

# “QUOTES”

from the Heart  
of St. Leonard's

An edited version of an exhibition  
forming part of St. Leonard's Church,  
Padiham, Open Days, October 2010.

# **M**y Choice of Favourite Hymns by Enid Wilkinson

## 1) “CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION.”

In this troubled and uncertain world this hymn reminds us that Christ is our Sure Foundation, for all who put their trust in him, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: He is the same today as yesterday.

## 2) “CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS.”

What a wonderful hymn is this, often sung at Ordinations in the Cathedral with such joy in our hearts - “and rose VICTORIOUS in the strife” for those He came to save!

It is a hymn of promise and hope that we will one day meet in GLORY, he who gave his life that we might live.

Father of all we give you thanks  
and praise, that when we were  
still far off you met us in your son  
and brought us home. Dying and  
living, he declared your love, gave us  
grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live  
his risen life; we who drink his cup  
bring life to others; we whom the  
Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have  
set before us, so we and all your  
children shall be free, and the whole  
earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The above is one of my favourite prayers. It is normally used after communion, but I use it quite frequently because to me it is a great reminder of what the Christian faith is all about.

Firstly, it reminds me that Christ died for each and every one of us, and also reminds me of the wonderful wording of the Prayer of Consecration in The Book Of Common Prayer - "a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world".

Secondly, it reminds me that we are saved only by grace, not by any deeds or words of our own. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no - one can boast" (Ephesians Ch.2 v.8-9.)

Thirdly, it reminds me that we should put our faith into practice. "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? - faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead". (James Ch.1.)

*Fred Birch.*

... a personal journey.

By the time I reached secondary school, I was well aware that Gideons was the organisation which placed Bibles in hotels and gave copies of the New Testament to pupils in their first year at high school.

But, I'd heard, they had not been allowed to come to my school. Our Headmaster had maintained that all pupils were required to have their own Bible as part of their required 'kit' at the start of their time at the school – for RE lessons (though I don't ever remember needing it for them!), therefore Gideon Testaments were 'unnecessary'. I felt very disappointed.

Some years later, a good friend, who was a member of Gideons, showed me a copy of a 'Gideon' New Testament in a new version, the New International version, and, whilst I had grown up with the Authorised version and appreciated it, this new version excited me. It was a good translation in readable English, and, therefore, much easier to understand for students in year seven and upwards.



My father-in-law was also a member of Gideons, but it wasn't until Margaret and I moved into East Lancashire that we were approached and asked to join ourselves, which we were delighted to do.

What an exciting privilege it is to present copies of the Word of God to students at school, nurses, ... other individuals we meet, or to place copies where other people might pick them up and read them, knowing that this is what God wants to say to us now. Yes, it is in the Scriptures that we find words of eternal life.

But even more than that, the Bible is all about God working out his plan to redeem His people through Jesus, and make it possible for us, as fallen humans, to know His forgiveness and have peace with our Creator.

Our greatest desire as members is that those who read the Bibles will come to really know God for themselves, and come to trust His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

James Addison

## PASTORAL ASSISTANT

**W**hen I was asked to write a piece for the Church Open Days on my work as a Pastoral Assistant, it made me think of the TV programme “WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?”

I feel there is a need to give a short C.V. about myself. I was born into a Christian family, but from my recollection none of my family ever attended Church apart from Baptism, Weddings and Funerals, but I was never held back from anything to do with my Church activities.

This came out of a little bit of research into the past, and I go back as far as the 1851 Census. Well, that's perhaps enough of that.

Even from an early age I have always put others before myself, which in a way seems to be the correct course to put oneself forward to work as a pastoral assistant.

The training was set by the Diocese's “God Our Rock” course; once that is complete then you move



onto the practical training under the Parish Priest's supervision, which is made up of Six visits with the Priest and Five visits unaccompanied.

Then with all the training complete a Service of commissioning was held by the Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt Rev Nicholas Reade, and at the same Service, I was Authorised as a Eucharistic Minister, which means I can administer the Wine at the Eucharist. This service took place on the 2nd of April 2006.

During my practical as a PA, both with the vicar and also on my own , many little snippets come to mind. On one of my first visits with the Vicar I finished up doing a repair on a door lock (it's a good job I am a joiner).

On another occasion when I went out with a Baptism Certificate, the little girl was ill with Chicken Pox, so I had to communicate with her Mum from street level to bedroom window.

On a visit to one lady, who had been stone deaf for a good number of years, the only way to communicate was by means of Lip Reading, as she



had been a Weaver, and as I came from a family who had worked in the mills so the visit turned out very well.

The visits are to our Parishioners, who are housebound, in hospital or care homes, and all the visits are different, none are alike. We have Ladies and Gents and Groups, who have their own views and ideas. Some like to just reminisce, while others like to hear how others (i.e. their friends) are going on, but I always try to make sure that they all know our Parish Programme.

As a Pastoral Assistant it is my job to assist both Mark, our Vicar, and David, our Curate, with Pastoral Care within the Parish. I have been very fortunate in knowing most of our Parishioners, not only by sight, but also by name.

With the help of my GOD and your GOD, I will continue with this work.

*Jack Benson, Pastoral Assistant.  
October 2010.*

# **M**EMORIES OF GUIDING **1950's to present day**

I first became involved in Guiding in the 1950's when I joined 5<sup>th</sup> Shipley (Yorkshire) as a Guide. I don't have many memories except that I was in Robin patrol; we all received a badge for the Coronation; we had weekly inspections when our ties had to be three fingers from our belts, shiny shoes and pencil, paper, string and four pence for a telephone call in our pockets; we wore berets with the badge over our left eye (these could be removed when playing games) and we went camping in a sloping field with the usual herd of cows for company. I was not allowed to sleep in a tent because of ill-health, so I had the privilege of sleeping in a wooden hut.

Guiding came back into my life in the 1970's when our daughter, Sharon, joined 6<sup>th</sup> Padiham St. Leonard's (Thursday night) Brownies. In those days there were 2 Brownie units (Mondays and Thursday) and one Guide unit (Monday). One night I was asked if I would like to stay and help with an event, rather than go home and return later to collect Sharon. That was the start of 40 year's involvement.



I became Tawny Owl (second in command), taking over as Brown Owl (in charge) a few weeks later when Mrs. Florence Smith decided to set up another Guide Company. Numbers made this necessary. I took this on without proper training which followed later with weekends at Waddow Hall in Clitheroe, evenings at various locations in Burnley, Colne and Nelson. This, of course, does not happen these days.

With 24 girls aged between 7 and 10/11 there were many exciting events. Some which spring to mind are the trips to Eureka; Chester Zoo; a visit to Trapp Forge; a train trip (with the whole of the Burnley Division) for a day to London; joining the Church outing to York; taking part in the St. Leonard's school Christmas concert, performing a Nativity Play with St. Leonard's Cubs, and many more too numerous to mention. We took part in sports days; netball tournaments; swimming galas; Brownie Revels (a day spent in a local school etc. playing games, making things, singing and dancing – just having a good time).

Whilst active I held various positions – Badge Secretary (ordering and distributing badges for Burnley Division); Burnley Division Secretary; Padiham and Gawthorpe District Commissioner (responsible for 14 units with all



the girls and leaders) for 8 years, and Warrants and Registrations Secretary for Burnley Division.

One of my own highlights was being selected as an Aide/Interpreter for the Guide Association World Conference in the 1970's. This took place at Sussex University, near Brighton, where I stayed on campus for two weeks. My role was to translate for delegates in Spanish and French, and to undertake other tasks on a rota. Two events stick in my mind – one was when I tried to show an Indian delegate how to get a sari into a small spin dryer and the other was when I had two delegates, one French and the other Spanish, wanted to converse with each other, neither speaking the other's language! I happened to be on PR the day HRH Princess Margaret visited (she was then President of the Association). I was fortunate enough to be introduced to her and have a conversation with her. I remember the rules from a PR point of view were many. One I clearly remember was that photos could only be taken from a certain angle! It was quite a strange feeling spending two weeks in all female company, all of whom had the same ideas and ideals, and I remember coming home to Padiham feeling completely lost.



In the Guide Association, active Guiders have to retire at the age of 65 regardless of the fact that leaders are in great demand. After this happened, I took on the role of County Warrants and Registrations where I was responsible for all the records for the whole of East Lancashire – 9 areas. I also became involved in the clerical aspect of leader training and joined the Trefoil Guild. This is Guiding for older Guide Leaders and ladies who do not want to be involved with Units. I am now Archivist and Administrator for the County.

Last year, I was presented with the Good Service Brooch for service to Guiding in the County of Lancashire East. This is not normally presented to ladies over the age of 65, so the present County Commissioner – Mrs. Andrea Cottam – had to obtain special permission for this award. I was very humbled by this and surprised.

I have had many different experiences from Guiding and made many, many friends over the years. There have been hours of laughter, fun and even some tears. If you are interested in belonging to a world-wide, worthwhile organisation, essentially for females, with the emphasis on the development of girls, I can highly recommend the Guide Association.

**Anne Sellick**

# **M**Y TRIP TO THE BETHANY PROJECT JULY 2010 BY RACHEL JONES

I would like to begin by thanking the congregations of both St. Leonard's and St. Margaret's for their generous contributions towards the expenses of my 2 week trip to The Bethany Children's Home in Tanzania, East Africa. I had a fantastic response to my appeal and was able to cover the airfare completely, and use the remainder to make a significant donation to the home's upkeep. Thank you also to those who prayed for me as I travelled.

It was encouraging to see a number of positive changes had taken place between my first visit to Bethany in 2008 and my trip this July. There is now a brand new play ground which is proving well used and much enjoyed –the little ones would proudly show me the callouses on their palms from continual use of the monkey bars! A new dining room has also been built, more than double the size of the old one. I taught my lessons in this space, and there was ample room for active educational games. I was also pleasantly surprised to find it equipped with a white board, rather than a black board! The new dining room was only completed with the use of funds raised by the choir trip to England in the Autumn of 2009, and it was great to see something which our Parish has helped contribute to used in this way. A number of the children who came to England with the choir asked after our church, which was nice.

Another way in which Bethany has changed over the past 2 years is that the standard of English among the children is much better. This made generally interacting with them easier, and especially as I mostly taught basic mathematics, this was also beneficial in the classroom. I taught an



exhausting seven 45 minute sessions a day to children ranging in ages from 8 to 18. Some groups proved very frustrating to teach, although most were a pleasure and incredibly rewarding. However, it is not just teaching that makes short term visitors to Bethany beneficial to the children there; although the children at Bethany are well loved and cared for, they especially appreciate the degree of individual attention that volunteers are able to give them.

It was also good to see how Damari, the child that Rock Solid has been raising money to sponsor for the last year, has progressed. Although I didn't teach her class, she struck me as a quiet, although intelligent, young girl; she came with us on a trip out one Sunday as a reward for coming top in an English test.

I think the experience from the trip that will stay with me the most is a visit to the old home of one of the children at Bethany, who is now currently studying here in England. We have these students over to our house for tea 3 or 4 times a year. The contrast in surroundings between her sitting as a guest in my house and me sitting as a guest in her grandmother's house was thought-provokingly stark.

Unfortunately this space is too short to tell you all the things I will remember fondly from my visit – the games I played with the children, or how uplifting their simple style of worship is, or all the endearing things they said! But I will finish by praising God for the wonderful work that he is doing at Bethany and the lives that he is transforming there, and by appealing to you to keep the children there in your prayers.

*Article originally published in 'Padiham Parish News.'*

# KNIGHT'S QUEST

This was the theme of this year's Bible Club for those of primary school age. We were thrilled to have 40 children along to it and we were able to transform the church into a castle courtyard to set the scene. Sir Prance-a-lot and Princess Sweetpea along with their jester JesterMinute were trying to get into the Kingdom. Sir Prance-a-lot thought he just had to be a good enough knight (but he was rubbish at jousting, archery and fighting dragons). In the end the King told him he could just come on in as he had made it all possible.

As you can see this gave us lots of opportunities to tell the children about God and Jesus, and how we get into the Kingdom of God. The children were split into four groups The Blue Jesters, the Green Dragons, the Red Knights and the Yellow Lords. They enjoyed lots of puzzles and games, and made a brilliant shield to take home with them

as a reminder of what they had learnt. My thanks once again to all those who helped to make these three days such fun which was rounded off by a BBQ for all who attended and their families. Watch this space for news about next year's extravaganza...

Isabel Jones

*Article originally published in 'Padiham Parish News.'*

# **R**ock Solid Sponsored Bike Ride

We did the sponsored bike ride in May. We raised money for the Bethany Children's Home. We cycled along the old railway line and into Burnley, then back along Grove Lane and came back to the swimming pool.

It was a glorious day. It couldn't have been better weather. David cut his leg before we even started! We went down roads and streets, and woods and fields. It was really fun and helped keep us fit and active.

Sophie

**A**s we go through life people let us down.  
Not only friends, but loved ones too.

But there is one person who never lets us  
down.

His name is Jesus.

Jesus is the best friend we will ever have.

His love is the love that never changes.

Is Jesus your friend?

*Sarah Swann.*

## A Passion for Life 2010

The Parish Evangelism committee was very pleased to play a significant role in the national “A Passion for Life” mission which, for our area, mainly focused around a series of evening meetings held at St Wilfrid’s school in Blackburn addressed by the evangelist, Roger Carswell.

My highlight of the events was actually outside of those events though. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March St Leonard’s hosted a Songs of Praise and Cream Tea event. This proved incredibly popular and was a sell out. I will never forget the look on Roger’s face when he arrived. He thought it would be a small meeting of about 30 people. He was bowled over to see the Church absolutely packed! And we all had a really good time.

Look out for the next Songs of Praise and Cream tea next year. Don’t be surprised if you have to book early!

David

**G**od's word teaches us that all people are born with a sinful nature and so we disobey God in many ways and by ourselves we cannot please God.

**T**he Lord Jesus Christ tells us, therefore, that unless we are born again we cannot enter the Kingdom of God. He has given us baptism as a sign of this new birth and the washing away of sin. Let us therefore earnestly pray .... that in His great mercy God would be pleased to bless us with his Holy Spirit and so grant us forgiveness of sins through repentance and faith in Christ.

**I**n baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with Him.

**F**ight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

*Extracts from St. Leonard's and St. Margaret's Baptism service.*

**G**od our creator,  
we thank you for the wonder of new life  
and for the mystery of human love.  
We thank you for all whose support and skill  
surround and sustain the beginning of life.  
We thank you that we are known to you by name  
and loved by you from all eternity.  
We thank you for Jesus Christ,  
who has opened to us the way of love.  
We praise you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*Extract from the service  
'Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child'.*

**M**arriage is intended by God to be a creative relationship, as his blessing enables husband and wife to love and support each other in good times and in bad, and to share in the care and upbringing of children. For Christians, marriage is also an invitation to share life together in the spirit of Jesus Christ. It is based on a solemn, public and life-long covenant between a man and a woman, declared and celebrated in the presence of God and before witnesses.

*From St. Leonard's and St. Margaret's Marriage Service.*

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

*1 Corinthians 13:4-7 New International Version*

**B**e with us, Lord, as we go  
out into the world. May the  
lips that have sung your praises  
always speak the truth; may the  
ears which have heard your word  
listen only to what is good and  
may our lives as well as our  
worship be always pleasing in  
your sight, for the glory of Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.

*From the The Padiham Service Book.*

close **“QUOTES”**