

This issue of the Bulletin is devoted to **Walk Cumbria**, which will very soon be a reality for us. Perhaps your church is already planning, perhaps you need to get started! We are grateful for material from the Revd Paul Dunstan, Evangelism Enabler for Walk Cumbria. Here are two tributes from people who have experience of Through Faith Missions:

**May God
bless us
all in our
planning
for
Walk
Cumbria!**

Interview with a walker

Neil Hastie lives in Heysham. Before retiring he was a bank manager in Cumbria and then ran a milk round with his son. **Paul Dunstan** talked with him.

PD: Why are you taking part in Walk Cumbria?

Neil: The main reason is I saw the power of what a mission can do in Burton-in-Lonsdale in 1991. People were converted, and the work continued long after. It's the power of Christians working together, and God blesses it.

PD: Are you an expert evangelist?

Neil: No! No way! I'd describe myself as an apprehensive normal bloke... but one who has recognised that God provides everything you need.

PD: What do you hope for from Walk Cumbria?

*Neil: Hundreds, if not thousands, come to a living faith in Christ!
Secondly, all the churches that take part revitalised, reinvigorated and encouraged - and I'm sure they will be!*

Betty Furness of Appleby told **Nigel Holmes** about her conversion 15 years ago as a result of the work of Through Faith Missions ;

BF – I was a bit unsure what to expect. I hadn't been to a mission before. But it was an amazing feeling hearing Daniel Cozens saying 'Come to the Lord'. I said to myself, 'I know that God wants me', so I went forward and there were people to pray for you.

NH – What difference did it make ?

BF – I told them that I'd always had a chip on my shoulder. I was 55 then. And all those years I'd worried because my mother wasn't married when I was born. Suddenly it took all that away. I started to worship at the Sands where I've been in the welcome team, on the worship committee and was church steward for five or six years.

NH – Have there been any tough times over those years ?

BF – I lost my first grandson when he was just 13 weeks old. My Christian faith was a real blessing not just to me but to the whole family at that terrible time. I do look forward to meeting him again in heaven. Now my husband, Malcolm, and I have been blessed with three other grandchildren, all living close to us in Appleby.

NH – Do you talk to people about your faith ?

BF – I'm a member of Women's Aglow and so through that group we get the chance to tell our Christian story just as Daniel Cozens told his. I'm really looking forward to meeting him again after all those years as I've so much to be thankful for.

And here is something to stress the ecumenical nature of Walk Cumbria

The Cumbria Ecumenical Officer, Andrew Dodd, is pleased with the local nature of Walk Cumbria :

By welcoming our walking visitors we become part of an ancient Celtic tradition of 'Peregrinatio' or religious voyaging. By sea and land the saints of old brought the message of salvation to uncharted territories. Cumbria has its fair share of those saints. So the opportunity is given once again in modern times for modern day saints to walk into towns and villages across the county.

We particularly welcome the local character of the mission. Local churches are being asked, 'What is appropriate for you, in your locality, among your people with whom you live and move and have your being?' 'How can we help you?' The hope is that, with sensitive planning, teams can support what is already happening and so can adapt to local needs and also be a stimulus to change and growth.