



Snippets from the Shires

Snippets #25

9 July 2022

"How can they call on the one they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of who they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" ROMANS 10:14-15

"What if they don't want to hear?"

Tim was interrupted in the middle of a sermon one Sunday in May with this question from a young man. We in the western world all have access to the message of the Gospel. How we respond to that message is up to us - we can ponder it, discuss it, reject it or accept it. The choice is ours. It is no different in remote and isolated places, once the people get the opportunity to hear, it's still up to each individual how they respond. Like the elderly chief in the Amazon who had heard the message and seen it in action in his village, and walked out of the jungle, looking for answers because he wanted to 'know the way to eternal life'. The Good News is a free gift from a Gracious God. It's a gift that needs to be offered to all peoples, tribes, tongues and nations.

Our challenge at HFA is to find ways, tools, means by which those in isolated and unreached places can hear this message of Christ's love for them.

As we chatted with this young man, it was apparent that he was himself pondering this message of grace... something we all need to do.

Ten weeks in the UK flew by!

During that time we travelled 2850 miles (4592 km) and did 24 meetings, and many informal talks with friends at home. After our arrival at Heathrow, we travelled first to a wedding in Oxford and then to Devon for two weeks and the first 9 meetings. We spent time nearly every day with Tim's Dad and got to celebrate his 87th



birthday. Then the travelling began as we did a loop around the country, staying with great friends and taking meetings in the area. First at Poole and Southampton in the South before heading North to Cheltenham, Wolverhampton and Liverpool. After a 4-day holiday in the Lake District, we crossed the Scottish border to Peebles and Melrose. We headed south again via Morpeth and Skipton to Corby, (and celebrations for the Queen's



Platinum Jubilee). A six-day visit to Germany to see family and colleagues was a welcome break, followed by two services in Corby, before moving on to Eastbourne, Harold Wood and finally to Shamley Green, near the Surrey Hills. After returning the hire car we spent our last night at a Heathrow hotel, ready for a morning flight to Singapore and onto Melbourne.

It was so good to see you all. Thank you for inviting us to speak at your church, having us to stay, welcoming us to your home. It was great to catch up with many friends, some we hadn't seen in years. Most encouraging of all was your interest in HFA, your questions and your prayers. We sensed a growing awareness of the plight of 3 billion unreached people, in tribes, islands, jungles, mountainous areas and closed countries, yet to be reached with the gospel, yet to have the opportunity to hear about God's grace and mercy.

Drone Tests!

On our return we had the weekend to unpack, then it was off to Lake Eildon on the Monday to test the water drone. The fully loaded drone weighs about 1500kg. The loading, unloading and launch of the drone into the lake went well. It is midwinter in Australia and our command centre was a house boat. Carol looked after the catering and was the official photographer.

The drone's centre of gravity was perfect and it floated straight and level. The power management, communication and navigation systems all checked out. Unfortunately we hit a submerged tree and broke off one of the motors. This was disappointing and means we will have to do more tests later.

With only one motor operating retrieving the drone was a challenge. We had to tow it using a canoe!! The recovery from the water went well. Our engineers are busy designing a guard to protect the motors. We hope to get more thrust from the motors by adding a thrust augments, down stream of the prop. Extra speed is what we need.

Matters for Praise...

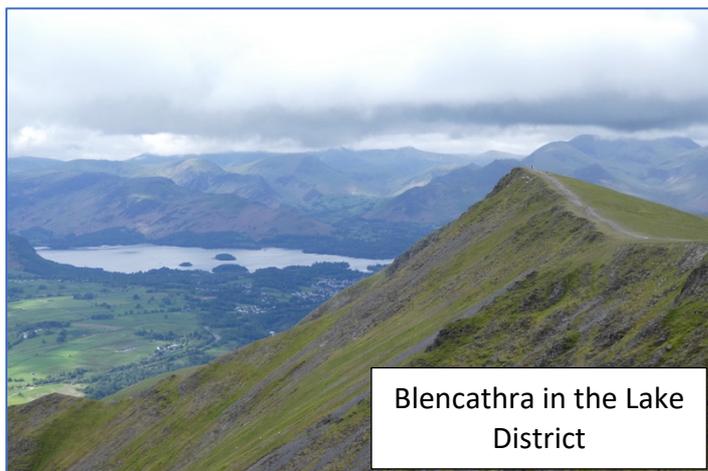
- For a safe and covid free trip to the UK.
- Tim's Dad is still with us and we spent some quality time with him.
- Safe launch and recovery of the water drone.
- God is doing great things in SE Asia.

... and Prayer

- Wisdom for the engineering team to find ways of reducing drag on the water drone, so that it can soon be on its way.
- Continue to pray that the Lord will provide HFA's daily bread.
- More workers for the harvest field.
- That the unreached and isolated will have the opportunity to hear the good news.



There were plenty of technical issues



Blencathra in the Lake District

Thanks everyone for your prayer, support and interest. You play an invaluable part in the work of HFA and are a great encouragement to us and the team.
God bless you, Carol and Tim

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