

What's New from Torch Trust

**The accessible Christian reading and
services magazine from Torch Trust.**

Summer 2018

Large print 25pt

**Published by Torch Trust
Torch House, Torch Way
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 9HL UK
torchtrust.org**

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number 1095904**

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What's New from Torch Trust is
available in the following formats:
email, audio CD, braille, and large print
(17, 20, 25 and 30 point). It can also be
viewed on the Torch website.**

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Editorial

Hello and welcome to WHAT'S NEW from Torch Trust, the magazine that brings you all the latest information about our services, resources and literature.

This issue highlights some of the most recent additions to the Torch catalogue of books for sale. These books are available to buy in varied accessible formats such as large print, braille and audio. And don't forget, Torch Trust also operates a postal lending library of 2,500 accessible books that are free for people with sight loss to borrow.

If you don't see a book you'd like in this magazine, we have over a thousand available in accessible formats, in categories including Prayer, Christian Living and Health and Wellbeing.

In WHAT'S NEW you'll also be able find out about some of Torch's other

services, including our Holiday & Retreat Centre and TorchTalk, our telephone friendship service.

I hope you'll enjoy this magazine and perhaps pass it on to anyone you know who might be interested. If you would like to receive **WHAT'S NEW** in other formats then do get in touch on 01858 438260 or email info@torchtrust.org.

Happy reading,

Grace Davis, Editor

Torch's on request service

Is there a particular Christian book or resource you are wanting just now, maybe something your church is studying or is being talked about? Do please ask if we can provide an accessible version for you. Torch Trust continues to develop excellent relationships with an increasing number of Christian book publishers and through this has potential access to many titles. So do please contact Client Services and we will do our very best to see if we can help – it's worth asking.

Book reviews

All of the books reviewed below are now available on request in braille and large print sizes 17pt, 20pt, 25pt and 30pt, to purchase.

Brave by Debbie Duncan

Dealing with some challenging situations in her own life prompted Debbie Duncan to take a broader look at the subject of bravery in this helpful book. As well as drawing on her personal story, she finds examples from the lives of others, including biblical characters, to examine different aspects of bravery – ranging from the courage required when dealing with ill health to facing up to forgiveness. Duncan's tone is reassuring and includes practical

advice as well as prayers that can be used at the end of each section. She involves other authors in the chapters about leaving home and retirement to add integrity to her analysis, but one component given little attention is the courage needed in different work situations. There are also sometimes too many examples, where one or two would be sufficient to make the point. The honesty the author displays is very engaging and there is much here to inspire any reader who needs a little encouragement to be brave, whatever situation they are facing.

Review by Caroline Newbold. From PREMIER CHRISTIANITY magazine, used with permission. Ref. 8886, £7.99

Take Heart by Matt Chandler

Sometimes books from the US about cultural change, evangelism and the Bible don't translate well for a UK audience. TAKE HEART is an exception. It's a small book that packs an enormous punch and is just so encouraging. Chandler gives us a succinct, accurate and somewhat brutal analysis of where the West is today, as well as the different attitudes Christians have towards culture (convert, condemn or consume). He places great emphasis on knowing Jesus, good theology and the Church. His principles of hospitality are excellent – welcome, engage, have dinners, love the outsider. He wants us to have courage 'to speak positively and seek unity, to love those who disagree with us and seek to malign us, to be

unsurprised and not angered when a society that rejects Christ does not line up its laws with those of Christ'. **TAKE HEART** is a small book with great depth and power. It's highly recommended for any Christian or church that is feeling a little battered, bruised, discouraged or confused.

Review by David Robertson. From **PREMIER CHRISTIANITY** magazine, used with permission. Ref. 8908, £6.79

Women and God by Kathleen Nielson

Women and God: Hard questions. Beautiful truth addresses the emotive and sometimes controversial questions surrounding the Bible and gender. Kathleen Nielson recognises the issue of how God regards women is not

merely theoretical but “weighty, personal, and emotional”. She delves deeply into scripture, seeking to show the big picture of what God says about women throughout the Bible. She does not shy away from difficult passages, but tackles them head-on, unwavering in her complementarian (men and women, although equal, were created to be different) stance as she does so. Acknowledging that there have been those who have abused teaching on submission, demeaning and hurting women as a result, she asserts that scripture itself is never oppressive. Rather it contains beautiful truth about how God sees women – even in those passages with instructions that might seem “too hard”, which she admits we can “instinctively look for ways to dodge”.

Parts of the book may seem old-fashioned. Much of the material is

a long way removed from today's cultural norms. But whether or not you agree with her conclusions, Nielson's biblical exposition is rigorous. She's also at pains to point out the dangers of extremism, explaining Christians must "be careful to avoid . . . the extreme of taking God's order too lightly, and on the other hand, the extreme of using God's order to impose rules and regulations that go beyond what the Bible actually says". Writing with honesty, sensitivity and clarity, Nielson's ultimate point is that God purposefully created male and female image-bearers to encourage and work alongside one another well.

**Review by Claire Musters. From PREMIER CHRISTIANITY, used with permission.
Ref. 8922, £8.99**

Torch holidays

Torch Holiday & Retreat Centre

Set on the border of the South Downs National Park, in rural West Sussex, the Centre is the location for a great and varied programme of holidays each year, all specially designed for people with sight loss. Holidays vary from themed breaks such as walking weeks, book weeks and craft weeks, to more relaxing summer vacations and holidays during the festive season.

Our team is very passionate about the Centre providing a family atmosphere and every guest is encouraged to regard it as his or her own home. The team is made up of a number of staff and volunteers, all of whom are dedicated to

creating and providing the best possible holidays – suited to the needs of each one of our guests.

The programme of holidays for 2019 will be available in the autumn. It's also possible to book the centre for conferences and events, such as church away days and celebrations.

Upcoming holidays:

24th – 28th September HURSTPIERPOINT FESTIVAL £380 – Enjoy the local Hurst Festival with events from musicians, poets, writers, artists and more.

15th – 19th October CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS £360 – Creative activities in and out of the centre; pottery, mosaics, painting and more.

**19th – 23rd November GADGET WEEK
£320 – A week to engage with
technology for people with sight loss.**

**3rd – 7th December WE THREE KINGS
(PRE-CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY) £480 – A time
to celebrate Christmas early with the
joys of a fun family Christmas**

**To book or find out more about these
holidays and all the others coming up
this year just call 01858 438260 or
email info@torchtrust.org.**

TorchTalk

TorchTalk is a free service which aims to bring people with sight loss together in fellowship. The groups provide Christian friendship, discussion, prayer, encouragement and fun via telephone conference calls. The groups are open to anyone with sight loss of all faiths or none. To join a group, please call Torch Trust or visit our website torchtrust.org for a list of current groups. Call us to sign up for a group, all you need do then is wait for our call at the beginning of each group meeting.

Every first Sunday of the month at 3 pm we have a Sunday Service Group, aimed at people who may not be able to get to church. Due to its size this is a call-in group, where participants are given a phone number and pin code to dial in themselves. Call Client Services to register your interest.

In Your Pocket

Torch is pleased to announce our collaboration with In Your Pocket – a mobile device designed for people with sight loss. In Your Pocket, created by RNIB, Real Thing and O2, aims to make accessing talking books and newspapers easy, and soon Torch’s library will be available on it too!

In Your Pocket functions as a speech-enabled smart phone and can make phone calls and manage your contacts, as well as enabling users to access over 60,000 talking books, 200 newspapers and magazines, and 50,000 podcasts. The device comes setup and ready to use, along with a protective case, headset and audio CD with instructions on how to use it. To order call the dedicated helpline 0333 7727708, or order online at inyourpocket.net

New books for purchase from Torch

All of the following books are newly available to purchase in braille and large print sizes 17pt, 20pt, 25pt and 30pt. Books that are available on DAISY are marked with an asterisk (*) next to the title. To buy a book call us on 01858 438260.

Bible Commentaries

Behold My Servant: The servant songs of Isaiah

By Brian A Russell. 8941, £9.99. The Servant Songs of Isaiah are a beautiful topic for a devotional. Set in the context of Israel's failure, few places in the Old

Testament speak so clearly about the merciful Messiah.

Titus: The Good Life

By Tim Chester. 8982, £3.99. In these 5 studies Tim Chester shows how the gospel makes a real difference as he takes us to this little-read, life-changing New Testament letter

Bible Characters

Elijah: A man just like us

By Liam Goligher. 8981, £3.99. 5 studies on Elijah who The New Testament writer James describes as ‘a man like us’. The true story of Elijah gives us an opportunity to discover how God can

take people just like us to use for his eternal glory.

Heaven, How I Got Here: The story of the thief on the cross

By Colin S. Smith. 8932, £6.99. What if you woke up one morning knowing that it was your last day on earth? That's what happened to the thief on the cross, who died next to Jesus. His story, told in his own words, as he looks back from Heaven on the day that changed his eternity.

Study Courses

Freedom in Christ (Participant's Guide): A 10-week life-changing discipleship course

By Neil T. Anderson. 8964, £6.99.

'Freedom in Christ' is designed to help every Christian become a fruitful disciple and make their life count. It has been an effective resource for Christians of all backgrounds, from those who have been believers for many years to the very newest.

The Steps to Freedom in Christ: A Biblical guide to help you resolve personal and spiritual conflicts

By Neil T. Anderson. 8955, £1.19. This hands-on guide contains a spiritual inventory to help you identify and break free from condemning thoughts, compulsive behaviours, personal conflicts, spiritual struggle, and any type of personal or spiritual bondage.

Health and Wellbeing

Adventures in a Foreign Land: Discovering Jesus' compassion for the mentally ill

By Lorraine Gibbard. 8894, £8.99. When Lorraine Gibbard became a Christian,

she could not imagine the tumultuous journey that awaited her. A sudden onset of mental illness shattered her successful life and left her feeling lost in a foreign land clinging to new found faith.

Down, Not Out

By Chris Cipollone. 8912, £6.79. This book unpacks many aspects of depression and anxiety, and brings our gospel identity to bear on each one.

Church

Seven Dangers Facing Your Church

By Juan Sanchez. 8920, £7.64. Identify, avoid and overcome the challenges

facing your church, so that you can stay faithful in a changing culture

Why bother with church?: And other questions about why you need it and why it needs you

By Sam Allberry. 8904, £2.00. This short, realistic but optimistic book explains clearly and simply from the Bible what the church really is, why it is both brilliant and frustrating, and why it is wonderful to be part of it. Part of the 'Questions Christians Ask' series

Christian Living

Naturally Supernatural*

By Wendy Mann. 8632, £8.99

This book unpacks over 10 years of Wendy Mann's journey of learning how to live a naturally supernatural life. It is full of inspiring insights and practical tools that she and her church community, King's Arms Church, Bedford, are learning along the way.

There are no Ordinary People*

By Jeff Lucas. Available in DAISY only, 8511 £9.99

Enjoy Jeff's trade mark humour and down-to-earth realism as he looks at Barnabas, discovering that in the midst of the ordinary, we can in fact all live extraordinary lives with God by our side.

Spirituality & Devotional Titles

A Clearing of the Mists: In pursuit of wisdom upon the Scottish hills

By Martin C. Haworth. 8936, £8.99.
Martin C Haworth was drawn to wild places, searching for that connection with something pure and great. He has known the spiritual glimpses that God communicates to us through the awe-inspiring grandeur of wild places. Join him in this devotional journey.

Spiritual Healthcheck: 16 Steps to a thriving Christian life

By Carl Laferton. 8901, £2.69. We all need a spiritual health-check from time

to time. These 16 devotions will help you to see where and how to grow in faith and joy.

Rewards of the Secret Place*

By Ian Christensen. 8620, £8.99. In this book you will discover what God desires to do in our encounters with Him and how He wants to bless or 'reward' us simply for being there. We also discover that in 'the secret place' He is able to release the miraculous into our lives.

Fiction

Acts and Omissions

By Catherine Fox. 8830, £9.99. The Bishop of Lindchester is happily married with four daughters. But does he have

a secret? Welcome to the fictional Diocese of Lindchester bishops, priests and laypeople. This novel reveals the Church of England in all its mess and glory.

Angels and Men

By Catherine Fox. 8833, £9.99. Mara Johns arrives as a postgraduate student at a great northern cathedral city. Antagonistic to the church and fiercely independent, she repels all friendly overtures and seeks spiritual answers in her theological research. An accomplished debut novel.

Being Livi Starling

By Karen Rosario Ingerslev. 8961, £7.99. She may have said ‘a little prayer to Jesus,’ but Livi Starling really isn’t sure

she's cut out for the Christian life. For a start, she can't stop lying. For another, she's bitterly angry with her father & horrified when it is suggested she forgive him.

Belle of the Ball: Is justice, like beauty, ever more than skin deep?

By Mary Weeks Millard. 8876, £7.99.
Lydia, a 16 year old girl world is shaken when she becomes a victim in a hit-and-run car crash. She and her family head out to the Greek island of Samos for a holiday and for Lydia to recuperate she meets a Ugandan girl, Nakato, fleeing trauma of her own.

A Very Private Grave: Book 1: The Monastery Murders*

By Donna Fletcher Crow. 7906 £8.99

A contemporary novel with a thoroughly modern heroine who sets out to solve a murder. This sweeping page-turning thriller deftly mixes detection, church history, romance and the solving of clues ancient and modern.

Torch Lending Library

Torch operates a free postal lending library with over 2,500 books available to borrow in a variety of accessible media. Please ring Client Services to find out more about the books available. The books below are some of the most recently added to the library

New books to borrow

Romans 1 – 7 For You

By Timothy Keller. Study: Thematic: Bible. Available Media: Braille B3238 & Giant Print G2649

Join Dr Timothy Keller as he opens up the first half of the book of Romans, helping you to get to grips with its

meaning and showing how it transforms our hearts and lives today.

Life Explored Handbook

By Barry Cooper. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Braille B3236

In this short, simple book, Sam Allberry wants to help confused Christians understand what God has said about these questions in the scriptures. Drawing on his own experience, he offers a positive and liberating way forward through the debate.

The Secret to True Happiness

By Joyce Meyer. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Giant Print G2644

This book is a transformative journey that will take the reader from the drudgery of ordinary living to the vigour and excitement of following God's path every day.

A Bouquet of Blessings

By Doreen Harrison. Spirituality: Devotional. Available Media: Braille B3235

This collection of anecdotes, award-winning poetry and true stories will inspire your faith and encourage you in your daily walk with God. Light and easy to read, "A Bouquet of Blessings" may be used for devotions or as a daily reading book.

The Joy of Service

**By Julian Hardyman. Spirituality:
Christian Living. Available Media:
Braille B3228 & Giant Print G2643**

Experienced pastor Julian Hardyman writes openly of how his own experience of suffering has shaped his ministry. He explains that pain and suffering are not only to be expected, but are the tools that God uses to equip us to serve others joyfully.

True Friendship

**By Vaughan Roberts. Spirituality:
Christian Living. Available Media:
Braille B3230**

Whatever the state of your friendships, take heart as you read this book. You'll see that we can live out our true humanity as we sacrificially love others.

Includes reflections, discussion questions and practical ideas for making a real difference.

Breaking Through Barriers to Blessing

By David Legge. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Braille B3231 & Giant Print G2635

In “Breaking Through Barriers to Blessing”, David Legge seeks to help you identify and overcome the hindrances to your progress as a Christian, releasing you to a life of blessing and fulfilment.

Fragrance of Faith

By Doreen Harrison. Spirituality: Devotional. Available Media: Braille B3234

This book, the third in the Bouquet of Blessings trilogy, Doreen Harrison once again draws on her many years of rich and varied experience to present a fresh selection of inspiring stories which are sure to encourage, challenge and bless readers.

Father, Forgive

By Andrew White. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Braille B3237

Andrew White asks what our own needs for reconciliation? As we come to look at reconciliation, Forgiveness is the most important thing in life and the

only thing that can prevent the pain of the past determining our future.

Instant Expert: The Bible

**By Nick Page. Bible Study Aids.
Available Media: Braille B3229**

The Bible gives you everything you need to know about this ancient, unique and powerful book. This accessible, informal introduction is for anyone who wants to find out what the Bible is, where it came from, and what it says.

Love Lifted Me

**By Charles F. Geddes. Biography:
Individual. Available Media: Braille
B3239**

Charles Geddes was born in Banffshire, Scotland, into a fishing family.

Abandoned while young, he experienced deep poverty. This book tells of his conversion and his ministry as a teacher and then on the streets and prisons of the West Indies.

The Song of Songs

By Charlie Cleverly. Study: Thematic. Available Media: Braille B3233 & Giant Print G2645

The Song of Songs is redolent with poetic imagery, featuring as it does the love songs of a man and a woman as they explore their relationship.

5 Things to Pray for your Church

By Rachel Jones. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Braille B3208, Daisy & USB D2935 & Giant Print G2609

This book will equip you to pray powerful prayers for your church family – prayers that really change things, because they’re based on God’s word.

5 Things to Pray for the People you Love

**By Rachel Jones. Spirituality:
Devotional: Prayers & Poems. Available
Media: Braille B3209, Daisy & USB
D3268 & Giant Print G2641**

This book will equip you to pray powerful prayers for the people you love – prayers that really change things, because they’re based on God’s word.

20 Ways to Make Every Day Better

By Joyce Meyer. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Giant Print G2636

In “20 Ways To Make Every Day Better”, Joyce Meyer shares biblical illustrations, actionable advice, uplifting stories, and the encouragement we need to start enjoying the life God created for us.

Overload

By Joyce Meyer. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Giant Print G2637

As technology increases your accessibility, it becomes harder to mute the background noise of your life and receive God’s guidance. Joyce Meyer

calls this overload, when the demands of your busy life become all-consuming and overwhelming.

The Great Mystery

By Alister E. McGrath. Study: Thematic. Available Media: Giant Print G2638

Who are we? Why are we here? What is our future? Are we alone? And what can religion bring, alongside biology and anthropology, to these important and exciting questions?

The Mind Connection

By Joyce Meyer. Spirituality: Christian Living. Available Media: Braille B3210 & Giant Print G2606

In this book Joyce Meyer expands on the wisdom of her bestselling books

**Battlefield of the Mind and Power
Thoughts to explain how to improve the
quality of your thoughts and your life.**

Bacon Sandwiches and Salvation

**By Adrian Plass. Available Media:
Braille B3213 & Giant Print G2630**

**Adrian works through the alphabet,
combining one-line definitions with
more thoughtful pieces –
a laugh-out-loud book on Christians and
Christian culture.**

Other Torch resources

Bible Reading Notes

We produce some of the most popular daily Bible reading notes in accessible media and you can choose which suits you best. **EVERY DAY WITH JESUS** from CWR, **DAILY BREAD** from Scripture Union and **THE UPPER ROOM** from the Bible Reading Fellowship are all available from Torch at no cost. However, if you would like to make an annual voluntary donation to cover our costs, we suggest **£16.00**.

Magazines and Publications

We also produce a number of magazines in a variety of styles and media to suit

everyone:

TORCH NEWS – a quarterly news magazine with essential updates and articles about Torch services and activities.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER – regular news on Torch in Malawi and elsewhere outside the UK.

CHRISTIANITY TODAY DIGEST – a monthly compilation of articles from this contemporary online magazine.

PREMIER CHRISTIANITY AND PREMIER CHRISTIANITY LITE – the UK's biggest selling monthly Christian magazine in accessible media.

WHAT'S NEW – new books, reviews and new activities at Torch.

REFLECTIONS RADIO OMNIBUS – a monthly compilation of previous editions of Reflections radio programmes.

ENews – an occasional email from Torch with news and notices that we want to bring to your attention.

For more details about any of these resources, please call our Client Services Team on 01858 438260.

