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## Trip of a Lifetime 2022

**Four new Christians!**

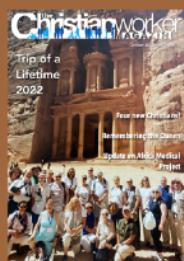
**Remembering the Queen**

**Update on Africa Medical Project**



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Front cover and above: Trip of a Lifetime group in Petra and Ein Gedi



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# CONGRATULATIONS!



## New Christians in Stirling!

There was great rejoicing on 20<sup>th</sup> August when **Abigail Chapman** was immersed into Christ. The daughter of David and Deborah Chapman, she has been brought up in a strong Christian family. After her Dad reminded those present about the importance of immersion and then taking her confession, she was immersed into Jesus for the forgiveness of her sins by her uncle Daniel. Many family and friends were present to witness this joyful event.

Just over a week later on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, **Colin Barr** was immersed into Jesus by David Chapman. He had been studying with him.

Please keep these two new Christians in your prayers as they begin living their lives as a child of God.

Jon Galloway

## A Trip of a Lifetime

On 5<sup>th</sup> September twenty-one of us embarked on a Trip of a Lifetime to the Bible Lands of Israel and Jordan. As amazing, exciting, and spiritually uplifting as all these wonderful sites were none could compare to what we witnessed on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> September. One of our group, a young man named **Jonathan Renwick**, influenced by his parents, John Anthony and Kristen and his grandparents and other family members, had been considering his standing before God. And so, as we were having a devotional time on the banks of the Jordan River, he decided to make things right. In the general area where Jesus was immersed by John and where God declared Jesus to be his son, Jonathan confessed his faith in Jesus and was baptised for the forgiveness of his sins. This was a precious and special time for all who witnessed this. It was truly the highlight of our trip.

Please keep Jonathan in your prayers for his new life as a follower of Jesus.

Ian Starrs

## Rejoicing in Northampton

**Yemi Hibbert** was immersed on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September. Having moved house into the locality of the Northampton church building, Yemi visited on 7<sup>th</sup> August. We were having a fellowship meal that day and so she got to meet and talk to quite few folks. After hearing lessons and enjoying personal studies she concluded that her previous practice was not according to scripture and asked to be immersed. We are so thankful for the series of events the Lord used to bring her into our fellowship.

Mark Hill





# Trip of a Lifetime to Israel and Jordan

For ten beautiful, action-packed days twenty-one brothers and sisters from the UK and the USA had the privilege of travelling the length and breadth of the modern state of Israel and a significant part of the kingdom of Jordan, which lies to the east of Israel.

Throughout the itinerary we were following in the footsteps of Biblical characters such as Moses, Joshua, Saul, David, Peter, Paul and, of course, our master Jesus. I say following in their 'footsteps', but we were thankfully 'following' in an air-conditioned luxury coach with cool water to hand as we travelled through rugged hills and valleys, dry and barren deserts, and all the time under a scorching hot sun that at times reached 42C. At the end of the first day of visits everyone had a new appreciation of how tough and hardy the people of Bible times must have been and how many hundreds, if not thousands of miles Jesus must have walked throughout his three-years on the Earth. No wonder he, at times, was tired and thirsty (John 6:6-8)!

As we travelled from site to site our guide Adam, together with Ian Starrs and Jon Galloway, would explain the significance of each location and refer to appropriate scriptures. At the once grand Caesarea, we saw the remains of the room in which Paul was

examined by Felix, Festus and King Agrippa before he appealed to Caesar. At Carmel where Elijah confronted Ahab and Jezebel's 'prophets' we overlooked the Plain of Jezreel and the location of many significant Biblical events. Then on to war-weary Megiddo to visit Ahab's underground water tunnel and view a Canaanite high place.

Next was Nazareth where Jesus grew up and a reconstruction of life in his times was

demonstrated by actors portraying a shepherd, potter, carpenter, weaver, vineyard worker and synagogue priest. We left Nazareth, appreciating anew the culture and poverty in which Jesus must have grown up, and moved to Mount Precipice



'Joseph' the carpenter in Nazareth Village

## Beit Shan and Scythopolis, Israel



which is reputedly the site where the Jews attempted to throw Jesus off the mountain. (Luke 4:29). Our first day of visits ended with a trip to our hotel in Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee.

Our next seven days of touring were just as varied and absorbing as the first and included a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, visits to Capernaum, the hill of the Beatitudes, the ancient city of Laish, Caesarea Philippi, Beth Shean, Bethany beyond Jordan, Jericho, Mount Nebo, and En-Gedi to name but a few of the Biblical locations visited. Time was also used to visit other well-known historical locations such as Amman, Petra, Wadi Rum, Masada, and Qumran with activities for some such as riding camels and jeeps through the desert, drinking Bedouin tea, floating in the Dead Sea, shopping, and a demonstration on how to make mosaics.

On our stop at the site of Jesus' baptism in "Bethany beyond the Jordan" we were blessed to see young Jonathan Renwick give his life to Jesus as he was immersed in the River Jordan. This was a very moving event, especially for his family John Anthony, Kristen and Brennan. Jonathan is a pleasant young man and will be a great addition to the Lord's body.



Tabernacle reconstruction in Timna Valley, Israel

Our final two days were spent in the very unique city of Jerusalem. Visits here included the Western Wall and its tunnels, the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Garden Tomb, the ancient city of David, a walk through a watery Hezekiah's Tunnel, the Pool of Siloam, the possible site of Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost and a visit to the Israel Archaeological Museum to see physical evidence of Biblical characters such as King David, Herod the Great, Pilate and Caiaphas as well as a replica of the Isaiah Scroll found at Qumran.

After dinner each day, we had a devotional time during which people were invited to give their reflections upon the events of the day. This was followed by the singing of choruses, a brief exhortation and a prayer. I found the devotionals to be a highlight of the day with the very harmonious singing and the uplifting messages being appreciated



Camel riding in Wadi Rum, Jordan

by our guide Adam who, of his own volition, attended our devotionals on most occasions.

In conclusion, the "Trip of a Lifetime" lived up to its billing and did not disappoint. Much thanks and appreciation are due to Ian and Barbara Starrs for their excellent organisation and guidance through each day's activities. Every participant expressed their immense satisfaction with the whole programme of events. New and refreshed friendships were made by all the tour participants, and it was an uplifting and spiritual event for all concerned. Thanks are due to Our Father and to all concerned for providing such a wonderful experience. Should future similar opportunities arise I would whole heartedly recommend the tour to everyone.



# BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

## Letton Hall Family Retreat 2022

The theme this year was "Walking with Jesus...one step at a time". We looked at what it means to walk with Jesus, step by step, as we travel along life's journey. Following Jesus is so much more than simply living by the rules. To follow Jesus is to tread the path he trod, every step of the way, meeting the challenges of life with faith in his life and teachings.

The programme started on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> September. When we arrived we were given badges to put our names on and then we were assigned our rooms. Around 8.00 pm we had our evening meal and spent time getting to know all who had come.

### Saturday

The day began with early morning devotions for those who wanted to go, followed by breakfast. After this we had a proper welcome in the library to the events of the weekend.

The first lesson was led by Patrick Boyns. He talked about walking with Jesus, what it means to walk with him, treading the path he trod. To some people life is about the present, living for the now not thinking about the future. Often its all about the



destination. Others live for one day to the next.

How we decide to walk is by the relationship we have with Jesus. Our faith should know that we are present with Jesus Christ. We are walking with Jesus and we should be talking to him.

The second session was taken by Steve Whitehead. He spoke about how Simon Peter tried and failed to walk on the Sea of Galilee. He used this as an example of how all of us need to trust in Jesus and take him at his word.

During the afternoon we had leisure time and a barbecue in the evening, followed by songs of praise.

### Sunday

Again we had early morning devotions to begin our day. Following breakfast we had a time of Praise led by Spencer Eastland and Trevor Williams led us in the taking of the bread and wine.

Mark Hill brought our last lesson. He spoke about people going 'to church' to look at and criticise others who were there. He also talked about people feeling guilty. We had a time of small group discussion to talk about these things and to discuss how we can correct these in our own lives.

All in all we had a great weekend and were able to reunite with old friends and make many new ones. We also welcomed a small group from Ukraine and a cake was made for us all in the Ukrainian colours. Everybody is looking forward to coming back next year, God willing.

Sally Faulks

## Bill Cook (Dunfermline and New Zealand)

**20<sup>th</sup> March 1926 – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

William MacFarlane Cook was born in Yoker, Glasgow on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1926. Ella was his mother, and David was his father, who was an insurance agent. They moved to Troon on the west coast and this is where Bill grew up.

Bill met Margaret at Marr College in Troon and in 1955 they were married in Glasgow. Later they had a daughter, Ann, who became a teacher.

Bill qualified as a civil engineer and his work took him all over Scotland in road engineering from Dumfries to Tarbert in Harris, and many towns in between.

While living in Oban, his wife, Margaret, died of a brain haemorrhage in 1976 and was buried at St Cyrus. They had been married for 21 years.

Shortly after the death of his wife, Bill took early retirement and moved to Glenrothes. He took a job with Velux windows which was near his house.

In Glenrothes, he came in contact with the gospel and was baptised into Christ. Bill then introduced his daughter Ann to the local congregation around 1980.

While at Glenrothes, Bill had the opportunity to go to the island of Malta and also to study at the British Bible school in Corby.

After retiring Bill moved to stay in Dunfermline in 1988 and was very active in the congregation for 30 years. In 1989 he and his daughter Ann travelled to Ghana to find out how they could better



assist the people there. Dunfermline had been sending parcels there for over six years but wanted to know how else we could assist them. In 1992 Bill Cook went to stay in Ghana for a whole year, living with and among the Ghanaian people while living off his pension.

In 1996 Bill and I went to Ghana for five weeks travelling round all the congregations there. Bill turned seventy during this trip. The people of Ghana had a lot of respect for Bill living amongst them, as one of them, and being part of their lives. He was gaining a greater understanding of their situations. He was loved by the Christians in Ghana.

Bill also put a young Ghanian through secondary education and followed this up by putting him through university in Ghana. Sadly, the day that Bill was buried that young man died.

Bill was very interested in the old Scots language. He had a New Testament in Scots that he liked to read, and he often went to meetings in Edinburgh of the Scots Language society, looking at ways to preserve the language.

# At Rest

In 2010 Ann and her husband Martin emigrated to New Zealand and Bill followed them in the year 2015.

Bill spent his last seven years, living with Martin and Ann in New Zealand. While there he was keen to go and help out with a group mission trip to Fiji, after a cyclone had devastated a large part of the island, destroying many homes. He climbed into one of the little boats going out to a smaller island and helped distribute food, much to the surprise and respect of the islanders. When they found out how old he was they honoured him by sitting him on a grand chair and putting on him a garland of flowers.

Bill was always known for arriving at meetings early, and to do this he would often get the bus before the one that would get him there early. Bill always carried a little New Testament in his pocket, which he would read while waiting for a bus or while travelling. This sometimes-prompted people to ask what he was reading and often started a conversation or discussion.

Bill's faith was key to his life. His relationship with God meant everything to him.

When in New Zealand Bill would join in a group of people who would go into the town for an hour or so at a time, holding a board which says "What's your story?" Many people have a story to tell of their life, but just want someone to listen. When others had shared their story, Bill would then share his love for Jesus and how important his faith in Jesus is, or why he believed there is a God.

In his last few months, Bill had failing health, with a weak heart. A month ago Bill suffered a major heart attack, followed by a stroke. He died on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Ann & Martin have fulfilled his wish to be buried with his wife at St Cyrus.

He also leaves behind Lizzie, his granddaughter, who is studying in New Zealand while waiting for a Visa to go back to Alaska, where she spent two years on the Adventures in Mission Programme.

All the good he did in his life was never for self-glory nor was it to bring attention to himself. If you ever commented to him about the good he was doing he seemed genuinely surprised that you thought it was particularly good.

Bill Cook touched many lives and will be remembered by many.

He fought a good fight, he finished the course and kept the faith.

His crown awaits him.

Graeme Pearson

## FULL-TIME EVANGELIST NEEDED

The congregation in Liverpool are currently in need of a full-time evangelist. We are a small, hospitable congregation who are known for our love and fellowship. Our congregation is one of the oldest in England and we currently have an attendance of 30-40 Christians including children.

We are seeking an evangelist who is committed to the Great Commission to work with our Elders to grow this congregation in favour with God. If you are interested and would like to empower the local people with the Good News, grow personally, lead others to Christ and integrate them into the life and ministry of the church, we would love hearing from you. What we're looking for is an evangelist whose primary responsibility will be evangelising, teaching and preaching. We are asking the person to be able to provide at least 50% of their support and the congregation will provide the other 50% as well as assist in other areas of support. We are praying to the Lord to help us find a man of God who will come and work with us to achieve our goals and vision.

Please submit your resume and an audio of a recent sermon to us by email at [cyanckiah@hotmail.com](mailto:cyanckiah@hotmail.com) or if you would like to discuss this vacancy please ring Charles Yankiah on +44 07891262910.



# FAMILY NEWS

## NEWS FROM AUGHTON

Last month the Aughton congregation hosted an outreach event in conjunction with the Hindley congregation. Our guest speaker was Gert-Jan Van Zanten from the Netherlands. He presented a series of lessons over a weekend about 'Loneliness and Stress'.



Gert-Jan Van Zanten

He also presented two lessons asking the question, "Is there anything missing from your life?" and "Why do bad things happen to good people?" Although we did not have any visitors from the local community, we did have visitors from our surrounding sister congregations for which we were grateful. We thank Gert for coming to encourage us and we pray that God will bless his future efforts.



Patrick Boyns

The following weekend we hosted another outreach event in association with the British Bible School. The theme for the weekend was 'Let's talk about life' and our guest speaker was Patrick Boyns. He presented two talks, the first, 'Let's talk about life' was about the importance of life with God, our walk with God and the difference He makes in our lives.

The second talk, 'Let's talk about prayer' was about the importance of prayer and continually speaking with our Father in heaven, regardless of our circumstances. We also had the opportunity to share and listen to four people's life stories, which were encouraging although tearful at times. Although we had no non-Christian visitors, we were grateful to the few who came along from our sister congregations to support us.

On the Lord's Day, Patrick shared a talk called, 'This world is not my home' in which we were reminded about our temporary life here on Earth and how the best is yet to come. We thank Patrick for an incredibly rich weekend of spiritual food and for the thought-provoking ways in which the day was presented. We pray that God will continue to use him in his service to the Lord and the saints as a whole.

Mike Glover

## Ken Lewis

Ken is downsizing and has films and tapes of the Jule Miller slides, tapes and records, plus thirty Herald of Truth films (16 mm), all of which he would like to pass on.

Contact Ken at  
[lewisjoseph31@yahoo.com](mailto:lewisjoseph31@yahoo.com)



# APPEALS & UPDATES

## AFRICA MEDICAL PROJECT

Greetings and a huge thank you to all who have donated generously these past few years to support this international medical project. (You'll see that this has now extended beyond Africa!)

Your contributions have paid for shipping medical items to Ghana and Nigeria. These are providing low-cost care for people who struggle to pay for medical treatment. They are delivered to a range of hospitals, health centres and clinics.

Items included ICDs (implantable cardioverter defibrillator), CRT-D or P (cardiac re-synchronisation therapy defibrillator/pacemakers), pacemakers, catheters, electrodes, pericardiocentesis kit, chest drainage sets, airway management devices, abscess drainage kits, baby clothes and blankets, sutures and many more. Some of these are no

longer needed by the NHS, others have reached their expiry date but are still viable and safe.

Expiration dates for ICDs and pacemakers refer to packaging sterility. The devices are hermetically sealed in layers of packaging, so are very safe, posing no significant infection risk. The CRT-Ds alone would cost £10,000-£16,000 when in date but are donated free of charge for needy patients!

On my recent trip to Port Harcourt and Abuja, Nigeria, we implanted CRT-D/P and ICD devices in five patients. I was able to tell people about the work of the congregations in paying for transporting these medical supplies from the UK. It was a great experience working with the Nigerian team, who work under difficult conditions with little resources.

Following on from this mission, one of the consultant cardiologists will be



Christians from the Mandela Estate congregation in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, receiving boxes of medical supplies and donating to Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital. These were donated by NHS hospitals across the UK for treating patients with heart failure and/or slow heart rate.



A man receives lifesaving treatment for heart disease. We implanted a dual chamber ICD device for this patient who had suffered a near fatal cardiac arrest in the LIMA hospital, Abuja. The implantation was successful, and the patient was discharged days later.

# Appeals & Updates



We also performed device follow-up checks in Port Harcourt and Abuja, including some teaching sessions.

coming over to the UK to receive more specialist training in CRT-D implantation. The UK charity Pace4Life also contributed and supported this mission. Pace4Life UK does a fantastic job in saving lives by supplying reconditioned and expired sterility-devices to Sub-Saharan Africa.

Some medical supplies donated by Aberdeen Royal Infirmary were sent to Ukraine in response to the crisis there. A community clinic in the Philippines, via Gigie Carranza, also received some medical supplies, under the oversight of Nigel Hardy from the Northampton congregation.

Continued financial help is needed to sustain this project. Currently, there is about £2000 left in the "Africa medical fund" account. Several boxes of medical items are waiting to be shipped to the various countries and the cost of shipping items has, of course, recently increased!

Wherever possible the distribution on the ground will be led by individual Christians or congregations who can deal directly with those in need so that this work will be seen to be in the name of our Lord.

I continue to lead this project and, although I have now moved to Northampton, the congregation in Aberdeen continues to manage the funds.

Please send cheques payable to "Aberdeen Church of Christ" to: David Murray, 11 Hunters Rise, Pitmedden, Aberdeenshire. AB41 7QD. Write on the back "Africa Medical Fund". Bank transfers to: Aberdeen Church of Christ; account no.: 00100607; sort code: 80-05-11.

There is potential for this work to expand even further – I'd be interested to hear from individual Christians or congregations interested in learning more and perhaps working with us in the future. For further information contact me at (07495) 154255 or [jdonkor@gmail.com](mailto:jdonkor@gmail.com).

Julius Donkor

## MALAWI

**Davison Ndhlovu** is a graduate of the British Bible School. Davison is a graduate of the British Bible School and has done an amazing work in his home country Malawi. Unfortunately the bank through which he was able to receive funding are no longer able to work with him as he is no longer living in the UK.

For those who are supporting him please send fund through to Bedminster Church of Christ, bank sorting code 40-14-13, account number 02023563. Please indicate what the funds are for (e.g. Davison's support, Seed & Fertiliser, orphans, etc.). Many thanks for your help.

Trevor Williams

## PAKISTAN

Naeem Sabir reports that they are safe in the midst of the floods in Pakistan, although many have had their homes damaged and lost livestock. Two of the buildings where congregations meet have been damaged and will need to rebuild. Due to families losing everything they are needing tents and warm clothing. Please keep them in your prayers.



# THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES

The death of a frail 96-year-old lady is not something that would ordinarily make the news headlines around the world and remain on the front pages of the newspapers for days. But this was no ordinary 96-year-old. The official announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 brought to an end a distinguished life and reign. Although we may never have met her or seen her in person, we feel a sense of collective loss or national grief because she was our Head of State and had been for seventy years. She was the longest reigning sovereign in our history, and so, for most of us, the only monarch we have ever known.

Since the announcement of her death many tributes and memories have been shared by those who knew her, met her, or just felt that they knew her. The qualities and characteristics that shaped her life have been recalled: her devotion to duty, her commitment to the service of the people, her selflessness, her humility, her sense of humour, and her faith in God often expressed in her brief Christmas broadcasts. She leaves behind a remarkable legacy and example.

The longevity of her life and reign made us think that she would always be there,

a constant presence in our lives. We have never been far away from an image of her – on our coins, banknotes, stamps, and on portraits hung in public buildings. She probably became one of the most recognisable people on earth. And so it is understandable – and not surprising – when someone of such significance and presence, who played such an important role in our country's history passes away that we feel this great sense of loss, bewilderment and uncertainty at what the future holds. We can't quite imagine what things will be like without her and we seek reassurance that everything will be all right. However much we may have wished that the Queen would continue on indefinitely, rationally we always knew that would not be the case, and that one day she, like everybody else, would pass away. And yet although inevitable, we never seem emotionally prepared for it, perhaps because we do not really want to face up to the reality that life is temporary for all of us.

Death, of course, is a common daily experience. It is part of our human existence and has been ever since the world was created. Many other families throughout the world are also grieving the death of their loved ones – people whose deaths will not be reported on the news, who will not have obituaries written about them, or special editions of the newspapers published in their honour. However, the lack of such public recognition does not diminish their deaths or the significance of their lives. The poet John Donne reflected on how death affects us all when he wrote, "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a



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promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were: any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." The death of a loved one, or a friend, or a prominent public figure as Queen Elizabeth was, is a reminder to us of our own mortality and the transitory nature of our own lives.

In times of change and uncertainty we feel anxious. We want to know that there is something we can depend upon, something to give stability to our own changing lives and circumstances. It is in times such as these that our faith in a God who does not change becomes most important.

As we give thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth II and as we contemplate how our lives may be different under the reign of King Charles III, Psalm 90 is a fitting Psalm to reflect upon as here are we reminded of our fragile, transitory lives on this earth, like the grass that withers, and as we take encouragement from the knowledge that our God, the One who brought forth the mountains and formed the earth, is "from forever to forever." He is the One who invites us to dwell with him; the One provides us with a place of refuge and security in times of change and uncertainty.

John Griffiths

"Kings and Kingdoms will all pass away, but there is something about that name". This phrase has been going around in my head over the last several weeks. As I look back, Queen Elizabeth II is the only Queen I have ever known. I was born when she was on the throne, I have lived my 40+ years during her reign, and I have now watched it come to an end. It is surreal.

As someone who has made the UK their home, the importance of making the trip into London to say goodbye and thank you was important. I've had the opportunity to celebrate her Jubilees and in the wedding of one of her grandsons. I may not have ever met her personally, though I did

see her in her car as she drove by, but what did she mean to me?

As someone who came from a country that threw the monarchy out a few hundred years ago, she is a symbol of history; someone who strived to uphold values and lived by their promise, the very way Christians should live their lives. Do what you say you are going to do, be there for people, love people, and live a life worthy of the calling.

We knew we wanted to pay our respects to her majesty and had even planned on going Thursday to wait our turn in the long queue. However, as we had a friend coming into London Wednesday evening, we changed our plans on a whim and decided to queue throughout the night. This was probably the best decision we made as later over the next couple days and nights the queues grew longer! So at 10:44pm we joined the queue near London Bridge. There was no time to sit as the snaking line of endless bodies seemed to shuffle along every half a minute or so. Along the river's edge, around both historic and new buildings, under bridges, over bridges, and through the zig zags, everyone had a quiet peace about them. Some made chit-chat with those standing nearby, others held places for those that needed a coffee or a dash to the loo.

At around 2:30 am we reached the point where we were officially given wristbands to confirm our place in line. This would need to be shown for the next few entry points. No wristband, no entry. About a half hour later there was a pause in the queue. It wasn't moving and many naturally wondered why. My husband discovered by going through social media channels that the hall was closed for that time so they could rehearse the procession when it came Monday. It was a nice pause because it allowed us time to sit and rub those aching feet!

As soon as the Lambeth Bridge appeared we felt we were close. We knew we were close! Shuffling our way over the bridge provided us with a night time view of the river and the

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glistening lights bouncing off the waves. It was then I was reminded of a snippet of a quote from Samuel Johnson: "...when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life..."

Over Lambeth bridge and we now reached what we had heard of as the 'zig-zag'. This was rows upon rows of a roped area that meandered like switchbacks through the mountains. We shortly came to realise the zig-zags in themselves were a trek! We seemed to be walking and walking yet getting nowhere. We could see the tower of Westminster Hall but it wasn't getting any closer! What kind of nightmare was this? I was chasing other people and other people were chasing me! However, we were cheered on by lovely volunteers who stood outside the roped area shouting "Don't give up! You're almost there!" "Keep your eyes on those lights ahead. That's your goal!" We were even treated to a few snacks, which the stewards miraculously, like Jesus feeding the 5000, somehow managed to conjure up. Pots of yogurt, bags of crisps, boxes of raisins, all somehow appeared from nowhere. But the food must be consumed quickly because you weren't allowed to take it into the Hall.

As the sky began to brighten and news reporters with camera crews came into sight, we knew we were close. We snuck past Kay Burley and Charlie Stayt with eyes downward so as not to be stopped and interviewed on live television! Once we passed them we had finished with the zig-zag. Three miles of zig-zags we have since learned!



Now it was time to quickly check we weren't taking any contraband into the hall. Our bags were rolled through an x-ray machine and they decided they needed to double check mine because the lady said there was liquid in it. The policeman could find no liquid and let us on through.

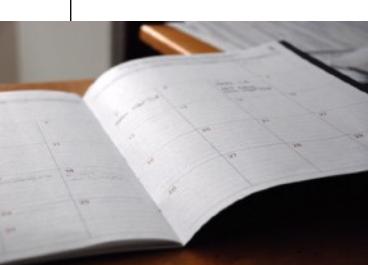
We approached the door to the hall where a woman with a meditating voice calmly and soothingly ushered us in. I suppose her voice allowed us to feel relaxed after the several hours of walking and to start a reflection within ourselves on what this moment meant. It was a couple minutes before 7:00 am when we entered the hall. When we descended the steps everything was brought to a halt. The room fell silent and the bang of something loud on the concrete floor could be heard. It was then we witnessed the ceremonial procession of the changing of the guard at the Queen's coffin. Never have I seen so much respect and honour in every movement of the guards. As the new ones replaced those that had stood vigil, every move was choreographed to a tee. But it was with that final head jerk into the downward motion with eyes transfixed on the floor that filled me with the sense of sorrow. I relive that moment even now and it brings tears to my eyes.

As we paused by Her Majesty's coffin, draped with the Royal Standard flag, orb, sceptre, and crown, thoughts of our heavenly King filled my head. Our Lord and King reigns eternal while kings and kingdoms shall all pass away. My

husband bowed his head and whispered "thank you" and my eyes started to water for the very first time. I bit my lip and would have held it together if it hadn't been for the journalist who stopped us afterwards to ask us how we felt.

Perhaps my tears weren't for an earthly monarch as so much for a world that needs a heavenly one.

Sarah Dodds



# DIARY

## October

- 1<sup>st</sup> – East Kilbride:** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting: “Going Forward with God”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Guest speakers: Patrick Boyns, Mark Hill, John Mooney and Ian Starrs. Lunch is provided – please send numbers who plan to attend to help in our planning. Contact: Jon Galloway ([jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com)).
- 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> – European Vision Workshop** in Rome. Theme: “Those who were scattered”. Registration will open soon at: <http://www.sibi.cc/evw>. For further information contact Douglas Reeves: [dreeves@sibi.cc](mailto:dreeves@sibi.cc)
- 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – Bristol:** Youth Weekend. Theme: “Christ’s Secret Service”. Girls will be accommodated in homes, boys will be housed at the chapel. Please bring, Bibles, sleeping bags, etc. To book your place contact Jason: (07795) 560990.
- 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> – East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend: “Settlement of Canaan – a study of the books of Judges and Ruth”; teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Jack Paton. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).
- 31<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> November – British Bible School Autumn Study Week** at Bassenthwaite Lake District: “Gospel of John”. Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Steve Whitehead. Cost: £150 all inclusive. Further details and registration will be on our website soon, but make plans now.

## November

- 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend: “Settlement of Canaan – a study of the books of Judges and Ruth”; teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Jack Paton. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).

## December

- 10<sup>th</sup> – Great Barr (Birmingham):** “Evening of Prayer and Praise” on Zoom, 7.00 pm. Zoom ID: 879 9050 1513; password: 484833. Contact: Sola Adeosun ([sola.adeosun@gmail.com](mailto:sola.adeosun@gmail.com))

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

**British Bible School**  
Autumn Study Week

Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District  
Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October to Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

- Three full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life
- Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company
- All inclusive cost: £160 per student

*Standing in contrast to the other Gospel accounts, that of John deserves separate attention. In this module the student will be introduced to the structure and significance of this book with an opportunity to explore a number of key passages.*

For full details visit our website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com)

**THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL (THE BOOKS OF JUDGES & RUTH)**

**East Kilbride**  
Scholar's Gate, G75 9JL

Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am to 5.30pm  
Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 11.00am to 1.15pm

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am to 5.30pm  
Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am to 1.15pm

Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Jack Paton

[www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com)

*Continuing one of the most exciting episodes of Israel's history, from the time of Joshua to that of Samuel. This module examines the books of Judges and Ruth in the contexts of the history of Israel and of God's purpose for the whole of mankind, considering also the relevance of its message in light of contemporary events and culture.*



**She did  
what she  
could  
(Mark  
14:8)**

## THE FINAL WORD

Some passages of Scripture are truly remarkable in grandeur and emotion but in this statement we almost have a throw away comment. The story of the woman who anointed Jesus with ointment is fairly well known. There was a dinner to which Jesus had been invited. A woman goes into the house and opens an alabaster jar of very expensive nard and puts the perfume on Jesus. Some of the people present started to grumble and say that the gift should have been sold off and the funds given to the poor. Jesus then rebukes the complainers and said 'she has done what she could'.

The nard – or really spikenard – is produced from the oils found in a flowering plant from the honeysuckle family and would have been a very expensive gift. It was contained in an alabaster jar, which was probably worked by hand to produce a see-through texture. It would have held the amber-coloured essential oil. This beautifully smelling oil was sometimes added to wines for the rich and famous, it was with this that she did what she could for Jesus.

So often the people of God feel embarrassed to receive something nice

or pleasant. Perhaps there is a feeling of unworthiness or that they should not receive something nice because no one else has been so blessed. What a pity. Often faithful Christians seem to spend their whole life giving of themselves and the things they have, sometimes to the deference of their families. Sadly when these stalwarts of the faith receive something extra or pleasant there is a feeling that someone will grumble or complain.

What is it about mankind that we have to be negative in our thinking? Jesus was being blessed; he was receiving something extra special. He had spent years giving his life for others and just for a moment he received a blessing for this woman doing what she could. It would be as well if all of God's people did the same and do what we can for the Saviour of the World.

*What a privilege it would be Heavenly Father to bless the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for that lady so long ago. May we do something similar to someone we may know today. Amen.*

Trevor



### A note from Trevor

Pauline and I will be visiting our families in Australia from 16<sup>th</sup> October until early April next year. As almost everything is done online this really does not affect production the CW much, but we will not be available on the phone. Messages can be sent via email or Facebook messenger.

Please continue to send in news as close to the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month if at all possible.

Trevor