

SPREAD JANUARY 2010

SPECIAL EDITION—for Friends of SEAN International

From the Chairman—Tony Thompson

Dear 'Friend of SEAN',

I am writing to inform you that, the Founder of SEAN International and a dear friend and colleague, Archdeacon Tony Barratt, (pictured left) died peacefully at home on Wednesday, 6th January 2010.



Please remember, in your prayers, his wife, Peggy, their five children Terry, Rosemary, Hilary, Pattie and Johnny, and their families.

Terry writes, *"We are living a very special peace and we realise now how heavy the burden of seeing Dad fade away really was. An incredible number of letters have been arriving at the house. Many thanks for your support and help."*

Some 'Friends of SEAN' will know Tony Barratt very well. Others, even though they do not know him personally, will still be very much aware of the massive impact his ministry has had on the growth of God's church all over the world. (See the obituary overleaf for more details)

Funeral Service

Tony's funeral service will be at St Michael's Church, Axmouth on Thursday, 21st January at 13.00 hours.

The Church (pictured right) is over 900 years old.

The Barratt family have worshipped there for the last 60+ years.

Tony will be buried in the churchyard.

After the service refreshments will be served in the pub opposite.

If you plan on attending the funeral service, the family would be very grateful if you could let them know. Please contact them: by phone on 01297 21118; or by email at: barratt@vtr.net ; or write to them at:- Couchill Villa, Couchill Farm Lane, Seaton, Devon EX12 3AL



Travel to Axmouth

To help in your route planning, please note that the church's postcode is EX12 4AF. It is located in the village of Axmouth, Devon on the B3172. The nearest mainline stations are Axminster (London Waterloo line) and Exeter (London Waterloo and Paddington lines)

Donations in Memory of Tony Barratt

The family have asked that, instead of flowers, donations be made for the provision of Training and Educational materials for the SAMS native indian churches in Chile, Paraguay and Argentina.

It was amongst these peoples that SEAN originated. If you wish to make a donation in Tony's memory and to further this ministry, please use the tear-off slip below, and make your cheque payable to: SEAN International

Thank you for your fellowship over the years in the work of SEAN.

Tony Thompson (Chairman)

Tony Barratt Memorial Fund

To help train members of native Indian churches in Chile, Paraguay and Argentina.

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.

ARCHDEACON TONY BARRATT

Tony Barratt, who died peacefully at his Devon home on 6 January, was an unassuming man who yet made an immense contribution to the mission of the church, not least in South America where he served for 30 years. His greatest legacy is *Study by Extension for All Nations* (SEAN), a form of theological education which has helped train church leaders in more than 100 countries. First produced in Spanish, it has been translated into over 80 languages and continues to expand.

Tony was born in Clapham in 1919 into a family whose background included the Admiralty and the clergy. A brilliant sportsman, who at school excelled at cricket and athletics, he went on to study as a vet, gaining membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and his own practice in Ilfracombe.

As a pacifist, his wartime service was with the Field Ambulance Corps, from which he was honourably discharged to return to his veterinary training.

Active in his local church where he was a leader of the Covenanters, he was called to ministerial training in the Church of England, studied at Tyndale Hall, Bristol, and was ordained in 1949. A short curacy at St Paul's, Slough, followed, before Tony, his wife Peggy and family embarked on service with the South American Missionary Society (SAMS), sailing to Chile in 1952.

At the time the Society's work there centred upon the indigenous Mapuche people of the south; Tony soon became aware of the need to train national leaders for the many rural centres, a need met initially by a weekly training course and week-long gatherings in different communities, reached on horseback.

These were the beginnings of a movement which would help create the national Anglican churches of what is now the Province of the Southern Cone. They would also, following a period of service in Paraguay, lead to the birth in Argentina of Tony's brainchild. Working from the northern city of Tucumán, he investigated the current state of theological education across the continent and found it to be beyond the capacity of church leaders with little educational background.

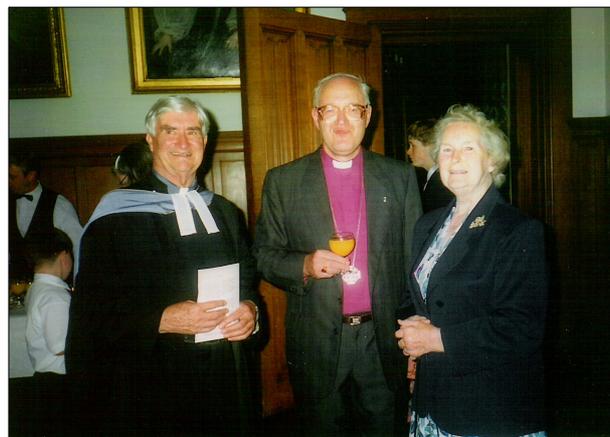
The need in Anglican and other denominations was for something simple yet thorough and Biblical, which would enable such people to develop basic theological understanding and skills to lead the new and often very isolated churches which were springing up.

To this work Tony Barratt now dedicated himself full time; the result was the phenomenon called SEAN which has taken theological education to hundreds of thousands of homes across the world and into all the major Protestant denominations and some Roman Catholic Churches.

Among its aims was the development of Christian character and leadership, with a programmed system of tutor manuals helping local Christians become effective group tutors.

On return to the UK, Tony continued his work with SEAN, later becoming honorary director of the UK division of SEAN International, an organisation now led by his son Terry, also an archdeacon and former missionary.

In 1994 Tony was honoured by the award of a Lambeth Degree of Master of Letters by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey.



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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.