

# PURE LAND NOTES

Journal of the Shin Buddhist Fellowship UK

PLN is pleased to publish below the first short article submission from a relatively new subscriber, Michael Warr.

To maintain the style of this journal it is crucial that pieces from our regular feature contributors be balanced out with pieces similar to the one below, and to encourage you into participation we make this offer:

If a subscriber has anything -short or long- published in this journal their subscription is extended by one quarterly issue.

## THE BOUNDLESS SOUND

MICHAEL WARR

I recently visited the small Buckinghamshire town of Olney. I paid visit to the Church of Saints Peter and Paul where the abolitionist John Newton is laid to rest, viewing the Rectory where he wrote the beautiful hymn "*Amazing Grace*". The words may strike chord to the Shin Practicer: "*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me, I was once lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.*"

I have a Christian friend who radiates Love and Joy. I have felt an envy for such Grace, yet I could not follow his path. I could not get around my perspective that Christianity is rooted in Judaism, that the temple where Rabbi Jesus taught served as an abattoir, and where the experience of Grace for a Christian is affected through the bloody murder of the great Rabbi. I am not attacking this religion from which many find peace and redemption. I simply acknowledge I cannot relate to its articles of faith.

I have now found another path to that same source of Amazing Grace, received through the amazing Vow born from a Boundless Compassion and Boundless Life; and not from death or "sacrifice".

This 199-word piece written by SBFUK member Michael Warr appeared in PLN issue #32, published summer 2017.