

# Narborough Congregational Church



Do not be afraid or discouraged.  
For the Lord your God will be  
with you where ever you go.  
Joshua 1:9

*May & June 2008*

## LANCASTER UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY CENTRE

The photograph on the front page is of the Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre's spires. The Chaplaincy Centre is a multi-faith establishment catering for almost all of the religious needs for those living on or near to the University Campus. The spires are used as the University's logo and so are encountered constantly by those

LANCASTER  
UNIVERSITY



involved with the university. The spires and the symbol are continual reminder that we are never alone despite how isolated or lost we feel. Or how far away from home you are! "God will be with you where ever you go."

-Gemma Wilkinson

### GUESS WHO?



Which member of the congregation is shown here with their son?

# ALF

ABOUT LIFE & FAITH

The children's after school club re-started after the Easter break with over 20 children attending. We seem to be able to attract new members every week! During the next few weeks we will be doing various activities and practising for the All Age Worship in June. The theme for the service will be the Armour of God. Wait till you hear the children doing there version of the Lord's Prayer!!

If you have ever wondered what it is like to be with 22 children altogether in the Rob John on a Thursday afternoon then come along, noisy yes, boisterous yes, satisfying VERY. Oh we can also make 20 children disappear!!

-David Wilkinson

**Now you see  
them....**



**Now you  
don't!**

## QUIZ NIGHT

The evening of Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> April saw the Robjohn Hall filled with people taking part in a Quiz to raise much needed money for the church.

The evening started with a picture round "Before they were famous" our team managed to score a stunning zero in this round, however as we were not the only team to do so amazingly well (the highest score was three) we were somewhat relieved, and as the evening progressed, our scores did improve, either the questions got slightly easier or our grey matter warmed to the challenge.

Many thanks to everyone who took part in organizing what was a really nice evening to Question Master Kevin and his assistant Jane, to Viv Laxton and Lesley Sanders for their efforts providing us with a lovely ploughman's supper.

Everyone I spoke to had had a really good night, and the friends I invited have all asked me to let them know when we're having the next one.

If you didn't manage to make it this time, you missed a really good night, and when (hopefully) we have another one, you should come and bring your friends and neighbours. You don't have to be "Mastermind" material to take part in the quiz; you just need to be "Game for a Laugh".

-Ann Wilkinson

**G**OD  
SO LOVED THE WORLD  
THAT HE GAVE HIS **O**ONLY  
BEGOTTEN  
**S**ON  
THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVES  
IN HIM SHALL NOT **P**ERISH  
BUT HAVE  
**R**EVERLASTING  
**L**IFE. JOHN 3:16

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## RESTORATION

I came back from holiday especially to hear Graeme and Fran Wylie talk about Restoration. I was not exactly sure what I was expecting but just wanted to be there.

The morning session was entitled Life after Loss and covered loss in it's very broadest sense, loss through death but also loss of job, purpose, vision, hope, childhood, youth and relationships as well. Graeme asked us then to look at a list of emotions associated with loss and asked us to tick all the ones that applied to us. After acknowledging these feelings we had to write our grief response.

This for me was a very important exercise; taking time out to think how I feel and seeing it all in black and white seemed to highlight so much and gave both comfort and clarity.

Graeme and Fran then went on to the 4 tasks of grief and the session was done with gentleness and sensitivity, their counselling skills were very evident.

The afternoon session was about restoration after loss, Graeme and Fran so effortlessly referring to scripture, they made a complex subject sound so logical, and not just possible but a natural progression. There isn't just a little light at the end of the tunnel there is a beacon. Graeme's reading and interpretation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm was incredible and will stay with me always.

Graeme and Fran came over as lovely, sincere, committed people who were not only very knowledgeable but could get across vast amounts of information and make them interesting and make absolute sense. The type of people you could listen to all day, and we did. Not only did they hold my attention all day but I have been mulling over and pondering about things that came up at that weekend.

The day and the subject was very personal to me, we are coming up to a year since Sarah died and at times I felt Graeme and Fran were talking to me personally. I was definitely in the right place at the right time. Well worth coming back from holiday for.

-Hilary Simpson



## **RESTORATION WEEKEND: Joy in the Lord**

Last Saturday and Sunday, the 5th and 6th April, saw our church host and take part in a weekend of Restoration, when Frances and Graeme Wylie came over from Ireland to speak on this subject and minister as The Lord led. Iain Leggett also came with his wife and family to lead worship. Lesley and I had the pleasure of worshipping alongside Iain, certainly a new experience for me with live music and it was such a joyful experience!

Saturday was good and interesting but I felt God really touched me on Sunday. It has been said a few times recently and of course it is true; however we are when we walk out of church we should feel better than when we walked in!

When Frances and Graeme prayed with me, the tears flowed; emotion? – Certainly; but tears of joy also. When we pray we can't just expect God to say, 'yes I hear you, I will do that for you' and then we just sit back and wait for the answers. Maybe sometimes he will reply that way but sometimes we have to play our part in a bigger way. We may be presented with a challenge, a need to make a greater commitment. That is where God has left me and of course by that I don't mean He has abandoned me, far from it! He is waiting for me to make that move, to meet the challenge, never muscling in but being a perfect gentleman.

If you were there and felt challenged, I pray that you will meet that challenge. If you were there to find restoration in whatever form this takes for you, I pray that God will restore you to the place he wishes you to be.

I certainly left that building considerably better than when I walked in. I also left that building with a feeling of 'joy in the Lord' in a way I had not experienced before. Yes I have been challenged but that same afternoon I also experienced a peace over our household like

never before. I feel that God has given me a taste of 'as for me and my household, we will worship the Lord'. I have been led to pray with renewed vigour for my family. This will not prevent the ups and downs of daily living, God never promised that but I have a new sense of joy and excitement for what God has for his people.

Thank you Lord for the experience of that weekend, for the restoration you demonstrated and gave your people and for the joy and love you offer each and every person who will give their lives to you.

In Christ's love,

-Elaine Taylor



## THREE MEN

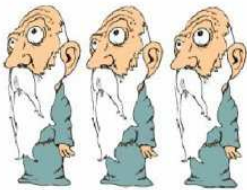
A woman came out of her house and saw 3 old men with long white beards sitting in her front yard. She did not recognize them. She said "I don't think I know you, but you must be hungry. Please come in and have something to eat."

"Is the man of the house home?", they asked. "No", she said. "He's out."

"Then we cannot come in", they replied. In the evening when her husband came home, she told him what had happened.

"Go tell them I am home and invite them in!" The woman went out and invited the men in.

"We do not go into a House together," they replied. "Why is that?" she wanted to know.



One of the old men explained: "His name is Wealth," he said pointing to one of his friends, and said pointing to another one, "He is Success, and I am Love." Then he added, "Now go in and discuss with your husband which one of you want in your home." The woman went in and told her husband what was said.

Her husband was overjoyed. "How nice!!", he said. "Since that is the case, let us invite Wealth. Let him come and fill our home with wealth!"

His wife disagreed. "My dear, why don't we invite Success?" Their daughter-in-law was listening from the other corner of the house. She jumped in with her own suggestion: "Would it not be better to

invite Love? Our home will then be filled with love!"

"Let us heed our daughter-in-law's advice," said the husband to his wife. "Go out and invite Love to be our guest."

The woman went out and asked the 3 old men, "Which one of you is Love? Please come in and be our guest." Love got up and started walking toward the house. The other 2 also got up and followed him. Surprised, the lady asked Wealth and Success: "I only invited Love, Why are you coming in?"

The old men replied together: "If you had invited Wealth or Success, the other two of us would've stayed out, but since you invited Love, wherever He goes, we go with him. Wherever there is Love, there is also Wealth and Success!"

### **THANK YOU'S FROM THE NEW 'EDITOR'**

If it hasn't become obvious to you yet: the magazine is now under new 'management!' Firstly I'd like to thank Mick and Deb Sawyer for having maintained the magazine for as long as they have, they've done an amazing job so far and I hope I can continue to keep up the high standard they've created.

Secondly I want to say a big thank you to anyone who has contributed to this edition of magazine in anyway!

Any comments or articles for the magazine should now be sent to Gemma Wilkinson via personal e-mail or on e-mail: [gemma\\_ncc@yahoo.com](mailto:gemma_ncc@yahoo.com)

Mail to (Gemma Wilkinson) Bowland College, Lancaster University, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YT

Or via Ann or Dave Wilkinson!

-Gemma Wilkinson

## **MISSIONARY SUNDAY: MARK NORTH & PAULA MARTIN**

Mark showed us on screen just how hard it is for girls in Pakistan and we saw many examples of how hard the women work in the Hospitals caring for a great many patients. We heard that as soon as a girl is born she is placed at the bottom of the pecking order: she is the last to get any thing especially food so the survival rate for the girls is very low. Those who do survive face an up hill battle every day of their lives. Even in marriage life is extremely difficult for women. Their place is in the home and when they do go out it is only to work in the fields. When leaving the home they must wear a Burke. Paula brought us one of these to look at and to see just how restrictive it is. Especially their vision through the mesh covering their eyes, Paula spoke to us through this for a while, she could have been anybody. After the service Wendy put it on, whilst it was on we said Grace, Wendy was then asked to smile, "I am smiling" she retorted. She commented on just how little you can see through the mesh, how small the world appears. It was good to witness and see for ourselves.

Mark also showed us a short film, which as it ran went with the music and song "I can only imagine." We saw clips of peoples faces and their eyes searching, we saw a man swimming with a strap around him pulling a boat, in the boat was a young man unable to do anything for himself, they reached the shore the elder man picked up the young man and carried him to a bike he was strapped to the front of a tandem and they peddled away. As the film went on it was obvious they were in a race and that they were a team. Crowds cheered as they crossed the line.

Mark then told us that every year this man and his son do the Iron Man race. I don't think there was a dry eye in the place, it was so moving.

Both of these things that saw touched us. We need to remember that God is the one who carries us, His son Jesus died for us, the Holy Spirit gives us strength all things are possible. We can make a difference in other peoples lives if we just get real with God if we just act like he did, if we just believe and soak in his word. If you shed tears on that Sunday morning then your alive you have feelings you have Prayer, hands and feet and a mouth that needs to declare our Lord Jesus. I Pray that the Lord will start with me, just what difference am I really making in His Kingdom?

-Lesley Dryell



## THE DARLING SOUL

Away O Soul, hoist instantly the anchor!

Cut the hawsers – haul out – shake out every sail!

Sail forth – steer for the deep waters only;

Reckless O Soul, exploring, I with thee, and thou with me,

For we are bound where mariner has not yet dared to go,

And we will risk the ship, ourselves and all.

O my brave Soul

O farther, farther sail!

O daring joy, but safe! Are they not all the seas of God?

O farther, farther, farther sail!

Walt Whitman (1819-1892), from “The Explorers”

## Services

**Start time 10.00am unless otherwise stated**

**4th May:**

**Communion**

Hilary Simpson

Ezra Chp. 2

**11th May**

Deb Sawyer

Pentecost

**18th May**

Fun With Son!

Narborough Park

3pm

**25th May**

Deb Sawyer

Ezra Chp. 3

**1st June:**

**Communion**

Lesley Dryell

Ezra Chp. 4

**8th June**

John Sanders

Ezra Chp. 5

**15th June**

Deb Sawyer

Father's Day

**22nd June**

Deb Sawyer

**29th June**

ALF's All Age Service

## Birthdays!

The Church Family would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to the following peoples during May and June:

In May:

Gemma Wilkinson on May 8th

And during June:

Hope you all have really good days!

### Normal Weekly Activities

Family Worship:	Sundays	10.00am
Church open for prayer:	Sundays from	9.00am
	Mondays from	7.30pm
	Thursdays from	10.15am
8 O'clock club:	Tuesdays	8.00pm
Freedom in Christ	Wednesdays	1.30pm
Pete's Coffee Bar:	Thursdays	11.00am-12.30pm

### Forthcoming Events

Church Open to Public	Saturday	10th May	10am-4pm
	Sunday	11th May	12pm-4pm
Ecumenical songs of praise for Pentecost at St. Pius X	Sunday	11th May	6.00pm
Leaders Meeting	Monday	12th May	7.30pm
Fun With The Son (Narborough Park)	Sunday	18th May	3pm-5pm
Church Meeting	Monday	19th May	7.30pm
Leaders Meeting	Monday	9th June	7.30pm
Church Meeting	Monday	16th June	7.30pm

[www.narboroughcongregational.org.uk](http://www.narboroughcongregational.org.uk)

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