

New Eyes Created

One of the many hundreds of converts in that notable visitation was a young man called Tom Wilson. His mother went along to one of the evening meetings early in the campaign and was quite late returning home. Tom and his father were getting worried, fearing something had happened to her, so that when she eventually returned they wanted to know where she had been. When she explained that she had been to a religious meeting in the Town Hall, her husband was rather incredulous and wanted to know what kind of a religious meeting it was that went on for hours. Full of excitement, she began to tell them: "You know the blind girl Celia Brown; well she can see."

"Don't be silly, mother," said Tom, "that's impossible; we all know that Celia hasn't even got any eyes, so how can she see? Her eyes are just empty sockets."

"I'm telling you," his mother replied, "when this Welshman, Stephen Jeffreys, prayed for her tonight she received a pair of blue eyes and she can see."

Celia was thirteen and well-known locally. They still couldn't believe what Mrs Wilson was saying but they soon discovered it was true. This, along with other miracles of healing, became the talk of the town.

The Vicar of Wall, Rev J. W. Adams, became very friendly with Stephen and helped in the campaigns at Walworth, Kensington, Bedford, Southend-on-Sea, Chelmsford, Bishop Auckland, Sunderland, Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells, Wakefield and others. He was not present at the meeting when Celia was healed but arrived a little later in the campaign and got Stephen's own account:

On March 11th she came for prayer. She did not then appear to have any eyes even in embryo condition and had never known the difference between light and dark, day and night. Immediately after the laying-on of hands a new world began to be opened for her: with her new and very small eyes she discerned the marked difference between light and shade. Next day she saw more clearly, and power began in her to count and pick up pennies from a white tablecloth.

Mr Adams himself testified: "I have seen and talked with her since on several occasions and each time her eyes had slightly grown in size and ability. She could count fingers held before her and form some estimate of distance. In this she was as an infant learning to see. Her eyes are blue and like those of her father."

Excerpt from "*Seven Pentecostal Pioneers*" by C. Whittaker. Gospel Publishing House, 1985