

The Lord has put
a new song in my
mouth, a hymn of
praise to our God.
Many will see and
fear and put their
trust in the Lord.

Psalm 40:3

Ian Knox RETIREMENT DINNER

On 4 February

the Trustees hosted a dinner at a local hotel for Ian and Ruth to mark Ian's retirement from full-time ministry. As well as current trustees, staff and associates, a number of former trustees and staff attended. Graham Penny, chair of Trustees, spoke of the founding of the Trust and of Ian's ministry as an evangelist. Many had come to a personal faith in the Lord as a result and we should thank God for the way he has blessed Ian's work. At Graham's request, others spoke of their memories of Ian, which included experiencing his ministry, being encouraged by Ian to develop their own ministry and, more frivolously, recollections of Ian's inner child, playing silly games at the meal table.

John Fortnam, one of the original trustees and still a trustee today, presented Ian with an engraved plaque to mark the occasion. Ruth was presented with a bouquet.

Ian will not cease being an evangelist just because he has retired; that would be contrary to his nature. He will however travel less, ministering more in Northumberland where he lives. He also plans to visit Africa once a year and has the first trip lined up to Tanzania in July. But first he is going to take a break

as he and Ruth go on a cruise.

Ian has been designated Evangelist Emeritus by The Forty:Three Trust as an acknowledgement of his long commitment to proclaiming the Gospel and of his role in the founding of the Trust.

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EVERYCLICK

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My dear praying friend

I was so thrilled that so many of the people who have supported The Forty:Three Trust, in both prayer and finance, have said to me that, not only will they continue to support the trust after Ian's retirement, but that they were very excited about the future and believed that I was the right man to take on The Forty Three Trust. I made a promise to Ian at his farewell dinner that we would continue to keep the proclamation of the gospel as the heartbeat of The Forty:Three Trust. The changing face of evangelism presents many exciting challenges but it is essential that we do not shy away from proclaiming the gospel. With your support in prayer, finance and kind words, which you regularly send to us, you are partnering with us to make this happen. I thank God for you.

I spoke at a number of events with St Saviour's Church in Sunbury. The first of these was a Saturday morning event with the men in the church called Men Behaving Godly - an event I put together some years ago. The aim is that following the Saturday morning, which is a seminar motivating the men, they invite their friends to an Indian restaurant where I speak after the meal. Not only did we see one of the men come to faith that night at the restaurant but also another man came to the church on the Sunday morning where I was speaking. He was one of the many people who became Christians that morning.

I love the unexpected conversion!!! A French man was passing a church where I was due to preach. He was attracted by the "buzz" of the people outside the church and so came in. I was speaking on the woman at the well in John 4 and how Jesus had the time to "sit down". At the end of the service the man came to see me. He told me he was a Catholic and had been going to one such church in France but it was not satisfying his spiritual search. At the end of the conversation he said he was very grateful for my time with him and how

this had been a defining moment for him. I gave him one of my books and he read half of it that afternoon. He returned that evening to the cafe church event I was speaking at. You could see the glow on his face as he embraced me and told me how the book, along with my talk in the morning, had really helped him discover God and what it was he was looking for. What an amazing day! He and many others that day became Christians and found God for themselves. It is a most humbling experience to be used by God in a way that transforms people's lives.

As well as giving out, this time of year is a great opportunity for me to take in. In January I go to a few conferences and retreats and always find these invaluable, especially because they are at the beginning of the year and they provide a focus for my own journey as I start a new year. Over many years they have invariably created a platform for what God is doing in my life. This year was no exception as I received much from God which I am currently meditating on and looking to implement in my own life.

As I look to this year we have a very full diary. We are almost fully booked for the year in terms of the main events that need to be put in the diary first e.g. missions, weekends, courses and Christmas (the Christmas programme is very full already - not at all what I expect). There really is very little space for other weekends and courses. I give thanks to God for the many and varied opportunities that I receive to minister.

We have two books coming out this year. These will probably be out before the summer. "More Ways than One" is a collaborative book with J. John and his associates. It is a book that talks about evangelism through..... - I have done a chapter on evangelism through humour. The other book is called "Look Closer". It uses testimony and optical illusions to communicate the gospel. It is a book I started before my time with The Forty:Three Trust and have finally

managed to get it to publishing stage. Please pray for the final stages of these two books. Pray also that they are used in seeing many

people brought into the kingdom of God.

Yours in Him

Mark

Mark Greenwood

THE EARLY YEARS

I thought it would be a good idea to let you into my life! I realize that for many, you only know a little bit about me so I thought a short serialisation of my personal story would be apt as The Forty:Three Trust moves forward. I thought I would do this over the prayer letters this year. I hope it lets you see a little bit about me and my journey through life. They are just snippets of my life rather than in depth narrative but I hope you find them informative.

I was born 3 February 1970 in Royton, Lancashire. When I was only a few years old my family and I moved to Yorkshire; Pudsey originally and then on to Bradford. At about the age of nine or ten my parents split up and Mum re-married

combined with the fact that I was the class joker, probably contributed to me under achieving educationally. Being the class joker did help me through school as I was never part of the "in crowd" but conversely I was never on my own if that makes sense? The one thing I did enjoy at school and in general was making people laugh and doing it up front. I seemed to come to life at school if I was doing some kind of presentation. I remember feeling brilliant as my class applauded me at the end of a presentation.

I became a Christian at 12 years old. Both my form tutors were committed Christians and I am sure that helped me in my walk as a new Christian. I never found it hard being a Christian at school because my new-found faith was so new and exciting that nothing else came anywhere near what I had discovered in God. I was a key part of most of the sports teams including; rugby, football, cricket and table tennis. These formed good relationships with many of the lads at school on a level which didn't need to compromise my faith. I think that being somebody who used humour and yet was part of the sports teams enabled me to freely live out my faith as it

a man who has been the most brilliant Dad to me.

My school life was interesting; most of last four years of school were spent during the huge teachers strikes. We only managed to cover half of the syllabus at a time that was crucial in terms of exams. This,

worked with the people who would have been the ones that would have given me stick. I am not aware of making any great inroads for the kingdom of God in my school days but I certainly never shied away from living as a Christian and sharing my faith with my friends.



MONEY!

A huge thank you to all who support the Trust's work financially. Your giving is essential to the Trust's work.

You can donate to the work of The Forty:Three Trust in a variety of ways:

1. **one-off donation by cheque**
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3. **payroll giving (if your employer offers this facility)**

Gift Aid – if you are a UK taxpayer please allow us to reclaim tax on your gift. Enclose a letter with your gift telling us we can use Gift Aid or ask us for a form to sign.

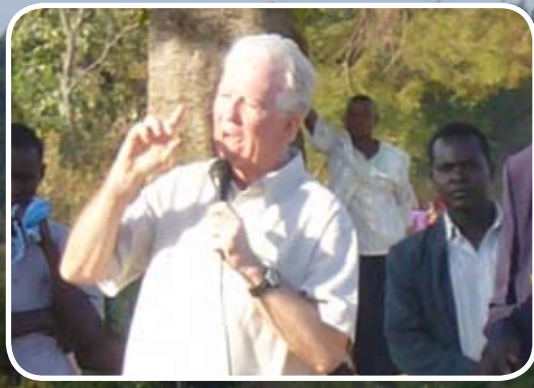
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If you want a standing order form or further information about payroll giving or legacies please contact us. Contact details are on page 4



Africa

CALLING



Come on a journey with John Price and me. We bounce and twist along the rocky, dusty road from Lira in Northern Uganda towards Orum. We pass the fields where up to 40,000 camped in fear of the rebel army only a year ago. It is the second day of a three-day gathering of many in that area who have come to hear the Good News of Jesus.

We both speak during the day and, after lunch, in a temperature of 40°C, the sun blazing down, I speak of laying down our burdens

and sins at the cross. When the call is given to respond, hundreds quietly come forward to stand in front of me and my interpreter. On the front row is a tall, beautiful young Ugandan – probably in her late teens. With no sign of ostentation she quietly kneels in the dust, smiling gently at me as she does. It is a moment of great poignancy, as the pain of the years of suffering is given to the One who can give her true freedom.

The Kenya/Uganda trip in January

was truly blessed. One minister said the response in his area was a “miracle”. In another place, 80% of all present came forward to trust Christ. Conferences for leaders saw God at work too.

What a joy to conclude my time with the 40:3 Trust in such a way. Thank you for coming with us – your journey in prayer was well worth it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian".

forty:three
trust

PO Box 403
Coventry, CV5 8WW

Telephone
024 7650 4792

E-mail
office@fortythreetrust.com

Website
www.fortythreetrust.com

Registered charity no 327205

A Major Time of Transition

As you know we have recently said goodbye to Darren and Ian and now with sadness we say goodbye to Lisa. We will miss her and what she brought to the Trust as she combined professionalism, enthusiasm, integrity and spiritual sensitivity. Lisa has an exciting opportunity working with Darren at Coventry City Mission and we are excited about what she can bring to the team there. Please join with us in praying for Lisa. Please also pray for us as, by the time you receive this prayer letter, we will have

either appointed her successor or be looking to appoint one.

