Philippi Saints

Mark Quigley

Tuesday 2nd April 2013

The Philippi Trust is 25 years old this year, so I thought it might be appropriate to give thanks to God, over the next few weeks, for some of the Saints who helped make The Philippi Trust what it is. Let me start with Mark Quigley. He worked with me in Haverigg Prison, where I first felt the nudge from God to give up my job and follow an unfolding vision to serve God through Evangelism and Counselling. Mark, prayerfully and diligently helped me discover the faith necessary to take that first step. His wisdom and prayerfulness were significant in those early days.

Wednesday 3rd April

Guy Cornwall-Jones is a name that may not be familiar to many of you. He was a C of E Minister, a long time friend and an original Trustee of Philippi. He was a man of the highest principles and standards. An Evangelical Christian who believed in Discipleship that included an opportunity to experience healing through counselling. Guy has now passed on and I miss him dearly. He was the person who emphasised the Philippi Charter, Phil 2:1-5 as being essential as a core characteristic of Philippi Counsellors. Guy was one of those people who actually lived out the faith he preached. I thank God for his input into the early days of Philippi.

Jennifer Worsley 4th

Many of you will know Jennifer as my wife and a staunch supporter of the Philippi Vision. She is probably the one person who has sacrificed most and given most to ensure that the original vision of the Philippi Trust was able to grow and mature into what it is today. The early years of Philippi were difficult and I could not have survived without her financial support and the freedom she gave me to travel. We spent many days and weeks apart as the Trust began to grow and new Branches developed, and never once did she grumble or complain. She will tell you that she has been blessed by meeting some wonderful people within Philippi, with many becoming firm and lasting friends. She was a Trustee for many years, holding true to the foundations on which the Philippi Trust was built. Without her sacrifices and generosity of spirit, there would be no Philippi Trust. I thank God for her continuing faithfulness and support over the years.

Dr Mairi Lack 5th

The Philippi Trust is 25 years old this year and it seemed an appropriate time to recognise some of those Philippi Saints who allowed the Vision to become a reality. So far I have mentioned, Mark Quigley, Rev Guy Cornwall-Jones and Jennifer Worsley. Today I want to recognise the contribution of Mairi Lack. I first met Mairi in Tenerife right at the beginning of the Philippi Vision. She was a medical Dr, with a discerning mind and a disciplined faith. She was one of the original Trustees whose faith in Jesus was simple yet profound. She was a woman who walked a life of prayer which was evidenced by events and happenings that could only be described as miraculous. She often reminded us that if we kept Jesus in focus, our lives and our work would be in focus. Mairi was a working Trustee who would spend days helping us shape what was to become Philippi Training. She was a warm and caring person who worked diligently, not only in the background, but hands on producing Training Manuals! A true Gem in the Kingdom of God, who is sadly no longer with us in body, but her spirit lives on through her legacy of work.

John Irwin 6th

The Philippi Trust for Counselling & Evangelism, was the original name of the Trust, and evangelism our major occupation. I met John shortly after giving up my job in the prison and during the Decade of Evangelism he worked with me leading Missions in places as far afield as Reading, Cardiff and Belfast. He shared the platform with me for the first four Conferences at STCF in Tenerife where his input is still remembered with fondness. John is one of the most gifted Teacher/Preachers I have ever met. He is God centred, prayerful and a good mate, despite his questionable sense of humour! John was crucial in helping separate Prayer Ministry, Deliverance Ministry, Discipleship Counselling, Pastoral Counselling and other forms of Biblical Counselling so that the Philippi Model could emerge. Counselling that did not quote Scripture or offer advice was viewed with a degree of suspicion. He helped me in the first stage of this process, by separating ‘Hands On’ Ministry from ‘Hands Off’ Counselling. John is Pastor of the very lively Inglewhite Congregational Church near Garstang and his anointed Ministry of Prayer Healing has brought blessings and surprises to many people. I am honoured to call him friend.

South Tenerife Christian Fellowship 7th

My Jonah type visit to Tenerife only made sense after a week of Fellowship and prayer with three very special couples who were the pillars of the emerging South Tenerife Christian Fellowship, worshipping in the Princess Dacil at that time. They were Arnold and Peggy Maugham, John and Hazel Barton and Douglas and Barbara ?. It was their prayer support, gentle guidance and simplicity of faith that helped me work through the fears and doubts about giving up my job and trusting God with my future and the birth of the Philippi Trust. It is impossible to measure the input they had into my life at that time. This was Pastoral Counselling at its very best, all of it positive and in such a way that it gave me the space and freedom to consider God’s call without any sense of human persuasion. They were a very special group of people, and relationship with STCF and the Philippi Trust continued to be blessed by another couple who came after them, Tom and Eileen Reston. The Philippi Trust owes a great debt of gratitude to these very special people and on a personal level, it was an experience of love and encouragement that I will cherish as long as I live.

Prayer of a Confederate Soldier

A copy of this was given to me at the start of my last prison sentence. It never fails to fill me with gratitude for God’s amazing Grace.

“I asked God for strength that I might achieve. I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey. I asked for health that I might do greater things. I was given infirmity that I might do better things. I asked for riches that I might be happy. I was given poverty that I might be wise. I asked for power that I might have the praise of men. I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God. I asked for all things that I might enjoy life. I was given life that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I hoped for. Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered. I am, among all men, most richly blessed.”

Thank you to those people who contacted me last week and over the weekend. Yes I will slow things down to allow time for working people to read the Posts! I will Post them on alternate days, and yes I am keeping a copy of what I am writing for people not on Facebook.

All of the people I have written about so far would probably say they were more Sinner than Saint, and that will probably go for the rest of the people I will mention. The Saints I am highlighting are the ones who stand out in my mind as having made an impact in shaping what was to become the Philippi Model. For some it was a small yet significant part, while for others it was a crucial role. One of my reasons for writing these profiles is to help gather material for a book of the Philippi Model which will be required for students to qualify at Diploma level and above. What is needed is a Saint with the time and the ability to put it all together in a way that Glorifies God and meets all the criteria of Further Education, not just in the UK, but in other countries too.

9th Sue Hine

I first met Sue Hine in 1979 and it has been my privilege to see her skills and gifts used for good across a wide range of organisations. She is an honest, open and down to earth pragmatist. She is a skilled Trainer of Trainers and has remarkable gifts in conciliation. I have lost count of the number of times the Philippi Trust has benefitted from her gifts, both in the UK and overseas, whether as a Trainer, Advisor, Encourager or simply as a friend. She is a well liked and respected Philippi supporter who has visited and contributed to the work and Training in many of the countries where Philippi has an office.

Sue’s major contribution from my perspective has been her absolute honesty and openness. If she thinks something isn’t right she will tell you, and then give you the space to think it through and put it right. She is a strong leader and also a team person. The Philippi Trust, and me personally have benefitted from her work ethic of honesty and openness. She has a strong and practical faith, and believes in forgiveness through Grace, coupled with effort. One sentence of Sue’s I will always remember. Nothing happens by chance, you have to make it happen! In my eyes she is definitely numbered among the Saints in Philippi.

11th John Daniel

There is no particular order in which I am highlighting different individuals who were special in the shaping of the Philippi Trust, except perhaps a loose chronology. One of the key consultants and supporters is John Daniel. I first met John over 40 years ago at Lindley Lodge following my release from Prison. John was an international business trouble shooter (now retired) who could always see the bigger picture. He is a mature and dedicated Christian Disciple who practices what he preaches. He is a shrewd judge of character and a good business advisor. He has the capacity to look at a problem in practical terms, and separate it from any emotional involvement. He could see where God was blessing the Trust, where the devil was being disruptive and where I was being incompetent! When John said, ‘Right, let’s look at this as it really is’, you knew you were going to hear the truth no matter how uncomfortable it might make you feel! John’s aim was always to keep me focussed on the Philippi vision. He is dedicated to Philippi International and is highly regarded by those fortunate enough to know him. He has been a practical prayer supporter from day one and is a Philippi Saint I am proud to call my friend.

13th Hazel Brogden & Joyce Mallinson

Two people who were very much in the background in the early day of Philippi, yet who did so much of the spade work, were Hazel Brogden and Joyce Mallinson. Hazel worked at Maranatha Ministries where I first began to put together the concepts of the Philippi Model. I had the passages of Scripture but had no idea how they fit together. I was trying to adapt it to a Biblical Model which meant that Hazel typed and retyped and then typed again. It took a lot of time and effort for Hazel to convert the spiritual vision to a set of words that would begin to give meaning to the picture. Joyce was the first person to work for the Trust in Blackpool. She worked in the backroom of our house, loosely converted into an office! She took over where Hazel left off and worked painstakingly at getting everything in order. I dread to count the pages of A4 we binned, and the number of retypes Joyce did for me. I can remember her bringing those 5 ½ inch black floppy discs for me to work through, and in the end, thanks to her patience and dedication, the base format of the Philippi Model was achieved.

15th  Karen Griffiths

The Philippi Trust is an imperfect organisation made up of imperfect people living in an imperfect world, yet every now and again there is a person who seems to rise above that. Not the imperfections, but the ability to capture the spirit of Philippi and work within it. When Karen Griffiths first came for interview she had to step across raised floor boards, tool boxes, ladders and wooden beams! Her contribution to the overall ethos and shape of Philippi cannot be emphasised enough. She was supportive and encouraging as a team member and focussed as a leader. She had to cope with changes taking place on a daily basis and familiarise herself with new equipment. How the Training Manuals evolved gives some idea of the extent of growth. The earliest were four sheets of A4 paper and held together by string and metal Tags, followed by Metal fasteners, followed by Adhesive Ribs, followed by Plastic Binding Combs and finally when the Manuals had reached over 70 pages in size, by Ring Binder Folders! Karen, for me, epitomised all that Philippi was meant to be. She was at the hub of Philippi and a person who lived and worked within the characteristics of the Philippi Charter. Apart from her wonderful sense of humour she was a dedicated and committed Philippian. I thank God for the Gifts He gave her and for her generosity in sharing them with us.

18th Dave Linnington

Dave was an Evangelical Christian and a successful businessman. He joined Philippi while it was still in the infancy stage and still working from the backroom in my house. By the time Dave left he had helped get four Training Courses Recognised and Accredited with the ACC; Basic and Advanced Counselling Training, Identifying Child Abuse and Counselling Compulsions and Dependencies. It is hard to describe in words the rapid rate of change and growth the Philippi Trust went through in those early years. As fast as I wrote the training material, Dave had the gift of being able to comply with ACC criteria in Course submissions while staying true to the Philippi Vision, Counselling Model and the Philippi Charter. Those foundational years were important where principles and standards were established and under God’s guidance the Trust began to grow and expand.

20th Liz Gowen & Elaine Dunn

Sticking with the loose chronology of the growth and development of Philippi, Liz Gowen and Elaine Dunn would come next. They were based in Belgium and felt God calling them to establish a counselling provision in Brussels. They wanted ACC Recognised and Accredited Courses and for us to travel to Brussels to deliver the training. Our first indication that Philippi would be called to work outside the UK. Liz and Elaine both have a wonderful gift of Encouragement which allowed us to look at setting our sights higher. They formed a Charity in Brussels called Oasis and were determined to provide the highest levels of professional counselling. This they did and we enjoyed a special relationship with them for over ten years. Two other people who were also important in the life of Oasis were Diana Towsend and Ann Scott. Oasis still functions as an effective charity, helping vulnerable young girls in a number of countries. This weekend Elaine is running in the London Marathon to raise money for the Charity. Please pray for her safety and her energy levels, and if you are able please support her by sponsoring the attached link.

Jan Younger

When Jan Younger joined the Trust in Oct 1994 it was a giant step of faith. She gave up the security of her home in Bradford to live in two small rooms at Philippi House in Blackpool. Although it was still the Philippi Trust for Counselling and Evangelism, we had a clear focus of the model but had yet to make the substantive move to The Philippi Trust for Counselling and Counselling Training. The Basic and Advanced Counselling Courses had been Recognised and Accredited by the ACC, but they were very basic and with minimal Leaders Notes. Jan came from a teaching background and was ideally suited to keep pace with the rapid changes in standards demanded by the ACC. She took total responsibility for creating substantive Leaders Notes and for completing the extensive and detailed Course submissions to ACC. In terms of volume these two tasks far outweighed the Course material I was writing. She was also crucial in helping navigate the Trusts focus from Evangelism to Counselling Training. In addition to this Jan also travelled extensively delivering Training Courses and played an active part in the ACC Training Standards Committee. On a personal level, she was a great help to me during my C of E ordination training. It is impossible to measure the solidifying impact Jan had on Philippi Training. Following my retirement she was able to put her own stamp on the UK Model. She is rightly earned her place among the Saints in Philippi.

Marianne Olivier

Some Philippians earned their stripes by their input into admin and others by their input into training, but one person who captures the spirit of Philippi is Marianne Olivier. She has a wonderful balance of strength and humility and a clear focus on what God has called her to do. It has not been an easy journey for Marianne, yet she has responded in a positive and dedicated way. Not only has she developed Philippi Namibia in a way that responds to local need, she has also been a strength and support to other Branches in other locations.

She has truly been a guardian of the core spiritual values of Philippi and of the Philippi Charter. She has been loyal to the original foundations and faithful to the international vision. She is a woman who has earned the highest respect within Philippi and is an ideal role model for all Philippians. She is compassionate, caring and in the right social circumstances, great fun to be with! In her own mind her humility would put her as more sinner than saint, but those of us who know her well, see a dedicated and devoted leader who keeps her focus and her eyes on Jesus.

Chantal Philander & Linda Rowett

The focus of Philippi definitely had some input from YWAM, and Chantal and Linda as well as Marianne was the inspiration for that. Finding the balance in decision making between trusting in secure plans and stepping out in faith is never easy. What I learned from YWAM was that it is the prayer base of any organisation that determines its spiritual depth and identifies the individual Gifts of the Saints within Philippi. These two people were the pioneers of Philippi South Africa. Linda was an excellent Worship leader and brought the Gifts of care, prayer and caution, with Scripture being the determining factor behind any decision. She had a Prophetic ministry and helped determine the direction of Counselling Training in South Africa. What Chantal gave to the Trust was her strength of faith, enthusiasm, energy, and innovative skills. She has incredible people skills and is one of the most gifted Trainers in the whole of Philippi. She has a pioneering spirit and like many people who put themselves on the front line she has had to cope with her share of knocks.

She is a loyal and faithful friend and at a time when I needed people to believe in me she gave me 100% support. The level of emphasis on Scripture, prayer and faith within Philippi was certainly influenced by these three Saintly WYAM’ ers!

Irene Hoeth

In 1997 Elfieda Gomma, a German lady attended a Philippi Counselling Training Course in the UK and invited me to visit her hometown. As a consequence of that meeting I ran a Level 1 Course in Blenheim and first met Irene Hoeth. Irene is a qualified nurse and someone with an interest in counselling and healing and was my interpreter on the Course. Philippi Germany grew out of that meeting, and it also helped shape and clarify the shape of the Philippi Model and the Philippi Trust. In the UK and in Germany there was confusion over what was meant by Christian Counselling. In the UK it was between Counselling and Ministry and in Germany the confusion was between Psychotherapy and Counselling. The question we had to answer was where did the Philippi Model fit within these four concepts? Irene played an important part in helping us prayerfully work through the Biblical and Christian implications and help shape the final Model. Philippi Germany, along with South Africa and Namibia, also helped us begin to understand that God saw Philippi UK as a single unit made up of many branches, co-equal and with a joint responsibility. If Philippi Training was to be delivered in different languages, it required shared accountability.

Irene, along with the other overseas Branches has been a faithful guardian of the core values and vision of Philippi. They have a unity of prayer; faithfulness and friendship that has truly helped bring about the blessing of Philippi International.

Barbara Kerr

Law and Grace have played a large part in my life as well as personal accountability. I have experienced good Law and poor Law, within society and within the Church. I am grateful that at the end of the day God will be my Judge, but if I had to choose one person from within Philippi as an alternative I would not hesitate to choose Barbara. She does not compromise yet has a wonderful balance between straight talking honesty and genuine compassion. I often wonder if her insistence on the accuracy of every detail comes from her musical training where every note has to be perfect. She developed Philippi Natal in a traditional way focussing on Basic and Advanced Counselling Training Courses. Barbara does not do compromise. She does right and wrong with compassion and Grace. Philippi benefitted from her forthright approach and genuine challenges and although I was left feeling uncomfortable at times, it was only as a prelude to a positive outcome. Barbara has enjoyed the support and encouragement of husband Nick and her close Philippi colleague, Don Peddie one of the loveliest and genuine men I have ever met. Her contribution to Philippi and to me personally cannot be measured and to have known this very special Sinner/Saint has been an honour. One characteristic of Barbara’s I will never forget is her laughter! Open, full bodied and fun!

Coincidences

In using these profiles as a means of drafting an outline for a Booklet of the Philippi Model at the request of Philippi International, I have been surprised at a number of ‘coincidences’.

During this winter in Tenerife I met a couple, Bob and Pat who remembered my initial visit to the Princess Dacil where Arnold Maughan helped confirm the vision 25 years ago. I subsequently met two other people who were part of STCF at that time and who remembered my initial visit. Four weeks ago I bumped into a man called Harry Hyde who was the Education Officer in Haverigg Prison during my last sentence and also when I returned as a probation Officer. Although he isn’t a Christian he offered me a great deal of support and encouragement, especially when I gave up my job to live by faith. Last week I bumped into Ken Linley, the Senior Prison Officer who took me under his wing in the Prison who again helped me make the transition from Probation to Philippi. The reason I am sharing this is that I have not met any of these people for 25 years and in one month I have met them all! Coincidence?

Throughout these profiles I have shared the dilemma and difficulties in moving from the Philippi Trust for Counselling and Evangelism to the Philippi Trust for Counselling and Training. While I knew in theory and in my own practice what I meant by the Philippi Counselling Model, I struggled to understand it within the context of overall Church Ministry and healing at that time. Three people in particular helped me work through the differences between Counselling Philippi style and the Ministry of healing. They were Janine Goulding, Adrienne Kay and Hazel Sewell. To differentiate between Counselling and Ministry we looked at two Greek words – Kairos and Chronos. Kairos was in the moment healing – in the here and now. Laying on of hands, Words of knowledge, Deliverance etc. The person administering the blessing was in control. Alternately Chronos was hands off, in the clients time and the counsellee was in control. This concept is at the core of the Philippi Model and a debt of gratitude is owed to these three early Philippians who can rightly be numbered with the other sinner/saints within Philippi.

Jane Redrup

Jane is from Truro and along with late husband Bob helped shape the direction the Philippi vision was to take. The Philippi Trust was very much about Evangelism and Counselling at that time and Bob was a Gifted Pastoral Evangelist and Jane very much more inclined towards Pastoral Care - so the perfect balance. Jane helped set practical minimum standards for Philippi Counsellors and Bob helped me separate Evangelism and Counselling. Some of our earliest Counselling Training Courses were held in Truro and as a consequence of their observations; many adjustments were made to the way Philippi Training and Counselling was delivered. Later Truro was to become one of the strongholds of Philippi Counselling and Training with a committed team of volunteers.

Fee Trim

Fee has been involved in both the Counselling and the Counselling Training side of Philippi for many years and still works as a valued and respected Trainer. She played an important part in both areas of Philippi. She helped to determine standards for evaluating counselling skills in practice. She is also an excellent role model of a Philippi Counsellor in practice.

The role she played in ‘test driving’ some of the Training methods and material was crucial in achieving the finished Training Courses. Fee could identify the flaws, the faults, the mistakes, the nonsense, and the irrelevant and get the focus back on the core components of the Philippi Model. We have a lot to be thankful to Fee for.

Having set out to plot the 25 year journey of the unfolding Philippi Christian Counselling Model and to give credit and recognition to those who helped shape it along the way, I should now be able to sift through the profiles and perhaps help draft an outline for a Booklet on the Philippi Model of Counselling. There were obviously many more people involved in Philippi than I have mentioned, and many who made a valuable contribution to the overall running of the Trust. My aim in writing the profiles was not to write a historical account of the Philippi Trust, but rather, to focus on the unfolding vision of the Philippi Model for Counselling and Training, from its earliest days in Haverigg Prison, to the completion of the first Diploma Course. This Course incorporated the Core content of the Philippi Model, its Biblical basis and counselling philosophy.

It has been an interesting journey full of memories and blessings, particularly the positive comments left by so many people. I have one final profile which I will Post early next week.

When Clive Taylor and Betty Wales picked up the mantel to restore Philippi UK to its original core values, it took courage, faith and commitment. It also needed a vision for the Philippi Trust which could hold on to the Philippi core traditions, while embracing the needs of a C21st Church. There is a God centred feel to the new Philippi UK and it has been an absolute privilege to have been allowed to share in this part of the Philippi journey. There is no doubt in my mind that the Lord has given His full blessing to the new invigorated Philippi.