



SPREAD

SEPTEMBER 2010

From the Chairman – Tony Thompson

Thank you very much, wherever you are, for taking the time to read this newsletter.

I express my deep thanks on behalf of all in the SEAN worldwide family – trustees, executive committee, TEE* programme leaders, thousands of course tutors and tens of thousands of students.

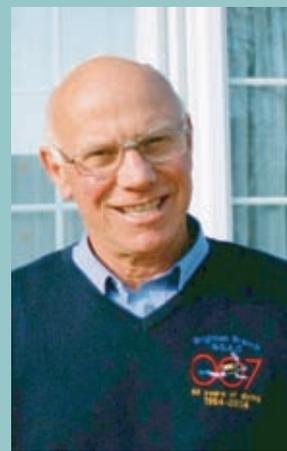
We are all so grateful for your interest in and support for this quite remarkable ministry that is training and equipping men, women and children of many different races and languages to serve Christ and teach others His Ways.

In this edition of SPREAD we have major reports from three continents – South America, Asia, and Africa. We hope that what you read will encourage you in your life, ministry and support of this remarkable work of God.

May the Lord bless and keep you in all things

Tony Thompson

*TEE = Theological Education by Extension.



Paraguay

Earlier this year, our Director, Terry Barratt, made a major trip to South America. Here is an extract from his report.

During my trip I managed to fit in an official visit to the ministries that use SEAN in Chile, Argentina and Paraguay. It is difficult to describe the emotion of hearing so many wonderful testimonies of the thousands of students who are being blessed by the study of God's word and the incredible ministries that they are involved in. Just one example of this comes from the Public Prison in Asunción, Paraguay.

Over 20 years ago, a convicted criminal was touched by the Lord and surrendered his life to Jesus. It so happened that he was visited in prison by the leader of a Christian training programme (FLET) that represents SEAN in Paraguay. The prisoner was allowed to study God's word, and the impact of his changed life brought many more prisoners to the Lord and opened the door for further ministry in the prison.

Many other things have happened since, but to cut a long story short – now the Mennonite Church in Asunción has been granted the full administration of a quarter of the prison complex. They care for over 500 prisoners with the aid of only two official prison guards!

The complex that they run is like a little portion of Heaven in the middle of Hell. I visited the compound for a whole morning. The main part of the prison is like the worst that you have ever seen in film - a place of human dejection, filth, and despair...

The Christian section, has been renewed with the help of offerings from Christian churches and foundations and the labour of the prisoners themselves:

But the main impact is that of changed lives – men radiant in Christ whose testimonies moved me to tears. The impact has been so dramatic, that the Prison Authorities are asking the church to repeat the experience in the other prisons of Paraguay.

Of course SEAN, in itself, has not brought about this miracle, but it is at its heart. It was wonderful to see how the courses are such a blessing in the discipling and training of so many of those prisoners.



A time of praise whilst doing craft work

Time for SEAN study



Korea

We are delighted to have news from Pastor Soon Jin Han (Director of KTEE). He writes...

I would like to share with you how God is using the KTEE programme of TEE/SEAN for His glory by telling you about two of the churches we are working with.

Je-Ju Vision Church - an excellent example of discipleship for rural and island churches.

Je-Ju Island is located far to the south of the Korean Peninsula and is famous for tourism. In the past the area was strongly influenced by the occult, superstition and local evil spirits.

In the early stages of planting a church there, Pastor Jigyun Shin came into contact with TEE. He started the SEAN 'Life of Christ' Course with ten people. Some were middle school or high school graduates. One was 60 years old. Six of them completed the whole of the 'Life of Christ' Course.

A major advance in discipleship training in the church followed. Fifty more students started the 'Life of Christ' Course. Tutors were trained to lead other SEAN courses such as 'Abundant Life' and 'Abundant Light' (The Big Picture). In all 150 people completed those courses. Now even more are taking the courses.

Je-Ju Vision Church has proved that TEE is an excellent tool for discipleship, evangelism and church growth. As a result of this growth, the church has purchased a church building owned by Sung An Church, which was the very first church planted there and is one of the largest in Je-Ju Island.

Pastor Shin says, "Our members, who have been well trained by TEE, are well-equipped to lead any small group they are assigned to. I am free to do other things for the church as well as members, because our leaders can take care of the things that I used to do."



Seoul Young Dong Church sets an excellent example of discipleship for metropolitan area churches.

Some members of Seoul Young Dong Church are lawyers and high-ranking government employees.

A challenge facing the church was how to train such busy people. A senior pastor searched for

a way of training them so that they could influence people in their workplaces. TEE was an answer to his quest.

Many were trained through the TEE programme and they started leading TEE-supported small groups in their workplaces.

Senior Pastor Chung Hyun Goo said, "There are things to which a senior pastor must go, or things with which people must come to the pastor, or things which a senior pastor must do. However, those who were trained by TEE are doing many of the things which a senior pastor used to do. They are building a church where they work and I am very proud of them."

Conclusion

We have so many other beautiful stories which you can read about on our website. KTEE strives to help churches in urban areas, rural areas and islands. 50% of our Extension Centres are located in the rural areas and islands. Most of them are far from becoming self-sufficient and cannot afford to buy TEE materials.

KTEE and the Far East Broadcasting Company work together to help train pastors and churches in these rural areas.

I myself am very grateful for TEE. Although I have had a short experience with TEE, I have published a book titled "My TEE story" based on my personal experiences. In the book many TEE ministry-related stories are told and KTEE's beautiful stories will still continue to unfold in many places. <www.ktee.org>



Liberia

Philip Boimah, is Director of the 'SEAN Liberia – School of Mission (SOM). This is a very new TEE/SEAN programme. They have relatively few material resources but much enthusiasm and dedication. Last month Philip kindly sent us news and several photos.

In August 2009 we began with 12 students in our '**Abundant Life**' Class.

At the end of this 18-lesson course we had 10 students. All 10 students started on the course '**The Big Picture**' and God blessed all of them to the end of the course.

Because of demand and interest we started another '**Abundant Life**' Course with 4 students while the first Course was still on.

The first group of students have just finished another course '**The Spirit World**' – all 10 students finished. Then, to give time and space to the newer students we asked the first class to wait for the second class to do '**The Spirit World**' so for this month we have the newer class.

The programme will run for two years. We have two groups - Class A and Class B.

Class B will be our 2011 and 2012 students.

Class A (the 2009 and 2010 students) has a Class Name: "**WATER WALKERS**"

The Class Colour is *Blue*

Their slogan or chant is - "**WATER!!!**"

Answer - "**WALKER!!!**"

Oretha Yelegon, one of the Students writes:

“ Since I started the SEAN LIBERIA —School Of Mission (SOM) I have observed many changes in my Christian Life. 'The Big Picture', strengthened my life as a Christian and 'The Spirit World' charged me with more responsibilities as a Christian in the Kingdom. My prayer is 'God bless us to end the two years' ”



A new way of giving

It is now possible to give to SEAN International using your debit or credit card via Charities Aid Foundation www.cafonline.org.

Once on the website, do as follows:-

Select: **For individuals** Press: **Donate now**

Type in: **SEAN International** Select **Search** Select **Donate**

Choose method: credit or debit card or CAF charity account

Enter Donation details: **Amount** Give anonymously if you wish option: **Y or N**

Instructions to the charity eg for **Nepal Conference**

Gift Aid the donation, if you wish/ are able Provide Your personal details

Provide Your card details Continue as instructed



Terry Barratt

Please pray for Terry and his wife, Pancha. Terry has to undergo serious surgery on his colon and stomach. Amongst other things, the timing and outcome of this operation could affect whether or not he will be able to participate in the Conference in Nepal.



Supporting SEAN International Financially

If you would like to give a donation please make your cheque payable to 'SEAN International' and post it to: Mr Philip Tadman, Ferndale, Cranston Road, East Grinstead, W Sussex RH19 3HL

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

If you are a taxpayer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please use the Gift Aid form overleaf.

Major Conference in Kathmandu

We, in SEAN, are working with a sister organisation, INCREASE, in the planning of a major International Conference and Training event in October this year. It is titled **'21st Century TEE in Asia: Challenges and Opportunities'**. It will take place in Kathmandu, Nepal from October 4th – 8th and will be followed, in the same venue, by a whole-day **SEAN Consultation**. This will bring together TEE programme leaders and associates from right across Asia and beyond.

Participants are expected from at least the following countries: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tajikistan, South Korea, Thailand.

Some represent strong well-established TEE programmes, whilst others are at very early stages. Some programmes function in areas of great risk. The vast majority use SEAN Courses. In some, SEAN Courses are the foundation. In others SEAN Courses complement those from other providers.

Those who attend will not only receive first class training geared to their situation, but the encouragement that comes from meeting, praying and sharing with fellow workers. This aspect will be particularly valuable for those who minister in hard places.

Five of our SEAN Trustees plan to participate in this event:-

Tony Thompson – Chairman of SEAN International.

Tim Green – Interserve – Pakistan, and Jordan etc.

Peter Bisset – International Director TEE Nepal.

Carol Freeman – served in the Philippines for many years.

Terry Barratt – Director of SEAN and worldwide experience.

Can you help?

Some delegates will have great difficulty finding the funds for their air fares. We in SEAN believe that this event will have a major impact on the life and growth of churches across Asia, so we have set aside in this year's budget £6,000 to help make it possible for needy delegates to attend.

Examples of the need are:

Philippino ladies who have run SEAN programmes for years and live on US\$ 2.50 per day;

A pastor with limited resources in Myanmar (Burma);

A dedicated TEE programme director in Papua New Guinea;

Delegates from newly emerging SEAN programmes in situations of real poverty in Central Asia.

Would you be willing and able to help?

Your donation will be added to the £6,000 we have already set aside and may make it possible for one or two more to attend who might not otherwise be able?

If you wish to donate please use the tear-off donation slip and mark your envelope 'Nepal Conference'. Thank you very much!

For Thanksgiving and Prayer

Terry and Pancha

Pray for our Director, Terry Barratt, and his wife, Pancha, as Terry undergoes medical treatment.

Korea

Give thanks for the ministry of KTEE and the blessing that TEE/SEAN has been to the churches and communities whose stories we have reported.

Pray for Pastor Soon Jin Han and KTEE as they encourage and support them.

Look at the photos and pray for those pictured.

Liberia

Give thanks for Philip Boimah who heads up this work. .

Pray for the graduates (see photo) as they pursue their studies and put into practice lessons learned.

Paraguay

Give thanks for the dramatic changes brought about in the Public Prison in Asunción through the ministry of the Mennonite Community, the power of the Gospel, and the use of SEAN Courses.

Pray for the spread of this ministry to other prisons.

Pan-Asia Conference

This will bring together TEE workers from across Asia.

Many minister in very difficult situations and have never met with their fellow TEE workers.

Please pray that funding, to enable our hard-pressed brothers and sisters to attend, will be found.

Courses

For courses in US English, + other languages, contact SEAN International at: **contact@seaninternational.com**

For courses in UK English, contact SEAN UK at: **admin@sean.uk.net**

Websites

www.seaninternational.com (English & Spanish)

www.sean.uk.net (English)

Addresses

SEAN International, Ferndale, Cranston Road, East Grinstead, W Sussex RH19 3HL, UK

Registered Charity No. 286965

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

Tel: 01297 630104. Registered Charity No. 1102491

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