged with sin by the law, the judge delivers a not guilty verdict for those who by faith say Jesus is Lord and accept God’s righteousness given to us by Grace.

Although we sin we are reconciled to God and at one with him by the unmerited forgiveness of the father for those of faith who truly repent of their sins. The repetitive and often dense language is more relevant when we recognise the purpose of Paul’s writings and to whom they were directed. All Pauline Epistles are more readily understood as being directed to churches with particular histories and problems. By trying to envisage who they were and their challenges, can we see more relevance to our life and times?

Cyril Snell

Headingley Morning Mission Community

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.

Romans 1.16 (NIV)

Church Noticeboard

Leading the Jesus Way

From this autumn several local Baptist churches are teaming up with the Yorkshire Baptist Association to provide a good quality learning programme for people who are motivated to go a little deeper. This may be simply the desire for study and reflection, it may be related to a specific leadership role or be part of exploring a call to further training or Christian ministry. It's the kind of thing that would suit would-be leadership team members, small group leaders, preachers, deacons and elders.



Using nationally-known speakers, the course will run on the second Saturday of each month. People can attend one-off sessions or sign up for the whole series, in which case they will be provided with additional support, including a tutorial group, mentoring, and a tool box of resources. More publicity will be available soon. If you are interested and want to know more, please talk with Brian Nicholls.

The Leeds Arabic Christian Fellowship...

...meets in the Green House every Sunday from 3.30pm. Guests are always welcome to join them for all or part of their meetings and translation is available.



Don't Forget

The June church meeting:
Headingley,
Thursday 27
June, 7.30pm.



Wedding Bells...

Congratulations and Best Wishes to everyone who's getting married this summer, especially Rachel Greer and Tri Wangrangsimakul (6 July) and John Gannon and Rachel Nelson (27 July)!

New Baptist General Secretary



The Rev **Lynn Green** has been appointed as General Secretary of the Baptist Union, taking up the new role in September 2013. Lynn is well known to many within the Union and is currently a Regional Minister with the Southern Counties Baptist Association team. Previously she served as Minister at Wokingham Baptist Church. Lynn is excited by God's call to this ministry and as she looks

forward to serving our Union in this new role of General Secretary, she outlines her vision.

"My vision is to see *our* vision and values become reality...

Our 5 Core Values – being prophetic, inclusive, sacrificial, missionary and worshipping communities – must be reflected in our life together. I am committed to holding us all accountable to these values in our life together and in our engagement with the world."

Read more about Lynn at www.baptist.org.uk and pray for her as she takes up the role, and for Jonathan Edwards, the outgoing General Secretary.



Why not visit our new Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SPBaptistChurch ?

Good Book?

Paul Rockley and John Lockwood are relaunching the Church Library. Tell us about a book that changed your life or has made a difference in your walk with God. Email paul@spbc.org.uk with the details.



Your group featured here!

To add something to the August *Intouch* Church Noticeboard email magazine@spbc.org.uk

South Parade in Numbers

Part Two

Welcome!

16

New **members** in the last 12 months

400

Customers at the ABC Coffee Shop in an average week



£1.20

For a slice of homemade **cake**

Redmire 2013:

39 kids

19 leaders

1 baptism and about

8 hours' sleep!



242

New visitors to the SPBC **website** in the last month



£464.62

The amount of **tax** claimed back so far since the introduction of the new Gift Aided Small Donations Scheme in April.

giftaid it



12*

Rounds of Rock Paper Scissors it took **Nathan Shipley** to beat the whole congregation when he led the All-Age part of the service at Headingley in May.

* roughly. I lost count.



20

Children come to **cell groups**

7

Other **churches**
use our buildings
for worship and
meetings



21



The number of members
we're still trying to confirm
email addresses for across
the mission communities.
Could one of them be you?

45

Number of days **Paul Rockley** was
minister of South Parade before
being approved as a church member

16

People **baptized** in the River Aire in 1779 who formed the church
that became SPBC. Still going strong 234 years later.

If you have a
number for
South Parade in
Numbers
email
magazine@
spbc.org.uk

CAKE OR DEATH

by alex baker

Q23: WHAT DOES GOD
HAVE IN HIS HANDS?



a) THE WHOLE
WORLD

OR



b) A COLD
BIRD

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

For more "Cake or Death" cartoons
by Alex Baker visit:
cakeordeathcartoon.wordpress.com

Time Now to Sow for the Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant:

Three rows of peas:

peace of mind

peace of heart

peace of soul



Three rows of squash:

squash gossip

squash grumbling

squash selfishness

Three rows of lettuce:

lettuce be faithful

lettuce be patient

lettuce really love one another

A garden should always have some thyme:

thyme for each other

thyme for family

thyme for friends



**Water frequently with patience
and cultivate with love.**

You reap what you sow!

Anonymous, thanks to Pam Roe for passing this on.

*“If Jesus isn’t at the centre of the church,
we are simply the Rotary Club with a pointy roof.”*

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
Church Times, 17 May 2013



*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
Children's Worker
Church Worker
Administration Manager
Student Worker
Under 5s Co-ordinator

David Bartram
Heather McLeen
Geoff King
Gemma Eastwood
Lawrence Cockrill
Kate Burkett

Elders

Judith Briggs
Adam Clayton, Claire Ginn,
Geoff Greer (Church Secretary),
Adrian Howe (Church Treasurer)
John Pelham, Rosemary Stirik

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

0113 275 4989
www.spbc.org.uk
gemma@spbc.org.uk

“



I will pour out my Spirit on all people

”

Joel 2.28 (NIV)

intouch

SOUTH PARADE
BAPTIST CHURCH
Building Community in Christ