



Study by Extension for All Nations



Friends Newsletter

August 2006

Dear Friend of SEAN,

Again, warm Christian greetings. We're so appreciative of your interest and support for the work of SEAN. However we realise we need to improve the flow of news to you, both to fuel your prayers and to account to you for what God in His goodness has been doing in the world of SEAN. We are working on that. In the mean time we are delighted to report news from our International Director, The Revd Terry Barratt, based in Viña del Mar, Chile.

As from March 2006 he was able to hand over his role of Archdeacon of the Vth region, to The Revd Juan Carlos Chamorro, who stood in when Terry and his wife Pancha were last on home leave. In addition it looks as though it will be possible to hand over responsibility for the San Pedro Church in March 2007. All this means that Terry will have more time to give to his work with SEAN for which we are so grateful to God - for there is much going on, as you will read below!

SEAN Course Adapted for Radio

The SEAN course *Abundant Life* is being broadcast to India by TWR. Among the many respondents: Loyd from Tamil Nadu writes in an email, "I came to know about your radio broadcast through the internet. I was marvelled at the way the preacher on your programme shared the Gospel message." San writes, "I am currently studying in a Bible college in Vellore, Tamil Nadu and have been listening to your radio programmes. I found the teaching very simple and clear and therefore I am able to understand the Truth more easily."



From Around the WORLD

Myanmar: A Pastor who has 18 students, as well as study groups in local churches, asks for prayer for this important foundational work.

Mongolia recently celebrated ten years of ministry using SEAN.

Israel: *Abundant Life* and *Abundant Light* in Russian are in use and recently *The Life of Christ* course was added. Comments from users include: 'Amazing material', 'This is God-sent!' Karen the Co-ordinator of these groups reports that there are many Spanish-speaking people in Israel, mainly from Argentina. She is hoping to be able to get groups going among them. She is also in contact with a group of Chinese working in Tel Aviv who have a lot of time on their hands and are eagerly doing SEAN with a CMA missionary, in Hebrew (they speak but don't read Mandarin, so they can't study in their own language!)

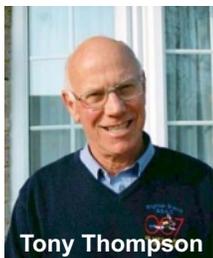
Ten Years in Nepal

In just ten years, more than 3000 church leaders and believers have been trained using SEAN. 230 Tutors in 40 districts are running 346 groups, comprising 2505 active students! God has enabled their publishing of 15 courses already.



As a practical assignment resulting from doing the *Mission, Mercy ... and Me?* course, one group organized a "Blood Donation Project". 58 people donated blood. The project also gave increased awareness in churches to the need for blood - and related giving ones own blood to save life, to the Gospel.

Vacancies on the International Executive Committee



Tony Thompson

SEAN is keen to stay young and innovative! One or two new people are needed to reinforce the International Committee. What background is needed? Well, take the Chairman - though his experience is exceptional perhaps - and please note he is not leaving! Tony Thompson says "Like so many, I have discovered the power of SEAN Courses in 'personal transformation', and how through these simple lessons, the group meetings, and the sharing together, Jesus comes to each one of us. My involvement with SEAN goes back over 30 years. In 1975 I had the task of starting a church on a new housing development where there was no church at all. I heard that the SEAN *Life of Christ* Book 1 had just been translated into English and decided to use it. I found seven men willing to study with me. After three weeks, their wives said they wanted to study the course too. Our church was born!" Please pray the Committee will know God's choice of people.



Thanks from Russia

We were recently able to make a grant to ORTA, the group translating, publishing and using SEAN materials in Russia. Their response from Vladivostok was warm, quoting Hudson Taylor: "God's work, done in God's way, will not lack God's supply". Praise God! The £1000 is being used to pay the team of translators working on the Compendium of Pastoral Theology. The ORTA staff regard this as "the basis for the quality of the teaching materials that we provide to the churches".



Ladies SEAN Study Group, South Korea

This group is linked to the Military Church. Note the little one in the foreground! It seems they start on SEAN at a young age in Korea!



South Korean Military Church

In the South Korean armed forces there are many practising Christians of all ranks. SEAN courses feature very strongly in their discipleship and training programmes.

New Resources for SEAN's work

A new leaflet with which to introduce others to the possibility of becoming a Friend of SEAN will soon be available shortly, from the address below.

Recently we were delighted to receive a gift from a grant-making trust. Such grants supplement other generous gifts from Churches and individuals. If any reader knows of such a trust whose focus for support is world mission, teaching the Bible or any of the wide range of topics covered by SEAN materials, please let us know so that we might be in touch with them. If you would like to see a copy of the SEAN International accounts for the year ending 5 April 2006, then please write to the address below.

Finally, once again thank you for your interest in SEAN. We trust the small sample of news we've been able to share with you here, has encouraged you.

STOP PRESS!! Prayer Request from Terry and Pancha Barratt :::: received 18th July 2006.

In Chile we have just had some very severe rains, which have caused flooding and death. One of the worst affected areas is the Alto Bio Bio where we hope to establish a SEAN Programme next year. The main road has been cut in 14 places – in one place 400 metres of paved road have been sheared from the cliff. So our churches up there are totally isolated, and have problems with food supplies, etc. Pancha and I hope to take things down next week – and Andy Bowman, USPG missionary is trying to get through at this moment. So please pray for this situation.