

## LATEST

From Arad With Love

France Is Waking Up

A Connected Nation

Issue 08 November 2019





13-14 March 2020

#### NEW GROUND WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



An overnight conference for all New Ground women to enjoy friendship and celebrate Jesus together. To explore faith in action; how we can grow in faith in loving God; in living transformed lives; and in seeing the kingdom advance. Come and be inspired and challenged by women of faith who have stepped out beyond their borders.

See you there Liz



Liz Holden







Hannah Gilley patalie Williams



palliative care. She serves alongside her husband at Jubilee Church London and also leads the Courage Women's Conference, an annual event in London dedicated to the of women.

The King's Church, Mid Sussex newgroundchurches.org/fearless

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### PERMANENCY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I loved praying with so many people at Ashburnham who were responding to the call to receive and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Many were filled for the first time and many others refreshed again as a new outpouring of the Spirit came.

What an amazing weekend it was and yet to know some of the sadness expressed when the event finally came to an end – our last Ashburnham!

The good news is that the Holy Spirit brings so much more than a one-off experience and He is not restricted to an event or even a meeting. The promise is that He will come to us and then remain with us permanently. One of the joys we have of living under the new covenant is the continuous indwelling, infilling and empowering of the Holy Spirit on a daily basis.

He is our Helper and has come to make us more like Jesus, to reveal the love of the Father in our hearts, to help us to pray, to understand God's Word, to be a witness, to move in gifts and above all, to express the fruit of the Spirit constantly. We are told to depend on Him every day for everything. He really is the One who empowers us and we cannot live the Christian life without Him.

So, can I encourage you to actively pursue being filled with the Holy Spirit on a daily basis? Get to know Him, hear His voice, recognise His presence and be regularly used by Him. He is a person, not an experience and therefore you are invited to have a growing relationship with Him.

This permanency is not only true for us as individuals but also for us corporately. Ashburnham may have finished, but God's plan is for your local church to go on being filled with the Spirit and to become a Spirit-filled community. Ephesians 2:22 says that we, the church, are God's dwelling place by the Spirit. We will never be the local church that God intends us to be through our own efforts, organisation or man-made strategies. It's time for us to welcome the Holy Spirit to ensure that our corporate witness, unity and impact on our wider community continues to grow. Our future is more of the Holy Spirit and may that be our constant prayer – a prayer that He loves to answer.

Throughout this magazine you can read stories of salvation, healing, baptism in the Spirit and steps of courage in prayer and prophecy. You can also read about some of what's going on in Romania, the Netherlands, francophone Europe as well as our partnership within the Newfrontiers family.

#### **DAVE HOLDEN**

### TRANSFORMATION IN A WEEKEND



We had one girl aged 13 who came to Ashburnham with low expectations. Over the first day as we spoke about taking God seriously, something broke in her and she wept – telling us she no longer wanted to be bored about her faith but wanted to jump deep into the adventure. That evening, she gave her life to Jesus. The next day she no longer wanted to be a bystander but someone who is empowered; after receiving prayer, she spoke in tongues! Even better – she then started to pray for others! On Monday morning, you could see that her face was full of compassion, as she continued going around and praying for people to be empowered by the Spirit. This, just one story of many of youth being empowered to step forward in faith!

#### **JEEVS MANAKTALA**



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Spirit-filled community.



### IT REALLY DOES WORK

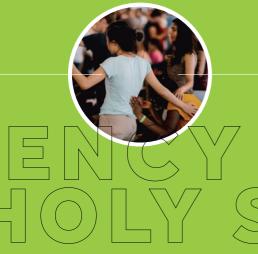
My wife Pamela and I were at Angela Kemm's seminar at Ashburnham. She explained how we need to uncomplicate our understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in us. In a group of people we didn't know, she asked us to pray for each other.

In my group, I prayed for a young man; I opened my mouth and spoke, prompted to pray for leadership. I asked God to give him courage and leadership that wherever he goes he would be the head and not the tail through Christ in him, to be like a lion. Suddenly I burst into tears, not knowing why. It turned out he was the son of one of the women in our group. She told us that he is autistic and struggles when surrounded by strangers. What amazed me most was when she said, "he is supposed to start a

leadership course in a few weeks." It really does work and for the first time in my life, I prophesied.

In Pamela's group, she heard a voice in her head telling her that she couldn't hear the Holy Spirit. She was stressed and felt too insecure to prophesy, so she first prayed on her own and then spoke up and told one of the ladies that she saw wings on her that were spread ready to fly. The lady said that she had been praying about whether to go on a trip and this was the confirmation she was waiting for. God is great! It was a great experience for both of us and we want to keep being courageous in prayer and prophecy every day.

**CHRISTIAN WAYELA** 





### SPINE OF STEEL

I started feeling ill back in 2015 after leaving a high-pressure sales job. That was the first sign that something wasn't right. I took a less-pressured job, but within six months of joining I had a TIA (mini- stroke). I ended up in the stroke ward and that started a series of investigations including MRIs, CAT scans and consultant appointments. Over the next year, I started to suffer with a buzzing sensation all over – fingers, arm and legs, it came over me like a wave. I couldn't handle stressful situations and I had to cut my working hours to part-time.

In health terms, buzzing became more frequent and exhaustion was a daily occurrence. The doctors had found three legions on my spinal cord – top, middle and bottom and some shadowing on my brain. I was in the process of being diagnosed with MS which is a difficult and lengthy process, but they had written to my employer to say it's 'high probability, but we're still running the process'.

As Ashburnham 2019 was approaching, I really felt that my wife Carol needed to be there and the only way she would go is if I went with her. On the Saturday morning God spoke to me saying "I am enough for you, I am all you need." By the time the afternoon came, I was feeling really ill and did not want to go to the evening meeting. Carol encouraged me to come just for the worship. At the end of the worship there was a word brought from the front about someone who was perplexed, "if



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It was as if I had gone from

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that's you I want you to stand and put your hand up". I was sat at the back and out the way, so I half raised my hand – enough that nobody would notice. A guy came over and prayed for me and said, "Jesus is all you need, he's everything." God caught my attention. When he had finished praying, I still felt horrendous – encouraged him by saying 'everything you said, was everything God had said to me this morning. I've also got to be honest with you, I still feel as bad as I did before'.

As I sat back down, Carol turned to me and said, "didn't he mention something about your spine?" He had said one thing that I completely forgot, "Jesus pour your steel down Darren's spine." I turned to Carol and said, "oh yeah, he did", then she spoke



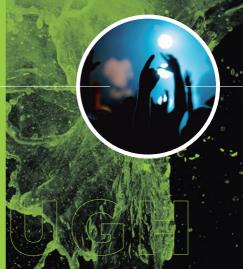
NENO



courageously and said, 'God is saying it is finished!' In that moment, everything changed. I went from feeling sick and tired to feeling great, in fact I said two things, "I'm healed" and "I feel like I want to dance". It was as if I had gone from fog and darkness to daylight and freedom. I knew that I had been healed and everything has been different since that moment, to the extent that I'm starting overtime at work, I've set up a new business, I don't sleep in the afternoons and I have a much more positive outlook.

In the meantime, the healthcare process continues – I know I'm healed, but we'll see what the doctors have to say. For me, Jesus is enough. He is everything we need.

**DARREN SPILL** 



## FESTIVAL.

If you were at Ashburnham 2019, on the Monday morning you would have heard us announce that this was to be our last Ashburnham. After four successful, memory-building and life-changing events it's time to move on.

In June 2020 in the Netherlands, August 2020 in France and May 2021 in the UK, we will hold the first New Ground Festival. As we heard at Ashburnham, we are moving into a new season. A season that requires us to take more risks, to move at a faster pace than we are used to. It requires a greater measure of faith, a time to completely trust in Him as he takes us on many new ventures together.

It's time for us to embrace our vision for the next seven years together. We are believing God for much growth and expansion; where we would restrict ourselves if we were to stay at Ashburnham. The call to go from one event to three allows for all of these things. To push north in the UK, to gather in the centre of France and to spread eastward across Europe into the Netherlands is a decision that takes



A decision that pushes us forward, allows for greater capacity and places us in a posture to receive the promises of God.

You will find more information and booking details on our website: newgroundchurches.org/festival

us forward, allows for greater capacity and places us in a posture to receive the promises of God.

This releases our church families to engage much more easily; for most it means less travel, it allows us to gather in our native languages, embracing our national cultures and holiday timings. It also gives us a greater capacity for growth, more space in the UK, more of the francophone world able to attend in France, and those from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany to connect in a central location within mainland Europe.

The venues we gather in provide us with plenty of space for more churches, new plants, more students, teens and children. We have access to

better facilities, not only for those who camp, but also far more choice in alternative accommodation.

The Norfolk Showground represents an expression of our passion to go beyond the south east of England. We want to church plant across the UK. New churches and plants will join us who are not based in the South East of England. Yes, the family is growing!

Finally, and most importantly, we have this sense that God is prophetically leading us. Whenever something new happens it always feels somewhat strange, but it also adds the dynamic of a new adventure and that feels like God. He's always on the Move!



## FROM ARAD WITH LOVE

Emanuel Branc

Romania is the 12th largest country, and also the seventh most populous member state of the European Union, having almost 20 million inhabitants.

The overwhelming majority of the population identify themselves as belonging to the Romanian Orthodox Church (82%). This may sound positive, but it makes mission hard as many assume that they are Christians.



The city of Arad is situated in the western part of the country, close to the Hungarian border. With a population of 160,000, the city has a multicultural heritage and is an important centre of culture and industry.

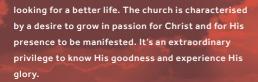


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but it makes mission hard as many assume that they are Christians.

Our church (Betleem) was planted in 1992 and has suffered many changes and troubles. In Particular Romania faces many economic problems that causes many young people to leave the country





Our purpose is to bring the good news of the gospel about Jesus Christ to this vibrant city of Arad. It has been great over the past seven years to share in this mission with New Ground; the idea of being part of a family of churches who help and support one another fascinates us.

For us, the Church means so much more than Sunday meetings. We exist to function as a family, supporting each other and developing trust together. We have different opportunities of meeting in different groups throughout the week, to build each other up or to engage in different social action projects. We have a few dreams for this Church, especially revival and the supernatural works of the Holy Spirit, but for now, the greatest

dream and desire is that the Church get to know God and His heart.

It was wonderful to be included in the recent New Ground Prayer Night. We value your ongoing prayer for: worship leaders, a better meeting location with more space for the children and most importantly for people to find God.

Even though we continue to endure many difficulties as a community, we've seen God working in wonderful ways throughout the years. We are sending you all of our love from Romania. May you all remain in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## FRANCE IS WAKING UP

Jon Le Tocq

There have been encouraging advances in France and francophone Europe over the past year; a marked increase in faith, a new generation of leaders emerging and taking steps of faith, breakthroughs in evangelism, mission and church growth and a rising of the prophetic.

In an environment where secularism has ruled for generations and where traditional religious institutions have been declining even faster than in the UK, the French are beginning to wake up to the increase in genuine Jesus following, Bible preaching church communities. France24, the state-owned multi-lingual news and media broadcaster recently released a report on the rise of new evangelical churches; it featured our Paris plant led by Nathan Lambert. You can view it here: youtu.be/i2u3rem8bfM

In the last few years, we have nearly doubled the number of French towns and cities where we have a presence either in the form of a church or plant. Our goal is to continue to establish a plant in at least one new location each year with the objective of reaching 20 churches by 2024.

But we need God's help. And your help! And prayer! And finances! We have some superb

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## A CONNECTED NATION

Chris Taylor

God is on the move in the Netherlands!
In many ways, the Netherlands is a
gateway into mainland Europe. There
is a sense of gospel momentum to go
from here with the good news of Jesus to
reach into other European nations.

In a prayer meeting a couple of years ago someone from the UK prophesied about God showing them a bicycle path map of the Netherlands. They felt that God was highlighting how the many bicycle paths crisscrossed the nation and connected cities. They felt that the bicycle paths represented veins and arteries carrying God's life around the nation and how the paths also represented the vital connections between church plants in Dutch cities.

As of autumn 2019, we have the joy of seeing these connections happening and bearing fruit. We have four New Ground churches in the Netherlands - Redeemer The Hague, Redeemer Delft, Redeemer Maastricht and the Zwolle church plant. Redeemer

International Church in The Hague is almost ten years old and the church plant in Zwolle recently started biweekly Sunday meetings. It is wonderful to see the strength of relationship and

partnership in the gospel between these churches. There is genuine love and care for each other (e.g. when Redeemer Delft had their first Gift Day, they chose to give much of the money away to the other church plants!) as well as learning from what God is doing in each other's context.

It has been great to see what God has done in Redeemer Delft in the two and a half years that it has been in existence. People have become Christians, been baptised and a wonderful international family has formed. It was a joy to see elders appointed in the church one year ago. Redeemer Delft currently meets in a library in the centre of the city; its location means that on a Sunday they have people wandering in off the street. The church is a beautiful picture of the Gospel being alive in the cultural heart of the city.



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Delft has a large student population, many of who have come along to the church. It is great to see a church where Dutch people and internationals, older and younger people, singles and families, professors and students all worship together.

After a season of prayer and preparation, Cees and Janneke van Buuren have recently started gathering with a group of people in Zwolle. It has been a real answer to prayer to see God adding a fantastic team to them, including two people who became Christians in Redeemer The Hague and then moved with their families up to Zwolle. This young church has already had their first two baptisms! The church plant in Zwolle is a new step for New Ground in that it is the first Dutch speaking church that we are planting in

The Netherlands. We are very excited about being able to do this because there is such a need for 'Word and Spirit' churches full of the grace of God. New Ground Dutch speaking churches in the Netherlands have an amazing opportunity to model life-giving, gospel-rich church life.



As a group of churches in the Netherlands, we are praying about more church plants in our cities, believing that God has much more for this nation. We are also praying for the joy of planting more churches further than our own borders into Europe and beyond!

# PARTNERSHIP BEYOND NEW GROUND

Dave Holden

When Newfrontiers took the somewhat daring step to multiply from one team led by Terry Virgo to multiple teams led by emerging apostles across the nations, it was always done with the knowledge that staying together was never guaranteed.

Nine years on and not only have the apostles stayed together in excellent fellowship, but the growth has been remarkable. To date, Newfrontiers is now well over 2,000 churches working in 89 nations and that's a conservative estimate. Our hope was always that various teams would begin to collaborate and partner together to see the Kingdom of God advance across the world.

New Ground and Relational Mission have recently run a joint church planting conference in Malaga, Spain,

which was a great success. At the end of October, five Newfrontiers spheres working into Scotland, came together for a day to pray for the nation and to bring encouragement to one another.

As New Ground, we have seen a wonderful partnership emerge with Disciple Nations led by Scott Marques.

DNa are working into Zimbabwe and Mozambique with

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growing contacts in Malawi, Zambia and beyond. DNa and New Ground are now proactively finding ways to partner together and I believe both 'families' will enrich one another as a direct result.

DNa are working in some of the most challenging nations of the world. What a joy it is for New Ground to start sending teams into both Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Over 150 leaders in Harare have already done the Academy. Liz and I have had the privilege of going to Zimbabwe for the past 15 years and to Mozambique last year for the first time. Despite the substantial issues that they face on a daily basis,

I don't think I've ever seen such a vibrant, joyful, robust Christian community anywhere in the world. DNa's impact on New Ground will be huge. We live in a very comfortable part of the world in so many ways and yet we face secular consumerism that potentially robs us of passion and radical commitment to God's purposes. My prayer is that by rubbing shoulders with our brothers and sisters in DNa we will be constantly provoked to throw off any apathy and embrace their zealous faith causing us to be changed as a result.

We look forward to receiving teams from DNa coming to us too. Here's to the years ahead of growing partnership that will change many nations!



#### REACHING EUROPE TOGETHER

Maurice Nightingale (Relational Mission)

You may not consider yourself to be a wine buff (I'm certainly not), but it may interest you to know that the same grape variety will take on different characteristics depending on where and how it is grown. For example, while the French Syrah and Australian Shiraz differ in many subtle ways, to the discerning connoisseur they are actually essentially the same grape.

Recently New Ground and Relational Mission shared an outstanding conference together in Malaga, focused on church planting in Europe. If you looked closely enough you might detect a few differences in characteristics, emphasis or priorities for the different spheres, but one seasoned observer at the conference from beyond Newfrontiers commented to me that it was impossible to tell that this was two separate networks together at one conference.

'Of course,' I said, because we are from the same root,' and I explained to him our shared history of meaningful relationship and the values we share together in Newfrontiers.

It really was a wonderful time together, celebrating each other's successes, and standing with each other in the challenges. All of us committed to seeing the



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gospel of Jesus Christ proliferate throughout Europe as we see healthy, authentic, vibrant New Testament church communities springing up in nation after nation.

One of our great goals together is to see this beautiful gospel of grace penetrate the heart of the many and various cultures of Europe. There are many ways and means by which God may bring this about: In the UK we have seen people from other nations saved and discipled, and then to take this gospel of grace back to their own nation. Elsewhere we have seen international English-speaking churches in other European nations where again, people have been saved and discipled and long to see this same authentic church life birthed in their own culture or context.

One of the ways in which we are seeking to bring this about in Relational Mission is to plant a model native-language church in a nation, then to multiply that church to create a family of native-speaking churches. This then creates the soil in which our same shared values can bear its own fruits - the same root, the same values, the same grape even, but expressing itself beautifully different from culture to culture and language to language. Our prayer is that from this we will see pastors, teachers, evangelists, prophets and apostles raised up in each of the nations of Europe who can then take responsibility for their own mission and spill over to regions beyond their own borders.

"More together than apart." For us in Relational Mission, we can sincerely say it is so very good to have these great values in common with our dear friends in New Ground, as we embark together on the amazing adventure of shared mission to the nations of Europe.







France 2020 The Netherlands 2020 United Kingdom 2021