



Snippets from the Shires

Snippets #48

4th April 2026

"...fixing our eyes on JESUS, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God." Hebrews 12:2

The sorrow of Easter

On Maundy Thursday we went to a Tenebrae service - an immersive, reflective walk in shadows, darkness, pain and loss. It follows the journey of Jesus in his final hours as he walked the path to the cross, where he gave up his life for us all, to take away the sin of the world, OUR sin.

If you have access to the internet, use this link to hear to hear about 'The White Stone of Easter'

https://youtu.be/I_dJf-Py_N0?si=jTjvaoXh4qQYJiHS

Most of Jesus followers abandoned him at the cross. It was the darkest of days. But when Jesus rose from the dead on resurrection Sunday, everything changed. Jesus is ALIVE! He offers us all mercy and forgiveness, and the power of His Spirit to guide us.

Peter, one of the original 12 who denied Jesus in his darkest hour, empowered by the Spirit of God, preached 40 days later to a curious Jewish crowd. They were "god-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5), who had come to worship Yahweh in Jerusalem. That day they miraculously heard the disciples speaking their OWN LANGUAGE and wanted to know more.



TODAY there are billions of people who STILL HAVE NOT HEARD about JESUS. That's why the work of HFA began 12 years ago. That's why we are here in the UK right now, to set up a new charity, and continue the work through a new team - Hope Beyond Barriers (Hope BB for short). We want to see unreached people groups; isolated by geography, ideology or language; hear about Jesus for themselves. What Christ achieved on the cross that first Easter was to open the way for the WHOLE WORLD to know him.

Team Hope BB - Building the right foundation

We are busy working on the wording of the Charity Submission application. A solicitor is helping and advising us. We need to get it right and can make a good case to the Charity Commission for the establishment of Hope BB. **The foundation needs to be solid if the final result is to stand firm.**

In the meantime the logo is ready, and the website almost done. We are blessed with a team of trustees to help us and who continue to pray and seek God for the future establishment of Hope BB.

Our unseen team

As we continue to visit supporting churches and individuals here in the UK, we thank God for all of you who make up this unseen team of people who listen, read, pray and encourage us to keep going. The need to reach so many unreached people groups with the Gospel still remains, and there are exciting opportunities for Hope BB to play its part here in the UK, and around the world. The past years have shown us that seemingly impossible things are possible when we join God's team and seek to fulfil his purposes.

Prayer Matters - Please Pray:

- For wisdom as we prepare the Charity Documents.
- That Hope BB will be registered in the UK this year.
- Meetings in Liverpool, Bideford, Bratton Fleming (both in Devon), and Corby in the next months.
- A new worker is joining the team in the Australian Workshop. Pray for the work of completing one water craft ready for testing and safe arrival of equipment from Germany for the other craft.

Team Trinity

The footpath from our home to Barnstaple town (just under 2 miles) goes past the door of Holy Trinity church. Every time we were in Barnstaple visiting family and supporters over the years we passed the closed church door. When we first arrived, we went in one Sunday, and it became our spiritual home (and a place of great teaching, worship and friendship).

In between other commitments we've been helping with an ALPHA course at Trinity (a great way to explore Christianity). Our job was to serve the coffee and chat, but we also made new friends and saw God at work in people's lives.

Have you ever done an ALPHA Course? We would recommend it!!

**THERE'S A SEAT
FOR YOU**

Talk about what really matters at Alpha.



In February there was a church away-weekend at Lee Abbey (a Christian retreat centre we've enjoyed in the past and only 30 minutes from home). This time out with God in a beautiful location with a great speaker, lovely views, walks and fellowship was a blessing. On Good Friday there was a walk of witness from



Trinity and other churches, each group following a wooden cross from their church to the centre of town. We all converged in the busy High Street in Barnstaple for witness and worship together.

A change of scene and time with family



Madeira has amazing scenery: hidden valleys, steep hills, great walks and beautiful gardens. It was a refreshing break.

In February, we spent a wonderful week visiting Tim's sister and family in Madeira! It was great to see where they live, how well they had settled, and to explore some of the beautiful island they now call home. A mountainous lava plug, rising out of the ocean,



Three crosses on a bleak hillside encapsulates the whole of humanity. The question "On which side of the cross are you?" is relevant. We either side with the repentant thief or the one who reviled Jesus. I encourage you to open the link to The White Stone of Easter. Which stone are you clutching on to? We pray that you have a blessed time at church and with family at this Easter time.

Blessings, Tim and Carol xx

Contact email: timandcarol.derbyshire@gmail.com Mailing address: 12 Hawthorn Road, Barnstaple EX32 8PU

Phones: Carol: 07387 327004

Tim: 07385 746164