



SPREAD

International News for Friends of SEAN

November
2008

From the Chairman—Tony Thompson

Warm Christian greetings to all in the SEAN world-wide family and welcome to our latest edition of SPREAD.

In July, our Director, Terry Barratt, and his wife, Pancha, left Chile to move to the UK. Extracts from their final letter from Chile and from their recent Prayer Letter are copied below and overleaf.

This 'move' constitutes a major change and development for SEAN International, as well as for Terry and Pancha.

Also in this SPREAD you will find a wealth of news and information from several parts of the world so sit back, read on, and, as you do so, please pray with us. Thank you!

With every good wish, in Christ,



Tony Thompson

Countries where SEAN Courses are, or have been, used:

(some countries are not named for security reasons)

AFRICA
 Angola
 Botswana
 Dem Rep of Congo
 Equatorial Guinea—by radio
 Ethiopia
 Ghana
 Malawi
 Mali
 Niger
 Nigeria
 Rwanda
 South Africa
 Sudan
 Tanzania
 Uganda
 Zambia—by radio

ASIA
 Afghanistan—by radio
 Azerbaijan
 Bangladesh
 India
 Kazakhstan
 Kyrgyzstan
 (and others in Central Asia)
 Mongolia
 Nepal
 Pakistan
 Russia
 Sri Lanka

AUSTRALASIA
 Australia
 New Zealand
 Papua New Guinea
 Tonga

CENTRAL AMERICA/
 CARIBBEAN
 Belize
 Costa Rica
 Cuba
 Dominican Republic
 Guatemala
 Haiti
 Honduras
 Mexico
 Netherlands Antilles
 Nicaragua
 Panama

NORTH AMERICA
 Canada

A Last Letter from Chile

23rd July 2008

Dear friends,

Our love and greetings to you all. We are coming up to quite a large change in our lives. Due to several circumstances relating to family and particularly to my parents, the South American Mission Society has kindly allowed us to bring forward our regular home-leave by six months so that we can look after them and begin our process of retirement.



Of course "retirement" is very far from our minds! But it does mean that age advances and in less than 18 months, I (Terry) will be an old age pensioner!! I thank the Lord that my young wife will keep me on my toes for a few more years!!!

We praise the Lord for our life in South America (in my case 56 years!) and we leave with mixed feelings, but a light heart. By the grace of God, the churches we left 18 months ago are flourishing, so leaving them was the right step. And, the new Pehuenche teaching ministry is also expanding, and will be continued by a team led by two full-time workers. We'll continue to work with them from a distance by designing visuals and courses for them to use locally.

Last week we were there and the five leading students took their exams - all five passed, and one with full marks. The new Cauñicu Chapel is also nearing roofing stage and will be a great blessing to the whole area. So, do please pray for this development.

continued overleaf.....

Continued from
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EUROPE

Albania
Bulgaria
France
Germany
Hungary
Italy
Latvia—by radio
Netherlands—by radio
Portugal
Romania
Spain
Sweden
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

MIDDLE EAST Several countries

FAR EAST

Cambodia
China
Hong Kong
Indonesia
Japan
Laos
Macau
Malaysia
Myanmar
Philippines
Singapore
South Korea
Taiwan
Thailand
Vietnam

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Guyana
Paraguay
Peru
Surinam
Venezuela

Recent Translation & Production Agree- ments signed with:-

**Flying Mission/SIM
in Botswana;**
*Setswana and English
(Signed: 11/12/2007)*

**International
Evangelistic Move-
ment in Ho Chi Min
City,
Vietnam.**
*Vietnamese
(Signed 03/04/08)*

Letter from Chile continued

We will be living in Seaton, Devon, working with SAMS, visiting churches and continuing the SEAN ministry—a full time job for both of us.

We love England and we have been back every year for the past thirty years, so our emotional wrench, at least at this time, is not so great. But we would value your prayers for us to make a smooth transition into our new sphere of service. I (Terry) have never voted, sent in income tax forms, paid council tax or passed the daunting British Driving test, so I'm in for some cultural shocks!!

As ever, our love in the Lord,

Terry and Pancha

Extracts from Terry and Pancha's October 2008 letter

We had a very productive SEAN Trustee meeting in early October in which we set out the plans for the next few years. One really positive development has been the incorporation of new Trustees, all of whom are very experienced in the SEAN TEE ministry in strategic areas abroad and each can travel to the countries where our courses are used.

But there is still plenty of travel left for us!! At the end of October we go to the Far East for a SEAN graduation. In that particular area the programme is spreading and students number in the thousands.

Later this year I leave for a three week trip to Colombia where the SEAN programme is widely used. The denomination that uses SEAN in northern Colombia has grown from 250 to 750 congregations in the last 25 years. Many of these new churches are led by SEAN students and it is my joy to be able to visit some of them. Then in the Capital, Bogotá, another major TEE programme (AFLET) that uses SEAN is having its 20th year anniversary celebrations.

Finally in Chile, it will be a great blessing to return to visit our Pehuenche churches, share in the weekend study, take the final exam of the Life of Christ Book 2 and attend the inauguration of the new Chapel and study centre in Cauñicú.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers. It is such a blessing to know that we have your fellowship in the Lord.

Our love in the Lord, Terry and Pancha

In December, NICK WOODBURY - 'LATIN AMERICAN MISSION' wrote to SEAN International as follows:-

What a privilege it was to travel in Colombia with Terry Barratt the week of November 18-25. It not only brought back memories of our first meeting in 1981 in Coastal Colombia, but also gave reason for much rejoicing in the Lord.

I was a missionary serving with the Latin American Mission in Colombia in 1981. We were struggling to find a way to train the national pastors since the national Bible Institute had closed in 1980. When Terry visited us, he introduced us to the SEAN courses as a basis for all pastors and leaders.

In 1982, the Colombian Pastoral Institute (CIPEP) was formally launched with 40 students, mostly pastors from the Caribbean Association of Evangelical Churches (AIEC). Over these 25 years, CIPEP has helped leaders from 40 different denominations to receive training through the SEAN Courses. The AIEC has grown from 250 churches to 750. A requirement of the pastoral level is that each student must plant a new church. We visited a few of these churches in November 2008. Some have grown to several hundred believers.

Along with the Colombian Pastoral Institute, we praise the Lord for SEAN, a ministry led by the Holy Spirit to provide materials to help train pastors and leaders all over Latin America and around the world. To God be the Glory!

In His Service

Nick Woodbury

Empowering Christ's followers... ...to live and work for Him



Tim Green (pictured) is deeply involved in Theological Education by Extension (TEE). With his family he lived and worked in Pakistan for many years. He has also served in Jordan. He and his family now live in Oxford, UK.

Tim has used SEAN Courses extensively in his ministry. He has also written courses, two of which are now part of the SEAN Curriculum of Courses. He has been a Trustee of SEAN International since 2003.

Here he writes of recent experiences and presents some challenges....

Central Asia

"Picture the scene: a basement workshop in a Central Asian city, in April this year.

Printing machinery, piles of paper in assorted sizes, and racks of books fill almost all the available space, leaving just enough room for us to squeeze in for a cup of tea with the friendly Christian printer and his wife. We have come to ask his advice on getting a course book printed locally.

We show him the Russian original. "Hang on a minute!", he replies, "Haven't I printed that book before?" We can't see how, since it has just come in from Russia. But he opens up his computer file. There on his screen I recognise the text and diagrams of a course I had written in a different country for a different readership in a different language fifteen years ago - someone must have already pirated it! That was a bizarre moment.

When I wrote a little course *Abundant Light* to help Pakistani Christians read the Bible for themselves, I had no idea it would spread any wider. But a group called SEAN ('Study by Extension for All Nations') asked to produce the course in English for a wider audience. I happily agreed and gave them the right to translate it into English and publish it as a SEAN Course as I have such a respect for the humble way they serve churches worldwide.

Southern Chile

Actually SEAN's work of ministry training began more than thirty years ago, among the indigenous Christians of southern Chile. These local Indian farmers were mature, intelligent and keen, capable of Christian ministry. But their lack of secondary education barred them from entry to formal theological colleges. Also, in their poverty, they couldn't leave their small-holdings and families to go away to an alien environ-

So SEAN brought the training to them, through a 'blended' approach which developed study skills, ministry skills and Christian character, right where they lived.

This proved so successful that now SEAN's courses have spread to over 100 countries. Stories come in from around the world of ordinary working adults being empowered to live and work for Jesus in their churches and workplaces and slums and prisons.

Looking to the Future

SEAN and similar curriculum providers do not run their own training across the world, rather they allow local groups to use courses as needed in their own context. Accountability to the local churches is a strength of this worldwide TEE movement.

One challenge (and opportunity) is for the TEE movement to update itself with the best of the new educational theory and information technology developed in recent years, without losing the essence of what has made it so fruitful at a grass-roots level.

A second opportunity (and thereby a challenge) is to adapt to the changing pattern of world population. In the past, peoples of one ethnic group mostly lived in one country. Now they are spread right around the globe, scattered by war or more commonly by their search for work. So how do you provide for the Christian training needs of Nepalis in Malaysia, Koreans in Siberia, or Pakistanis in the Gulf?



TEE can do so, through the sharing of courses and expertise across national boundaries. It's an exciting but complex task. For instance, my Central Asia visit in April was to try to help six groups from four countries to work together in harmony and with shared purpose.

A third challenge (more of a threat) is of finance. National TEE groups are chronically under-funded. Somehow it seems easier to raise Christian money for bricks and mortar than for equipping a volunteer army for Jesus!

Supporting SEAN International Financially

If you would like to give a donation please make your cheque payable to 'SEAN International and post it to our Registered Office: SEAN International, Allen Gardiner Cottage, Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3QU. So that we can acknowledge your kind gift, please enter your details below. Thank you!

Name.....Address.....
.....Postcode.....Email.....

If you would like to give regularly to SEAN International by Standing Order, please tick box
If you are a taxpayer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please use the Gift Aid form overleaf.

News in Brief/Prayer Please:-

1. We report with great sadness the death of the leader of **SEAN Spain - Pastor Dr. Pablo Rois**. He was taken ill with Pancreatic Cancer and died six months ago. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time. Pablo's death is a major blow to the SEAN programme in Spain as he was its prime mover. We need to try to remedy the situation.
2. **Matheteuo**, a sister organisation, has just embarked on a major preparation of **Anglicans in Uganda** to begin a new, nationwide, TEE programme in English, based on SEAN. *We will give more details of this exciting and far-reaching project as they emerge.*
3. By email we received this very encouraging news from Korea. *"There are a few good size (500-700 adult attendants on Sunday) churches who adopted TEE/SEAN courses as their main bible education system. Since they did that about 1-2 years passed, and now they not only see that the members change, they also find that numbers of attendants start growing though they did not put any significant effort for it. They are seeing the church grow naturally (in quantity) by the strengthening of the members (quality)."*
4. With Terry and Pancha's return to the UK, the Chile office will gradually wind down. The process of opening up a new office in the UK and transferring files etc here will be an enormous task. **Gloria Dean our International Co-ordinator** will be in Chile in early 2009 to facilitate this process.

Who to contact for what:

Registered Office to which enquiries about Friends of SEAN, 'SPREAD' and donations to SEAN International should be sent:

SEAN International, Allen Gardiner Cottage, Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3QU, UK

Phone: 01892 538 647; Fax 01892 525 797; E-mail: finsec@sams.gb.org

SEAN International web site is www.seaninternational.com

NB Choose either Spanish or English

Enquiries re: existing and potential users of SEAN, and materials across the world to:

Gloria Dean, SEAN International, Missionary Mart, 1st Floor, 105 Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9AP, UK

Phone: 020 8773 3948. E-mail: SEAN_International@compuserve.com

Enquiries for SEAN courses in English, Training Workshops & 'Forum' newsletter to:

SEAN UK, Weycroft Hall, Axminster, Devon EX13 7LL, UK

Phone 01297 630 104; Fax 01297 630 105; E-mail: admin@sean.uk.net

See also the excellent and informative UK web site www.sean.uk.net



Alfredo Cooper, one of our Trustees, is a pastor in Chile. He writes....

"I testify again to the fact that in our experience as church planters, there is no better methodology than the SEAN Programme for bringing new believers into a Biblical and Kingdom mindset.

Over 60% of our church members are studying the 'Life of Christ' Course. The 'Bible Encounter Manual' works perfectly for an Alpha-type beginners group. There is nothing like the 'Abundant Life' Course for a year's initial discipling.

When we plant a church, as we did in August in Peñalolén, we find that the whole process helps affirm and establish the new community quickly, founding it on the Word of God as soon as possible."

Gift aid it

SEAN International GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want SEAN International to treat the enclosed donation of £.....as a Gift Aid donation; and all future donations from me until I notify you otherwise (*delete the statement about future donations if you wish*).

I pay income and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax SEAN International reclaims on my donation in the tax year. I will inform you if my circumstances change.

Signature..... Date...../...../..... See space overleaf in which to provide your details. Thank you.