

# THE MAGAZINE

Nº 272



TINSHILL FREE CHURCH

JULY/AUGUST 2009

## Pastoral Letter — July/August 2009

### Out of the mouth of babes...

We were crossing by boat over Derwentwater and a child of about five years old was sitting with parents on the seat behind. The little girl asked her father, “have you been here on this water before daddy?”. The reply was, “yes, but quite a long time ago, before you were born”.

The child then pursued the point with “well, where was I daddy before I was born?” Answer – “well, you weren’t anywhere really!” If he had hoped that was enough he was mistaken!! The next comment from the little girl was “well, how can I not have been anywhere daddy, I must have been somewhere!”. With very good timing the boat was approaching the landing stage, so we don’t know if the point was answered any further!

After we disembarked we decided to walk down the lake side to the popular place known as Friar’s Crag – a promontory of rock with trees growing out over the water which faces over Derwentwater and the edge is quite a sheer drop into the water. Another small child had obviously been told by parents not to go anywhere near the edge as it was dangerous. The child was obedient, even reminding the father of the danger when he moved a bit nearer to the edge. At that point another man, armed with camera, went right to the edge, almost leaning over to get a good view down the lake. In a loud, nervous voice the little boy asked his father (about three feet from the photographer), “Daddy, why is that man going right to the edge where it’s dangerous?!”. We retreated quickly covering smiles and didn’t hear the answer!

Children have a knack of getting to the point – their thinking is not spoiled by prejudice or ulterior motive. In the first case, the little girl had a sense of being, and the sense of continuous being. She couldn’t think of not existing and, whereas she must learn there is a start to a person’s life, she already knows that there shouldn’t be an end of existence, and nor is there. After giving our account to God, each one will consciously exist with Christ in Heaven, or without Him in Hell. God has given even a child a sense of the

eternal: *“God has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men”* (Ecclesiastes 3: 11).

In the second case, the little boy trusted that the standards of his father were common to all, and therefore he was concerned for the stranger who stepped too close to the edge of the rock. Similarly, the standards of God as given in the Bible do not change. We all must adjust to God’s standards, not change God’s laws to fit current thinking or individual preferences. Perhaps the photographer **was** in real danger.

We often use the phrase:- *“Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings...”* (Authorised Version) when we hear a child come out with truth which adults often don’t venture to express! The children of our Lord’s day were recognising the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour of the world, and they were ready to praise Him with the shouting of *“Hosanna to the Son of David”*. The chief priests and teachers objected to this and complained to Jesus Himself. He replied with that immortal line *“Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise”* – Matthew 21: 16. Our Lord was actually quoting a verse from Psalm 8, in which King David observes the same truth about the perceptiveness of children.

If children can so easily praise Jesus, the Son of God, how much more should adults be able to. To give praise signifies worship, and worship signifies that Jesus is indeed God the Son, our only Saviour. During this holiday period, perhaps many children will become Christians as they listen to the gospel at beach missions and holiday clubs throughout the land.

Then listen for the truth which children speak, and be ready to give a spiritual answer to their honest questions.

Yours in the gospel of Christ

*Glyn Williams*

*“Out of the mouths of babes and infants You have ordained strength,  
Because of Your enemies, That you may silence the enemy and the avenger.”*

Psalm 8: 2

## A Welcome to Tinshill

This photo shows one of the two murals with texts which have greeted visitors to the church over the last few weeks. One is in lilac, pink and aquamarine showing “*You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.*” Psalm 65: 9 and appears in the entrance porch, and the second one (pictured below) in green with lemon lettering and bright red and yellow tulips appears on the right hand wall of the main church. Our



thanks go to Jenny Leng again for using her gift in such a lovely way.

There have been some excellent special opportunities to welcome visitors into church recently, including the Bible Exhibition when about 300 children from three local schools came in to see the board display of the “Acts of the Apostles” aided by several church people dressing up as named Bible characters and ‘telling their own story’. The exhibition was again received very well by children and teachers. The weather was really good and we are already looking forward to next year. We were joined for the week by Douglas Young from the Open Air Mission to be our narrator around the exhibition.

Local people also came into the church on Polling Day as the building functioned as a Polling Station for the European elections. The Good News Club Children had also prepared a new long mural depicting several bible stories and this is up in the sideroom which is where the actual voting takes place.

We also had “Transition Day” when 100 year 6 children came in from local schools for preparation on the transition from junior to high school. Transition day completed a set of three special days when school children visit us, the first one being to see a presentation of “What is Christmas all about?” and the second is “What is Easter all about?”.

Also, another welcome we were delighted to give was on 21st June when we very gladly welcomed Jennie Lewis into the membership of Tinshill Free Church. We pray we will all be a blessing to her as she is to us as we serve our great God and Saviour together.

Last month’s magazine carried an article about the baptism of three of our young ladies on 10th May. Natalie was one of those baptised and she has written her testimony for this month’s magazine.

## **Natalie’s Story**

“The greatest thing you’ll ever learn is just to love, and be loved in return.” This is my favourite quotation, which defines my commitment to the Lord perfectly. By being baptised, I am showing my love to the Lord Jesus for what He did for me on the cross, and I know and feel in my heart I am loved in return.

I didn’t have the greatest time when I was a child. Home life was very difficult and I experienced very intense bullying at school which even led to a death threat. I felt alone in the world, like nothing was going my way. From all that was going on in my life I think I matured very quickly because I had to deal with things kids shouldn’t have to face. When I came to Good News Club and Followers at Tinshill I was able to understand and believe that I was to repent for all the wrongdoings in my life and pray to God for Him to forgive me and receive me as a sinner. I also learned that God had a plan for me, and the Lord Jesus would act on my behalf in heaven if I committed myself to Him. But when I got too old for these clubs at church, I drifted away from the ways of God. I still believed but felt I wasn’t doing enough. I had a fight on my conscience for a long time about what I could do to show that I was a true Christian but I didn’t know how it could work

out because I worked on a Sunday morning. Then one faithful day my mum gave me an invitation to Tinshill Free Church's 40th Anniversary get together from Deborah Williams. I prayed and thanked the Lord for answering my prayers, for giving me the chance to talk to someone about what I could do; how I could come back in to church. I found out that there was an evening service I could attend which wouldn't interfere with my work, and so I made it my obligation as a Christian to come to try and never miss a service. I have been baptised because the Lord Jesus commanded it and I believe it shows that my sin has been washed away and that my life has started anew.

*Natalie Walker*

## **All your eggs in one basket!**

On our recent Lake District holiday we made several visits to a forest park where there are several forest walks of varying degree of difficulty. We enjoyed three walks there during the week (mainly of the easy to moderate type for my benefit!). One thing we looked forward to each time was, at the end of the walk, going into the forest café for a delicious coffee and scone/toasted teacake, with the added enjoyment of sitting on an outside high veranda and watching many different birds feed at the special feeders suspended on a pulley system in between tall trees. The lovely birds were very tame and would also hop about on the tables looking for crumbs as well as popping between your feet and the table legs and sitting on the handrail within inches of your shoulder waiting for crumbs as you enjoyed your coffee.

But one thing that took my attention was a very large bird's nest which was on the veranda.

The photo shows this nest (with an A4 sheet on the window by it which gives a size frame of reference). The A4 sheet explains that the mock up nest is actually one third of the size of an actual nest which the osprey builds for rearing its young. Inside the forest shop which adjoins the café there is a live television show where the cameras are fixed on the contents of an osprey

nest a few miles away in Dodd Wood. A pair of osprey come back each year from their migration to Africa, and settle in the same place to raise their young. This year we were able to watch three chicks safely tucked in the high nest via this TV link.



(There is also a viewing bay over a valley near Dodd Wood where the movements of the osprey can be viewed through telescopes). The intricate preparation of this huge nest fascinated me, also the fact that it's the father osprey who does the feeding. He can be seen coming in up to thirteen times a day carrying a large fish which he breaks up and gives to the chicks.

This seemed to me a lovely, albeit limited, parallel of how our Father in heaven intricately prepares things for us both to give us strength for our days on the earth, and our final home in heaven (*"I go to prepare a place for you"* – John 14: 2). He feeds us with living bread. I watched the chicks and was very glad that in grace and mercy the Lord has brought me into his 'nest'. It's the only nest to be in. A Christian looks to no other than the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation; all the Christian's eggs are in one basket!!

*"There is no other name in heaven or in earth whereby we can be saved"*  
(Acts 4: 12).

*Margaret Williams*

## **Scripture Texts — Somerset House**

On my last visit to see my Mum and Dad, at the end of May, I decided on the way back to visit Somerset House which is on the South side of The Strand in London, close to Waterloo Bridge and overlooks The Thames. I

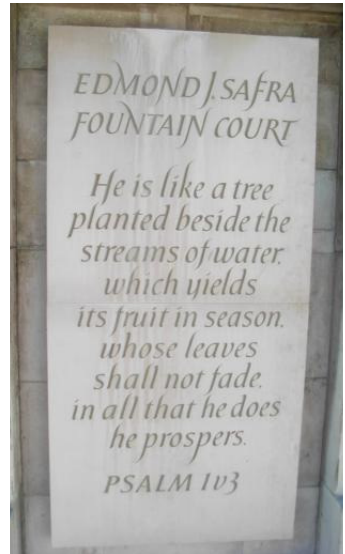
remember Somerset House in years gone by as the Office of The Registrar General where records of births, marriages and deaths were kept. It is very different now and has been remodelled as a centre for visual arts including the Courtauld Gallery with its important collection of old master and impressionist paintings.

Historical records show that the plot of land was purchased in the 1540s and a truly imposing residence was built for the Duke of Somerset – he was subsequently executed on Tower Hill in 1552. For a long time “Somerset Place” as it became known was used as a royal palace from Princess Elizabeth in the 1550s right through to James 1 and Charles 1. Royal occupation was interrupted by the English Civil War and it later became an army HQ for General Fairfax. It was in Somerset House that Oliver Cromwell’s body lay in state after his death in 1658. The building was refurbished by Sir Christopher Wren in 1685 but entered a long period of decline and demolition began in 1775.

The present building was begun in 1775. The new Somerset House was designed and built by Sir William Chambers and it took him some 20 years before his death. Amongst those who worked on its construction was a stonemason Thomas Telford, who was later to become an eminent civil engineer. The building was finally finished in the early 1800s and additional wings were added later to form the courtyard we see today. It was built to be a great public building of national significance and the proposal to erect and establish Public Offices in Somerset House was made possible by an Act of Parliament back in 1775. The building was occupied by the Admiralty first and then in 1837 the Registrar General of Births, Marriages and Deaths which would hold all certificates in England and Wales for a period of some 150 years. The Stamp Office and the Tax Office were present and even today the Inland Revenue/HM Revenue & Customs retains a presence on the site.

The visit was very worthwhile and I discovered a superb collection of buildings around a paved courtyard which has been transformed by the installation of numerous fountains and renamed Fountain Court. On the day I visited it was a hot afternoon and people were out sunbathing whilst children were running in and out of the fountains which were shooting

water up randomly to different heights – it looked great fun and a super way to keep cool – best of all it was completely free. I thought what a great use of the space it was. Apparently in the winter it becomes an ice rink and pop concerts are also held in the space! As I looked around the courtyard I found a plaque facing on to Fountains Court with a quote from Psalm 1 3 (see



photograph below).

From the name Edward J Safra and a search of the internet it is clear that Mr Safra is a Jewish entrepreneur and benefactor. It was great to see a quote from the Psalms and a reminder that the righteous man is one who delights in God's Word and does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, stand in the path of sinners or sit in the seat of the scornful (Psalm 1: 1&2). Whilst this may be lost on the vast majority of people visiting Somerset House it was a welcome reminder to me of the refreshment which comes from following closely after the Lord Jesus and the promise of fruitfulness and vitality as a result. As the children were being refreshed under the water jets so we can be refreshed by God on life's journeys where it really matters – in body, mind and spirit.

*Martin Sellens*

## MAF News to Share – July 2009

### Busy week in Papua

Bringing spiritual hope and physical care, Mission Aviation Fellowship uses light aircraft in developing countries so that people in remote areas can receive the help they need.

Papua in Indonesia is rugged, and today many communities remain isolated from basic care. MAF has been operating there since 1952, helping reach these remote communities with medical care, education and the Gospel. The team juggles a busy flying schedule to manage the many requests for flights.

Pilot Steve Richards in Nabire had to adapt his week's flight schedule due to poor weather. As a result, he flew to Mbugulo on a Tuesday rather than the Wednesday to deliver a load of church building materials. Steve writes:

'As soon as I landed, a man came running up asking me to wait for a lady who needed to get to hospital immediately. He said she had a "fish eye". I was completely confused, but waited for her, enquiring whether she had been stuck by a fishing hook. They said no, she had a fish eye! So what was a fish eye? I thought they're a delicacy here, but maybe you can get some sickness from them.

'When the lady finally came to the plane, she showed me her hand. She had a huge boil on her thumb. Very painful, she could hardly move her hand and kept it in a sling the whole time. It did kind of look like a fish eye, though. I brought her out to get treated at the hospital. As we got started, the man sitting beside me said, "Praise God you came so this lady could get to the hospital today."

'The original Tuesday plan of flying two pastors to Hitadipa for a translation seminar took place on Wednesday. I told them about helping the woman the day before due to the change in plans because of the weather. These two men both agreed that God was in control, and praised Him for allowing us to help the woman the previous day.'

On Thursday, Steve flew various trips with numerous passengers, finishing at Pagamba for a medical emergency to collect a three-year-old boy and his father. The boy had broken his arm when he fell from the house (houses are raised off the ground).

With Friday came another medical emergency flight from Pagamba, where a man had fallen from a high scaffold. He had broken his back and was found in a ravine. The family carried him during the night to Pagamba to be brought to hospital.

Steve concluded: 'I guess you can say it was really an amazing week! It was really good we could fit in all the church and mission requests with one plane, and fly several emergency cases as well.' Despite the weather Steve was able to fly every flight planned at the beginning of the week.

MAF is involved at the heart of reaching vulnerable people, whether they are in spiritual or physical need.

### *Mission Aviation Fellowship*

## **PREACHING PLAN**

		<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
July	19	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
	26	Richard Myerscough	Glyn Williams
August	2	Glyn Williams	Martin Sellens
	9	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
	16	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
	23	Jonathan Chell	Glyn Williams
	30	Glyn Williams	Erroll Hulse
September	6	Glyn Williams	Glyn Williams
	13	Glyn Williams	Martin Sellens

# OUTSIDE APPOINTMENTS

Do pray for our men as they minister outside the church over the summer as follows:-

## **Glyn Williams**

Wed 12 Aug 7.30pm Phil May Court, Armley

Mon 14 Sept 7.15pm Leeds City Mission Committee

## **Martin Sellens**

Sun 23 Aug 10.45am Bethel, Armley

Sun 30 Aug 11am Thorp Edge, Bradford

## **Jonathan Chell**

Sun 19 July am/pm Hambleton Evangelical

Also remember in prayer a good number from the church who will be involved in the Knock Children's Holiday week in Cumbria from 8-15th August and Anne Sellens/Lucy Naylor as they cook for the Beach Mission Team at Whitby 8-15th August. Tim Hilton is working at the UBM office in Headingley through the summer and is on a Beach Mission Team at Whitby 25th July-1st August.

## DIARY

### July

Mon 20 7pm Start of Followers' Summer Programme

Fri 24 7.30pm Special Members' Meeting

Mon 27 7.45pm Evangelism Group at 1 Tinshill Mount

Tue 28 7.30pm Ladies' Prayer Group at 14 Bedford Drive

Wed 29 7.30pm Followers' Prayer Group at 68 Moseley Wood Walk

Thu 30 2pm Thursday at Two Summer Special Meal  
Speaker: Jonathan Chell

### August

Tue 11 7.30pm Ladies' Prayer Group

Wed 12 7.45pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Speaker: Martin Sellens

Thu 13 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Jack Rawnsley  
 Wed 19 7.45pm Deputation Meeting – joint with Bethel, Armley at  
 Tinshill John Harris on Burma  
 Thu 20 am/pm Followers day trip to Lake District  
 Fri 21 7.45pm Missionary Prayer Group at 1 Tinshill Mount  
 Tue 25 7.30pm Ladies' Prayer Group  
 Thu 27 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Nigel Westhead

### September

Wed 2 7.45pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
 Speaker: Paul Crossley  
 Fri 4 7.45pm Elder/Deacons Meeting at 87 Tinshill Road  
 Tue 8 10.15am Second Tuesday  
 7.30pm Ladies Prayer Group  
 Thu 10 2pm Thursday at Two Speaker: Colin Mountain  
 7.45pm Joint Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
 with Bethel, Armley at Tinshill

### Advance Notice

Sat 26 2-4pm Church open to receive Harvest gifts  
 Sun 27 am/pm Harvest Thanksgiving Services

### NOTES

There will be no Good News Club during the Summer Holidays. There is no Men's Fellowship or Second Tuesday in August. There will be no Followers on August Bank Holiday (31st).

Tots Club restarts after the Summer Holidays on Wednesday 16th September.

In August the Prayer Meeting & Bible Study will take place on Wednesdays, starting at the usual time of 7.45pm.

The next magazine will be the September edition and the deadline for items will be Thursday 3rd September with the magazine due to come out for Sunday September 13th.

# ROTAS

## Week ending

		Cleaning		
July	18	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Katy Sellens
	25	Anne Sellens	Carole Brearley	Ruth Barugh
August	1	Ruth Holder	Ann Mountain	Yvonne Chell
	8	Carol Getzels	Kathryn Hibbard	Deborah Williams
	15	Jenny Leng	Eva Ng	Rosemary Hilton
	22	Mavis Mathers	Angela Mathers	Christine Crossley
	29	Margaret Williams	Colette Hickman	Katy Sellens
Sept	5	Anne Sellens	Carole Brearley	Ruth Barugh
	12	Ruth Holder	Ann Mountain	Yvonne Chell

## For Sunday

		Flowers	
July	19	Lai San Hamilton	26 Ruth Barugh
August	2	Yvonne Chell	9 Kathryn Hibbard
	16	Rosemary Hilton	23 Mavis Mathers
	30	Deborah Williams	Sept 6 Anne Sellens
	13	Ruth Holder	

## Library

		Morning	Evening
July	19	Paul Crossley	Jack/Ruth Rozday
	26	Christine Crossley	Mavis Mathers
August	2	Phil Leng	Angela Mathers
	9	Paul Crossley	Nigel/Kathryn Hibbard
	16	Christine Crossley	Jack/Ruth Rozday
	23	Angela Mathers	Rosemary Hilton
	30	Nigel/Kathryn Hibbard	Christine Crossley
Sept	6	Paul Crossley	Mavis Mathers

# Diary of Services and Activities

Sunday	Prayer Meeting	8.00am
	Morning Worship*	10.30am
	Key Club (Children aged 4-11)	10.30am
	Evening Worship	6.30pm
<p>Holy Communion follows the first morning and the third evening service each month *A fully supervised crèche for young children is run in the church side room during the sermon.</p>		
Monday	Followers (Young people of secondary school age)	7.30PM
Tuesday	Second Tuesday (monthly)	10.15AM
	Ladies' Prayer Group (2nd & 4th Tuesdays) venue as announced	7.30PM
	Men's Fellowship (3rd Tuesday monthly)	7.45PM
Wednesday	Tots' Club (term-time)	1.30 - 3.00PM
	Followers' Prayer Group (fortnightly) at 68 Moseley Wood Walk	7.30PM
Thursday	Thursday at Two (senior citizens – fortnightly)	2.00PM
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	7.45PM
Friday	Good News Club (Children aged 5-11)	6.00PM
	Missionary Prayer Group (monthly) at 1 Tinshill Mount	7.45PM

TINSHILL FREE CHURCH  
 HOLLY AVENUE, LEEDS LS16 6PL  
 Registered Charity No. 511933  
*website: <http://www.TinshillFreeChurch.org.uk/>*

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*[glynwtr@aol.com](mailto:glynwtr@aol.com)*

Tel. No.  
 (267 2680)

## Deacons:

Mr Jonathan Chell, 34 Kirkwood Close, Leeds LS16 7EW (285 7829)  
 Mr Graham Leng, 383 Otley Old Road, Leeds LS16 6BX (267 2395)  
 Mr Martin Sellens, 68 Moseley Wood Walk, Leeds LS16 7HG (267 9529)