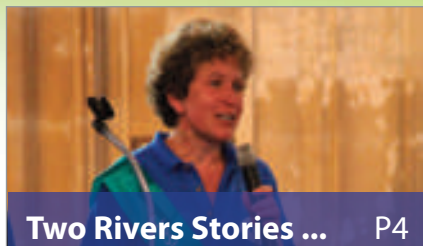


# NEWSLETTER



**George Martin, TFM's chair of trustees, is holding the fort between the time of John Hibberd leaving and Richard Scott starting in September.**

## GEORGE WRITES ...

Dear Fellow workers for the Gospel

As you know we must be ready in season and out to give a reason for our faith. And as you know especially on mission we are always praying for open hearts and open doors. So let me tell you what happened to us in Haverhill during the Two Rivers mission.

Bill Thompson and I volunteered on the Wednesday lunchtime to go to a hot potato session at the 'Next Door' cafe by the Methodist church. We finished doing door to door at 12:15 and we walked to the cafe to hear Peter Adams. Bill hadn't heard Peter speak before but I had and I told him that Peter was especially good at his talks on hot potato topics. When we got there we were each offered a cup of coffee and a cold meat salad. (first bells began to ring!) I then asked Pat and Joyce who were helping at the cafe what time they expected Peter to arrive. They said he's not coming. (second bells ring!) I then asked who was doing the talk and Joyce said there are two men coming from your team. (third bells ring and mild panic arrives) I said to Bill "We're on! Can you do your testimony and I'll do a short talk" (not hot potato). There were two rooms divided by a thin partition and the entrance door opened so that you saw the end of the partition and both rooms as you walked in. Bill gave his very inspiring and moving testimony first and then I stood up in the doorway and told them that in this room there were some special people who God loved

and I was going to shake hands with them. I then shook hands with everyone in the room whilst looking them in the eye and saying God loves you. I then returned to the doorway with my back to the door and continued my talk. Thirty seconds later a very, very deaf old man opened the door, knocked me on the back and nudged me into the partition. Completely ignoring me, he then shouted "I'm deaf I've come for a coffee". He sat down in the corner, unaware of what was going on. I continued with my talk and as you know God can work through anybody and anything, because at the end twelve people gave their lives to Christ (two of whom were in tears of joy).

When we do what is possible for us to do, even though it is a little nerve -wracking, then God can do the impossible.

I look forward to seeing you on missions over the next few months as we go forward under Richard's leadership, which starts on 1 September.

I know I keep saying this but please keep praying for us all and for the opportunity for you to invite and bring a new person with you on one of the missions in the next twelve months.

Your brother in Christ,  
George



## A word from Richard Scott ...

Richard Scott, newly appointed as leader of TFM (starting in September), gave an introductory address at the annual TFM Prayer Partners' Conference. An abbreviated version follows ...

"Today is an exciting day. We celebrate Dan's milestone, hardly believable as I remember him on my first day in 1999 when he was only slightly older than I am now. And we commemorate John leaving. It's been a long time coming, but joking aside, I'm truly sorry that I won't be working with my good friend as staff colleagues. But John, you can't hide and I hope to work with you again someday.

It's a shock standing here this morning, but a good example of being careful what you pray for! For a few years, I've asked the Lord to make me more significant in this nation, but didn't predict His response. I wouldn't have chosen to allow the General Medical Council case to take place, but it allowed public debate on freedom of speech and spirituality at work and ultimately a book, entitled "Christians in the Firing Line."

### being careful what you pray for

God also allowed cancer of the bowel to develop, which resulted in public support, prayer and a second book, "God — I've got Cancer", based on statistics I'd gleaned on faith benefitting health. But I still wanted to do more and my wife, Heather, kept saying I was "an evangelist masquerading as a GP!" But WHAT to do?

Three years ago, I was flabbergasted when Dan asked me to become a trustee. Then, when John resigned, my first thought of "Oh no — not him" was rapidly followed by "that's what I've been praying for." After exploring the post for 2 months, I'm delighted now to be following in his esteemed footsteps. Like I say, be careful what you pray for.

How does it feel to replace a living legend? Christianity



magazine's new editor, Justin Brierley, wrote an article recently on the challenge he faced. The magazine was already strong, engaging and appealing. Like him, I am building on strong foundations and like his magazine, we too are uniquely positioned between church and society. And like his readership, I too want you all to be involved in TFM's future.

Like many of you, I was part of the 2 Rivers Mission. Not leading a team, I was able to travel around, learning from the evangelists and joining in where possible. One lady in Bures said that my arrival was like Ofsted! That wasn't the idea — I was there to listen, not judge, for as Justin said, there will be hard, costly decisions ahead as we must remain both biblical and relevant over the next decade and a half.

### I am building on strong foundations

Dan has been a spiritual father to me and I've enjoyed working with John in Cumbria, Lincoln, Wales, Kenya and on 2 Rivers. They've birthed and developed TFM and the recent mission shows that the walks still work. My personal highlights include the 430 people attending the Easter Monday event in Sudbury, a lady healed after a Hot Potato lunch, seeing disruptive youngsters at a Night of Colour all responding to the message and helping Lindsay — the man carrying a cross — lead a lady to Christ in her red bus café.

How good is God!"



**Richard Scott**

T 01954 210239

E richard@throughfaithmissions.org



## Roger writes...

I have led three main missions in the few months;

In Glengormley Methodist Church, Belfast the events were well attended in a Gospel hardened area. However there were around 70 responses, many new Christians – some key men coming to faith. Some lovely stories are emerging and Sunday morning was special with 'the Spirit' descending and some responding in tears coming out to the front. We also managed to get into the primary schools for 30 min assemblies and also into the High School to take 8 lessons all day for the RE department. They are matching up mentors to the new Christians, and running an Alpha course.

I had a good chat with a barrister on the plane home. He was working for the Crown Prosecution Service and had a number of cases in the London law courts. He was fascinated by my faith story and others and was genuinely moved. As we left the plane for the bus a stewardess ran over with a pair of glasses and they were his – he thought he had lost them in the airport. He said it was amazing that had he had his glasses he would have read his case papers on the plane and not talked to me, declaring that God must have been in this meeting – he took some leaflets and I did not have to say anymore!!

David Culhane and I give thanks for a really good mission in the Crays with over 150 responses to the Lord. The 6 churches



worked together well despite much opposition with illness striking many leaders of events. All the events were well attended with high numbers of non-Christians coming along and we had responses at every event. The follow up went well and they are planning further events together.

I joined the Two Rivers Mission and had some good responses, around 30 in Hadleigh and Manningtree, especially the Hog Roast at Manningtree on the Sunday with around 10 adults making a response to Christ. Recently I joined Jonathan Mortimer for an outreach weekend at All Saints Peckham, speaking at an event on Saturday night in a local community centre, and preaching in church on Sunday morning. It was a very fruitful time with around 25 responses to Christ which Jonathan is following up with a basics course. I also led a 6 church mission in Devonport which is a tough docks area with much deprivation. We had a TFM team and saw around 50 responses to Christ and the churches are running two follow up courses.

On the home front, we have survived the winter storms and are settling into Seaford on the South Coast. Jill has got a job as a Family worker, with our local church outreach charity, to local families in Seaford and is really enjoying it. We are also celebrating the birth of our granddaughter Annabelle, born three months prematurely but she has battled through and we are looking forward to going out to Canada to see her.

### Roger's Diary

20-28 September Southam Deanery Mission –  
18 churches in 5 areas  
11-19 October Darby Green mission  
27-29 October Youth Outreach, Seaford

Yours in Christ  
Roger



**Roger Murphy**

T 01325 891232

E [roger@throughfaithmissions.org](mailto:roger@throughfaithmissions.org)

## John Hibberd starts his new job

John Hibberd, who until recently was senior evangelist with TFM, has been licensed by the Bishop of Sheffield into his new role as Mission Development Advisor for Sheffield and Rotherham. The licensing, which took place on 18 May at Sheffield Cathedral, was the final part of the outcome from the Diocese's recent Central Services review. John will be part of a new team tasked with supporting and enabling parishes and providing leadership for the Diocese in mission planning, transforming communities, faith and justice, mission partnership, children and young people and stewardship.

Please pray for John and his wife Sue as he settles into this important new role and as they settle into their new home and church.



## STORIES from the Two Rivers Mission ...



We really appreciated the warm love and hospitality shown to us throughout the week. We experienced God's presence with us and it was a joy to work in harmony together.

We all learnt something and are very grateful to God for being at work amongst us.



People coming to faith on doors, and yesterday a lady was spoken to in a shop and made her commitment on the pavement! Praise The Lord.

A 'Grill-a-Vicar' session drew a group of men who had planned their attack in great detail. They softened visibly through the evening and are open to further discussion.



We ate like kings, we prayed together and we reached out and blessed our community. It was a catalyst for making things happen that we had prayed for and discussed for so long as a church.



On Saturday Evening 50 people came to the 'Hot Potato Evening' and asked John Hibberd a very wide variety of questions ... We had a job bringing it to a close – it seemed that people could have gone on asking questions all night!







The team based at Colchester was blessed in seeing 10 people coming to Christ on the doors, notably the salvations of 2 strong men, a paratrooper and a military policeman. Praise God for strong men who bow the knee to King Jesus.



A community fun day expected 80-90. 450 came!

We had very many good conversations, and many that we spoke to said that yes they would like to know God personally!



At the service on the last Sunday there were a good number of new commitments made and many re-commitments. A great end to a great week.



What great encouragement we received from our four days of mission with the Through Faith Mission team. It was hard work but so rewarding.

The quality of the questions from these young children was extraordinary. The children were quiet and attentive, the staff supportive and, for me, there was a sense of the Holy Spirit at work in that place.



# Prayer Partners' Conference 2014 - 14 June

This year's Prayer Partners' Conference took on a slightly different format from usual. It was held for the second year running at Great Shelford Free Church near Cambridge which provided an excellent venue and this year we were pleased that over 130 TFM supporters were able to join us. As well as the team reporting back on the work of TFM over the last year, we said good bye to John Hibberd who, in his leaving address, reminded us with his chosen text of Nehemiah 1, that the 'landscape' in this country had changed and the church and TFM must evolve to meet the challenge of evangelising and discipling within this new culture. We also welcomed Richard Scott, who will take over John's role in TFM from September. Richard gave us a brief testimony and some early thoughts on the future of TFM, we have included an abbreviated text of Richard's talk elsewhere in this newsletter.

The afternoon was a celebration of Daniel Cozens ministry as this year he is 70. It opened with George Martin reading out some encouraging words about Daniel's life from Peter Adams, who has worked closely with Daniel from the early days of TFM. Sadly Peter could not be there as he was recovering from a recent operation. Daniel spoke on his life and ministry under the heading 'This wonderful life'.



He shared many of the ways God had led and guided him through nearly 45 years of ministry. "Everywhere I've been I have boasted about our Prayer Partners. I think we've been the envy of other ministries when I describe the steadfastness, generosity and effectiveness of the TFM'ers. Although you are in the background, so



to speak, I have been aware of you during the whole of this long ministry. For many years we have mailed four to five thousand of you (even up to 6,000 in the earlier days) - that volume of intercession has got to make a difference! Now, together, let us make a difference in the future!" The day was rounded off by sharing tea and cake together kindly supplied by Daniel and Gillie.

Daniel received a number of cards and words of encouragement for his 70th birthday. Here are two of those:

"The formation of the E.A. (in Craigavon) was and is one of the greatest blessings that I have known in my life. Like-minded brothers and sisters, bonded together with one desire, to see many won for the Saviour. This work, over in N. Ireland, is going from strength to strength and I want you and all TFM to be aware that this has only happened by the Lord's doing and your faithfulness."

"I am pleased to say that the work and passion for evangelism is continuing to grow in our local communities today, run by Craigavon Evangelists' Association."

Pictures from the day and audio recordings of all the talks given can be found on the TFM website.

## Future Missions

With the Two Rivers mission only just completed we are already planning for future missions:

In September this year from the 21st to 28th we will be joining with the Deanery of Southend in Essex to help run a week long mission entitled 'Hope-on-Sea'. We will require a small team for this mission so if you are interested in taking part please contact the TFM office. We will also be joining Southam Deanery for a mission from 20 to 28 September.

In 2015 our main mission may be the Wirral 15 to 31 May. Plans are still being finalised and full details will be published shortly on the TFM website and in our newsletters. Please

watch out for the information and prayerfully consider if you should join us on the mission.

**HOPE**  
Together for Wirral

### Other missions for 2015 include:

Camberley and Frimley 1 to 9 May

Congleton 2 to 10 May

Leamington Spa 30 May to 7 June



TFM have a stand at the University and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) Conference 'Forum' in September.



# A CELEBRATION OF THE TWO RIVERS MISSION – 3 to 18 MAY 2014 by Peter Adams

To conclude my 29 years as a staff member of TFM with the Two Rivers Mission has been a great joy. Working side by side with Dan, as at the beginning, and collaborating with John and Roger could not be a better way of celebrating this wonderful ministry, along with two other most worthy men – Keith Massey, Dan's buddy, and Tony Horne my buddy. Behind it all has been the administration and publicity of David Baslington and Mike Watts, and the special participation of George Martin, chair of the trustees. May there be grateful thanks to our Lord God.

Along both rivers – the Colne and the Stour – were sixteen mission centres, involving forty-six inviting churches. We were able to recruit 155 team members, and although I am currently waiting for reports from a good number of the churches, those that have responded are full of thanksgiving and praise. Here are some typical remarks, "The TFM team were a great joy and only too keen to serve, and very grateful for everything we did"... "we had a great week with the TFM team"... "loving, friendly and well led". One church said, "Now we have seen how evangelistic work can be done, next time we'll do it on our own!"

Hundreds and hundreds of doors were knocked on for the door-to-door survey work, and scores of people were led to Christ. This one was extraordinary. An atheist came to the door who had fallen out of a tree and broken his back. As a result a rod had been placed alongside his spine, which gave him constant pain and prevented him from sleeping. The team member nervously asked if they could pray for him. He replied, "I suppose it can't do any harm"! So they prayed, the pain went instantaneously and he slept that night. The following morning, his wife, who is a Christian, persuaded him to come to church with her and hearing the Gospel he gave his life to Christ. Of all places where this could happen, this was Steeple Bumpstead!

Mentioning atheists, in a pub in Sudbury that was supposedly thronged by them, John Hibberd accepted the role of "Grill a vicar". They continued to "grill" him way past closing time, and concluded that they must do it again – as long as a "grilling" substitute can be found! In actual fact, over in

Halstead, Bishop Stephen Cottrell volunteered for "Grill a Bishop" for lunch in the Bull Pub. The place was packed, he was "grilled" for over an hour, and he then concluded by presenting a Gospel invitation, to which several people responded. On a similar note, Roger Murphy went to a Hog Roast at Manningtree and although he wasn't roasted, he preached and twenty-five people gave their lives to Christ.

As well as the places already mentioned, the mission also included Haverhill, Clare, Hadleigh, Brantham and surrounding villages, and Dovercourt along the Stour; and along the Colne, Fordham, Marks Tey, Wivenhoe, Alresford, Brightlingsea, and Wigborough, concluding in Colchester. This is where Dan and I were able to unite again. A Night of Colour in Firstsite where the room was full, inclusive of art lovers and Buddhists who heard the Gospel; and a Healing Service in St Botolph's for which 1000 invitation leaflets had been distributed which said, *Jesus healed many who had various diseases and drove out the darkness*. And this is what happened. After Dan had preached, people were queuing up to be healed and counselled.



What was unexpected was the man who carries the cross, Lindsay Hamon from Cornwall. He joined us along the Colne, and people were drawn to him to talk about why he was carrying a 6 ft cross. He had been invited by a long-standing friend, Rev Roger Taylor of Brightlingsea.

At the end of the day, this is what mission is all about, the Cross of Christ. "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself" (John 12v32). This is what Dan has always preached, this is what I have always preached, this is what Roger and John have always preached, and this is what we have always trained our team members to preach. This is why men, women, boys and girls and teens down the years have responded to Christ in their thousands, and in their scores and scores on The Two Rivers Mission. May Jesus Christ receive all the glory.

Peter Adams – Evangelist Emeritus



## CONTACT US?

Please tick a box below and complete your address details.

- ☐ I wish to become a Prayer Partner
- ☐ Please note my address change or email address below
- ☐ 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 or go to **www.throughfaithmissions.org** for online giving options).
- ☐ I want to gift aid my donation
- ☐ I would like to remember TFM in my will. Please send details.

Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
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	<input type="text"/>
Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Tel	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

THROUGH FAITH MISSIONS  
58 High Street  
Coton  
CAMBRIDGE  
CB23 7PL

Telephone 01954 210239  
Fax 08707 062062

admin@throughfaithmissions.org  
www.throughfaithmissions.org



## Daniel writes.....

"A man is no fool to give what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." So said the missionary, Jim Eliot.

I echo these words as I come to my 70th birthday and look back on my life so far. My heart is filled with wonder and gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

In the past 40 years, since my ordination, and particularly as an itinerant preacher – having preached to many thousands and having seen thousands respond to Jesus Christ – I have experienced the promise that Jesus gave to the woman at the well (John Ch. 4) "whoever believes in me - from his heart shall flow rivers of Living water."

I never tire of speaking of our dear Lord and I intend, of course, to keep serving Him until He calls me Home but my itinerant ministry - to a large degree - is easing. TFM has a new leader in Richard Scott and we look forward to the autumn when he, along with Roger, will direct things in the future. The Walks are fundamental to our ministry and I hope they will continue. We have a wonderful resource of labourers but we are all getting older. Richard intends to go to the Universities and, hopefully, from his ministry will come new and younger evangelists.



## I never tire of speaking of our dear Lord

I will seek to be a help to Richard and on occasions be at the Staff Meetings and some Trustees' Meetings to give some guidance and of course my constant prayers. I want to help and not hinder this new generation and the Lord is aware of my willingness and I look to Him to continue to use me in the future.

I still preach in some churches regularly and would hope that this ministry will expand. As you know I have a number of opportunities to support and advise people on a one-to-one basis, we have quite a few guests throughout the year and maybe I will get back to painting a little more.

As a final thought – TFM is the only ministry that I am aware of that continues to 'Go Out'. I expect there are others but they are not known to me. The Church is following a 'Process Evangelism' strategy and that is doubtless very effective. But the Call to GO into all the world must be the priority of the Evangelist; not 'Come' to this or that meeting and we will teach you.

So my dear friends, these are needy days. I will keep in touch through these Newsletters but let us never, never forget...

**"How can they believe without hearing about Him? And how can they hear without a preacher?"**

Affectionately,  
Daniel



**Daniel Cozens**

T 01954 210239  
E daniel@throughfaithmissions.org