

Let's change even more lives in 2011....together!

Welcome to our new-look Yorkshire newsletter!

We've made it bigger, but this one will last for the whole year, helping to cut our printing and postage costs. Inside you will find important details about The Yorkshire Project and where some of your funds are specifically going, as well as details about our Yorkshire fundraising events and days out this summer. There are also important diary dates for the church reps' meetings this year and details about other ways in which your church and supporters could help us raise funds and awareness about this dreadful disease.

So, let's get this new newsletter off to an inspirational start with a story of encouragement for us all.



Arun helping a self-care group

When I visited Delhi toward the end of November, 2009, I had the great privilege to meet a man called Arun Kumar. I was quite inspired by his life story. Very briefly, Arun was born and raised by a very poor family in a large leprosy colony slum in East Delhi. His father had terrible leprosy and suffered the most severe disabilities.

As a small boy Arun was taken into care by the Sisters of Mercy. As a result of receiving a good education he has personally defeated poverty. But, Arun never forgot his roots and now overseas and manages The Leprosy Mission's Delhi Empowering Communities Project, which we supported as the Yorkshire Project last year. Here is a man that has gone back to help his own. He still lives among this very poor community and is held in very high regard by all the people there.

I believe that so many people coming from similar circumstances would probably have gone as far away as possible from such dreadful past circumstances in search of prosperity. Very few would go back to their roots. Doesn't this remind you a little of the story of Jesus healing the ten men with leprosy (Luke 17: 11-17) where only one of the healed returns to thank Jesus. Although, Arun never had leprosy himself, he has demonstrated tremendous love and gratitude to God by returning to his origins to help and support those much, much less fortunate than he was.

Most of us, thanks be to God have never experienced such poverty, disease and deprivation and we should never cease praising and thanking God for protecting us and taking care of all our needs. The best way we can do this is by reaching out to the poor, the sick, the rejected and the marginalised and doing what God tells us to as quoted on this year's prayer card scripture;

“Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.” *Isaiah 1:17*

This is exactly what Arun decided to do with his life. So, let's all follow his amazing example and bring joy and hope into people's lives. Let's all help to put a smile back on someone's face and continue to **make a difference... TOGETHER.**



Elderly lady in Delhi leprosy colony

The Yorkshire project

Project update

Development in Delhi

The purpose of this project was to raise living standards across five leprosy colonies in East Delhi, benefitting over 5,000 people affected by leprosy and disability.

The project aimed to provide medical care and health education, improve sanitation and enable children to access education. One of the main objectives was to develop skills and capacity through self-help groups (SHG's), empowering communities to establish sustainable livelihoods and be able to advocate for, and access resources for themselves.

Here are some very encouraging results of what was achieved in 2009;

- 71 SHG's established to support themselves economically, socially and psychologically. 64 groups have already opened new bank accounts. 327 people received loans directly from SHG funds, which enabled them to establish small businesses. 622 benefited from resources such as crutches, tricycles, wheel chairs and footwear.
- 24 children received TLM scholarships and are doing well. 6 girls have been re-admitted to school and also doing well. 8 school groups for children in the colony are working well and have good attendance.
- 5,000 people in the 5 targeted colonies benefited from awareness on leprosy and prevention of disability presentations, through street theatre and film shows.



Loan beneficiary with new food vending business

- The original 9 self-care groups has reduced to 3 as most of the beneficiaries now prefer to continue their care at home. Volunteers monitor their progress through home visits.
- 4 free medical camps were held at the Safdarjung Central Hospital. Almost 3,000 people received treatment or healthcare advice.
- Roads and pathways inside the colony have been concreted, providing better accessibility for people with leprosy-related disabilities and a cleaner and tidier environment for all.
- 2 petitions were carried out and presented to the local Government Water Department to provide clean drinking water supply to each home.

This is an ongoing project and we will continue to support it, particularly through funds raised at our Yorkshire events this year. If you would like more information about our work in East Delhi, please contact James Greig and come to a reps' meeting.

Important dates for you diary

This year we shall be hosting church reps' luncheon meetings around Yorkshire. Invitations with full meeting details and venues will be sent to you about one month prior to the event. Please do join us to see and hear the latest news about our work, help yourself to resources and browse or buy some Christmas cards, diaries, calendars and books. Come along and enjoy a buffet lunch and fellowship with fellow reps and friends from other churches in your area. Bring a friend or your spouse.

Put the date in your diary now. Starting at 11am until about 2pm, these meetings will be held at;

- ◆ **Friday 10 June—Wakefield**
- ◆ **Friday 24 June—York**
- ◆ **Friday 16 September—Bradford**
- ◆ **Friday 30 September—Sheffield**
- ◆ **Friday 7 October—Leeds / Harrogate**
- ◆ **Friday 14 October—Hull**
- ◆ **Friday 21 October—Halifax / Huddersfield**

For more information please visit www.leprosymission.org.uk

Events where you live



Fundraising events and days out

Days Out

Halifax Neighbours Day

Saturday 28 May 2011

Details: Start 10am—4pm

Charity fundraising day at the Piece Hall. Support us on our stand. Enjoy fun, fellowship and live music and performances from the big open air stage. Entrance is free. Just come along.

Halifax Charity Gala

Saturday 11 June 2011

Details Start: 1pm—5pm

Come along to our stand at this huge charity event in Manor Heath Park. Visit lots of stalls and enjoy an afternoon of fun, entertainment, food and refreshments. Great for families.

Duck Race

Bolton Abbey near Skipton

Saturday 9 July 2011

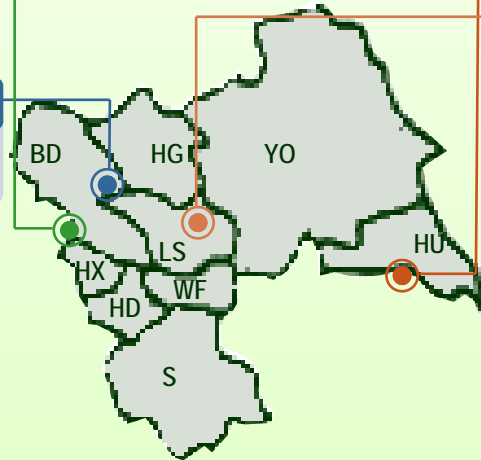
Details Start: 1pm

The Yorkshire Duck Race will start at 2pm from near the Stepping Stones. Please sponsor a duck or get your church to sponsor one or more ducks together. Of course, you do not have to attend the event to sponsor your duck. We will notify the winner who will receive a prize made by a leprosy affected person. Bring a picnic and enjoy the stunning scenery of beautiful Wharfedale

Led, by James Greig and the Power Praise Band from Halifax, we will celebrate our day with an open-air service of praise and worship at 3.15 on the banks of the River Wharfe.



Leeds - Skipton Canal Walk



Sponsored Walks

Humber Bridge Walk of Hope

2m Saturday 2 July 2011
Length: Min 2 miles Start: 2pm

Walk just one way or as many crossings over the bridge as you want. Starting or finishing at either side the distance is almost two miles each way.

Enjoy the wonderful panoramic views from the wide and spacious walkways on the bridge.

The Country Park on the north side of the bridge provides ample free parking plus a café, shop, tourist office, picnic area and toilets. Entry is free but please call us to register.

The Yorkshire Walk of Hope

29m Saturday 10 Sep 2011
Length: Min 2-29 miles Start: 9am

The banks of the historic Leeds to Liverpool Canal provide a beautiful setting for this sponsored walk. There are 8 checkpoints between Leeds and Skipton. You can start and finish at any of them and walk (2-29 miles) in either direction;

Leeds - Rodley Bridge - Apperley Bridge - Saltaire - Riddlesden - Silsden - Kildwick - Skipton

This is a great day out for fellowship and meeting people along the way. Why not get a team together from your church, set yourself a distance target and raise vital life transforming funds for the Mission. Registration fee is £10. Please send in a booking form to enter.



Yorkshire Duck Race



Humber Bridge Walk of Hope

Further information and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the Yorkshire region page on our website.

Walk, relax, care...

Raising funds and changing lives

Because you're never too old!

Peter Normandale, a young-at-heart, 83-year old retired bank manager from Menston walked 7 miles from Silsden to Skipton last September for the second year running and raised an amazing £170 on our Leeds-Skipton Canal Walk of Hope.

So, don't let your age stop you from taking up a challenge. Join us this year on a walk or even organise your own walk through our new **Feet First** initiative. All you need to do is:

1. Choose the distance and area where you would like to walk.
2. Contact us and we'll send you details of some suggested walks.
3. Then let us know your choice of walk and date and we'll send you event posters, leaflets and sponsor forms to get you started - it's that simple. Just call me.

Together, we are making a difference. Thank you all for your support.



Peter Normandale walking the dog and raising funds

Coffee & Care



If you just don't fancy a walk, you can still take part in a Coffee & Care event. The target is to raise £38 to feed all the patients at a hospital in India for a whole day. Many of you are already raising amazing amounts of funds from these events. Just call me for full details and a special poster. Then relax with a nice cuppa!

Your Region

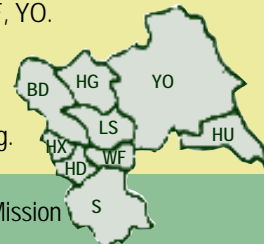
Area Coordinator:
James Greig
Nab View
18 Dradishaw Road
Silsden, Keighley
BD20 0BH



jamesg@TLMEW.org.uk
01535 658415

Covering postcodes:
BD, HD, HG, HU, HX, LS, S1-17, 19-31, 34-39, 60 -66,70-75, WF, YO.

Please contact me to arrange a speaker for a meeting.



Event booking and response form

Please make cheques payable to The Leprosy Mission

Event Title (e.g. Yorkshire Walk of Hope)	No. of people	Amount enclosed (if applicable)
_____	_____	£ _____
_____	_____	£ _____

Please send me Coffee and Care leaflets _____ (number required)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Church/Group: _____

Email: _____

I/we would like to support the work of The Leprosy Mission. Please accept the gift of:

£100 £50 £25 £ _____

giftaid it For personal gifts only, not group donations

Please treat all my donations to The Leprosy Mission for the four years prior to this year, and all subsequent donations until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations. I will pay Income and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax reclaimed on my donations in any tax year.

Signature _____

Date _____



The Leprosy Mission England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man
Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5GZ
Telephone 01733 370505 Email post@tlmew.org.uk
Reg. charity no. 1050327 A company limited by guarantee registered in England no. 3140347