

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

We have had some cold weather earlier in February. The Dewsbury area hasn't had much snow but other places in the UK have had more snow. So we have these different seasons and changes in the weather. There is sunshine, snow, rain and wind. Sometimes we can feel happy or sad, there is times when life is going well and other times when we are in the midst of a difficult situation. However, God never changes, His Word and His truth never ever changes. The Bible says that God is faithful even when we are faithless. We can trust His promises. The worship song 'One Thing Remains' says, 'Your love never fails, it never gives up, it never runs out on me'.

God is good! Isaiah 40:8 says, 'The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.' We have now passed our 11th year on FM and we thank God for his provision and His daily blessings and help. We had a great 2018 here at Branch FM and we look forward to an exciting 2019! We know there is much more to do and we know with greater resources we can make a greater impact on the local area and around the world through the sharing of God's love and truth.

Testimonies

It is always great to hear how people have been blessed, encouraged and impacted by listening to Branch FM. Here are some examples:

haven't heard before and just added Phil Wickhams Great Things to this Sunday's worship set. Thanks for broadcasting.'

'Worth a listen - these guys are so committed.'

'Recently discovered your station while driving between Manchester and Leeds for work early in the morning. And bonus: I've found an app that means I can listen wherever I am. Discovering lots of great music I



'Thank you for broadcasting today's Healing Is Here Conference. This is my first time listening and I can't wait to tune in again tomorrow and every day after!'



In the past few years to help raise some funds for Branch FM we have been doing a sponsored walk. On 3rd February this year a couple of the team, Barnabas Childs and

continue to need finances to continue the work God has given us. If you can partner with us or give a onetime gift then you can visit our donate page on our new website that we



uploaded recently branchfm.com

Michael Firth ran the official Dewsbury 10k. There were over 1700 runners and they had a great time. We also managed to raise £608. Barnabas will also be doing Total Warrior at Branham Park in June, a 12k obstacle course and he is hoping to possibly do the Leeds Half marathon too. Keep checking our social media to see the latest activities and events we are involved in. We are planning to do another sponsored walk this year too.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement. We are a listener supported radio station and we



We told you in an earlier newsletter how God provided us with a van. We had been using it travelling to and from our live broadcasts that we do. Unfortunately, we had it stolen so we do now need a new van. If anybody would like to give money specifically towards the events/live broadcasts that

we get involved with that would be greatly appreciated too. That money would go towards travelling, accommodation and the general cost of being at events.

Live Broadcast

We did our first live broadcast of the year in late January. It was Healing Is Here at Charis Bible College Dewsbury with Cecil & Lisa Paxton. You can listen to our live coverage of that event including some interviews and some of our live broadcast of last year by visiting branchfm.com and clicking on listen again and then live broadcasts.

Last year in November we did another live broadcast at Mowbray Community Church in Harrogate. They

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had another worship night there and Barnabas and Mike presented live from the venue again along with doing some interviews.

Stay tuned to our social media for any other live broadcasts this year.



Featured Interview

Ally and Thelma part 1

Q. How did you become involved with Branch FM?

A. We became involved with Branch in about 2010 when we were working as outreach workers for the Methodist Church. Barney invited us to chat about our work for his show, it came out in conversation that we'd been involved with other radio work and the rest is history! We ended up presenting the Monday night show from the studio and have been doing it ever since :)

Q. Thel, how did you become a Christian?

A. I was brought up by a Welsh Chapel Father and a Salvation Army mother and went to Sunday school and a Bible kids club and always believed in God. He was always a part of my life, but I came to realise that I needed to find out if all what I'd been brought up to believe by my parents, especially my Dad's faith in God, was real. I was questioning things when out shopping; one day I met Christians doing street outreach who were living their lives full time for God and long story short, I began to feel that's what I should do. I decided to go to Bible College to study for myself and spent two years doing that which made me more convinced than ever that everything I'd been brought up to believe was true. I opened up my heart and committed my life fully to God. Best decision I ever made!

Q. Ally, how did you become a Christian?

A. One evening after a Friday night out friends, I got myself into a big argument with someone. Unfortunately, my temper got the better of me and I lashed out at the other person, knocking his take

away food all over him. As everybody else started laughing, including the person covered in Chinese food, I personally felt really bad for what I had done. On the way home, one of my friends assured me that I had done the right thing - but I wasn't convinced. On my way home that night, a sudden sense of guilt came upon me, and as arrived home and went to bed, the sense of guilt seemed to increase, so much so that I even considered turning myself in to the police - though I had no idea why!

This restless feeling continued throughout the night, and as morning arrived, the strangest thing happened to me. I felt an unusual impression deep within my heart. It seemed to come from nowhere and yet everywhere at the same time. Instantly, all I could think about was where I could find a Bible. It just so happened that I found one in my room. It was a gift given to me whilst I lived and worked in Gibraltar - unopened and unread! As soon as I found the bible, I opened the first page, and as I began to read, I felt a peace come over me that I had never felt before. That horrible guilt I had suffered for most of the night, immediately disappeared. The stress had gone, and a wave of confidence seemed to rise up from deep within me. I remember reading the words of Jesus 'Come to me and you will find rest for your soul'. Somehow that morning, I remember praying my first ever prayer, which went something like 'Lord Jesus, I give you my life'.



Ally and Thelma interview continued

I went downstairs feeling like a new person, and even my mother commented on how different I appeared. Later on that day, I went down to the local bar and brought everyone a drink, and I apologised to the person I had got into a row with the night before. As the weeks went by, whenever I went out to the bars, I would sneak off early, go back home and secretly start reading my New Testament. Over the next few months, as my faith increased, I felt the need to look for a Christian Church, and on finding one, I was baptised right in front of all my friends and family. That day I really felt that I had begun a spiritual journey to which I have never looked back.

My favourite scripture is 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, forever,' and whenever I am asked about my faith, my answer is simply that I only believe that Jesus is who He says He is, and what He has done for me He can do for you. My main goal in life is to present the Christian faith in a real and relevant way to a world full of confusion and pain. I believe the only way this can happen, is if the Church is totally united, totally bible based and totally devoted to Jesus. For he is the one who ultimately 'Loved me and gave himself for me'.

Volunteers and students

We will be continuing this year to have students coming to us for work experience. We are excited about this and we continue to be blessed by our volunteers and see God impact on their lives. Here is what one of our volunteers wrote:

'I have given my life to God and that's why I go to church and pray. Being at Branch FM has really changed my life.'



Once again many thanks for your continued stance with us in faith on this mission along with your prayers and financial support.

Lives are being changed and the 'darkness' driven back each and everyday with God's Word broadcast through the airwaves, locally, nationally and worldwide, hallelujah praise the Lord.

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