



BUENA·VISTA

WINTER EDITION 2013

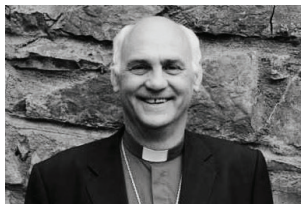


MISSIONAL ○ RELATIONAL ○ INTENTIONAL



Beautiful Feet

a message from the new Mission Director



Warm Greetings,

This is my first greeting to you as the new Mission Director of SAMS. I look forward to growing and developing our partnership in mission and ministry. I am excited that together we can serve the Lord and serve our brothers and sisters in South America, Spain and Portugal.

At this time of the year everything seems new...an old year has gone, 2012 is past tense, new resolutions have been made for 2013, new hopes and dreams for the future are in our minds. Some of my dreams for SAMS include the following...

1. We build on the work of the past. The story of SAMS in particular is the story of Christian mission in general. It is inspiring.

It is full of faith and fear, courage and collapse, great leadership and human failing, vision and loss of vision. The rugged, selfless discipleship of Captain Allen Gardiner will always be a model for our work.

2. The foundation of all we do is the Gospel. The life of Christ, the Cross of Christ, the Resurrection of Christ, Christ's gift of His Holy Spirit and the coming again of Jesus Christ are at the heart our faith.

3. Our discipleship will be cross-shaped. Self surrender and radical discipleship are to be marks of our calling.

4. Partnership is vital. Paternalism is dead. God's will is that the whole Church takes the whole Gospel to the whole world. We will do that with our Spanish and Portuguese speaking brothers and sisters and we will do it with grace and truth, love and respect.

5. Leadership development, mission initiatives, strengthening

churches, sharing resources, making disciples and serving together are some of the key priorities.

For me personally it has been quite a wrench leaving the Diocese of Kilmore Elphin and Ardagh after 12 years. The wonderful people in that beautiful part of Ireland know that God's vision is for a church of people with beautiful feet. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." We find these words both in Isaiah and in Paul's letter to the Romans. They speak of sharing good news. Christians are good news people whose feet are beautiful.

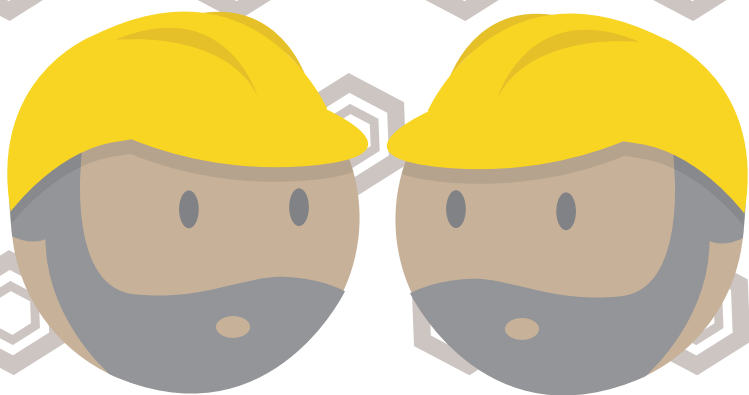
I pray that in the next few years in the SAMS family we will know the joy and privilege of being people with beautiful feet!!
God bless you richly and thank you for your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

+Ken

Bishop Ken Clarke

SAMS Mission Director



MEN AT WORK

Raymond Campbell and Dale Crompton from Annaghmore Parish have returned from Paraguay after working in the Chaco region, alongside indigenous church communities. The two skilled men went in partnership with SAMS and Mission Paraguay. On first arriving in Paraguay, Raymond and Dale spent a few days staying at the Anglican Church in Roque Alonso. They were able to participate in children's work carried out by the "Toy Library" ministry. The Toy Library is operated by FEISA, the Anglican teacher training College. Dale had brought along some footballs and pumps to donate and these were received with great delight. The Sunday morning church service was a revelation to Raymond and Dale. It lasted three hours!

Raymond and Dale moved on from the capital city and travelled into the Chaco with Chris Hawksbee, who was to be their guide and work partner. Chris, who grew up in the Paraguayan Chaco, works full time with the Indian churches and communities, helping them draw up their own projects, offering technical support in areas such as selling their honey

and agricultural produce and giving Christian encouragement. Raymond and Dale worked with local men on the church at tasks which included re-plastering inside and outside, building two walls, repairing the roof and replacing wooden beams and brickwork. The two Annaghmore men also found time to help build two houses for local families in an area called "El Estribo", where Chris works regularly.



Aside from work, the Annaghmore men didn't show themselves up with their culinary skills. Raymond's method of tenderising the Sunday cut of meat by bashing it with his trowel was the talk of Rio Verde!

SAMS wants to take this opportunity to thank David Orritt, Mission Paraguay Co-ordinator for making the necessary connections to make this placement work.

Please see the SAMS website for information on Mission Paraguay 2013 opportunities.



In October, John and Phyllis Logan from Coleraine made the now familiar journey to Brazil to visit the Monte Horebe School in Itaperuçu, Paraná state. During their time there they evaluated the ongoing work and shared with and encouraged their Brazilian colleagues. Phyllis talked with the children whose education is being sponsored through the generosity of people in the UK and updated their family histories. John inspected the classrooms and assisted the Principal with matters of school improvement. He also spent time teaching physical education and introduced some

mini rugby skills with the help of sets of kit and balls donated by Coleraine Rugby and Football Club. The children have adapted easily from a round ball at their feet to an oval ball in their hands!

Working in the school is but one strand of the involvement which John and Phyllis continue to have with Itaperuçu. Of particular importance at the moment is the social development of Caçador, an impoverished rural area some 25 miles from the town itself. The wealth which so obviously exists in parts of Brazil and within certain levels of society has permeated

neither to Caçador nor to countless other similar regions.

Apart from a Bible study programme, the work currently being done by the Monte Horebe project within the Caçador community is chiefly in the area of health. This occurs through a volunteer nurse visiting the new community centre weekly as well as a GP and a paediatrician visiting on a monthly basis. Since the nearest local government first aid post is situated some 10 miles from Caçador and is inaccessible in wet weather, the new arrangement has proved of considerable value.

Education is a second major priority and plans are under-way to develop a school in Caçador. When the school is operational, most children will have comparatively easy access to education and will not experience the current discontinuity in their studies. During one particularly wet period this October the school bus was only able to access Caçador on one day out of five due the state of the dirt roads. While still not operating to

its fullest potential, the new community centre is proving to be of considerable importance to the area.

John and Phyllis on behalf of the people of Caçador and of Monte Horebe want to thank all Buena Vista readers who have contributed not only towards the building but also to the general development of the community.

"the new community centre is proving to be of considerable importance"

For further information on this ministry please contact John via johnplogan@hotmail.com or info@samsukireland.com



ARGENTINA

We had the privilege of visiting Argentina in late September and early October. It was a very positive experience with many encouragements as we saw and met people who shared with us about God's work in their lives and in various situations.

We started our time in the North, making a visit to the Chaco with Alec Deane, staying in Mission Chequena, followed by some time in Salta. Alec has a great gift in relating to the Wichi people and the evident trust between them is inspiring. With Alec, we visited a number of the Wichi homes where the Siwok crafts are carved and fashioned into such attractive quality products. Many of the craft workers have gained much support and advice from Alec, who always seems to be creative and full of ideas. Sales of the Siwok crafts provide a livelihood to many Wichi families and it was a joy to meet these genuine fair trade producers. We were also able to visit some of

the gardens certain Wichi families now cultivate as a result of the SAMS Garden Project. Support of these projects is gratefully received by those in Northern Argentina. Your prayers, purchases and donations to support the Garden Project and Siwok Crafts are highly valued. The SAMS website www.samsukireland.com and www.siwok.org.uk provide more information.

It was a joy to see some of the beauty of Argentina and to learn more of the ministry of Andrew and Maria Leake, Chris and Helena Wallis and Cecilia of the Red Box Project. We were pleased to have been able to join in worshipping the Lord at San Andres Church in Salta, where we



Siwok Crafts



Young Wichi boys in their family garden plot

and the congregation benefited from Hugo Vergara's ministry.

Our time in the North was followed by attendance at the SEAN Hispanic Conference in Buenos Aires. The Conference delegates came from most of the countries of South and Central America where they were running TEE (Theological Education by Extension) programmes using SEAN courses. SEAN (Study by Extension to All Nations) began 41 years ago and has been greatly used by God in discipleship and leadership training. The testimonies and stories shared at the conference of how God has used SEAN were amazing

and inspiring. What was started in Argentina in 1971 is now used in 100 countries and 80 languages around the world. The website www.seaninternational.com will provide you with more information.

Thank you for your prayers for us. Please continue to pray for the church in Argentina and particularly for the people and projects where SAMS has commitments and involvement.

Thank you.
Phil and Rosemary Tadman

FUSION



Hello to all of you! My name is Virginia and I was born in Uruguay. I am doing a year's placement in Shankill Parish Lurgan and will be here until May 2013. Being here is significant, a dream, an invitation that God planted in me 10 ½ years ago. Moving from my country, persevering and trusting God was all part of the journey and now I am here.

During the summer months my main role was doing pastoral visits. I love it when people open their home to me; we experience the presence of God in simple conversations, putting our faith and challenges in His hands through prayer. I am also part of the team working with young people in the Youth Club on Saturday nights. It is a blessing for me to share with volunteer youth leaders who are making a difference in young

people's lives by sharing time and being role models. Another opportunity to serve is an initiative called the "mustard seed". This group serves lunch in the local community centre. We cook, set the tables; some people donate desserts and also help financially. People come to receive a lunch and a feast is shared. It looks and feels like a celebration of solidarity and fellowship! Twice a week I am part of the toddler time team. It is a gift to be part of this group of women that share their time with families in the community.



Virginia Morales



Redbox project

As you read Buena Vista you will be in your winter and I will be in my summer. Come to think about it your summer has less sun than my winter! The Red Box Project continues to develop and I am thankful to God for this. It means a lot to know that you remain faithful in prayer. The SAMS Gap Year Programme which I coordinate has and continues to have a significant impact on the lives of young adults who participate from the UK and Ireland. Fiona Heaney has just returned to Dublin after nearly a year here. Fiona was a blessing as she served with an open heart here in Argentina and also in Bolivia. I know that three young adults are presently in discussions with SAMS about placement possibilities in 2013, so pray for all the logistical issues.

Twice a week I am now visiting local juvenile detention centres.

Give thanks to God for the openness of the young people I share time with. Pray for them especially as they are so keen to hear about God.

Pray for me as I work with the church team in developing discipleship training, especially in the area of developing young leaders. Pray for patience and perseverance and give thanks for the young people who are growing in their faith.

Opportunities abound within local schools, so pray for a real outpouring of God's Spirit in this important ministry. Give thanks to God for the numerous and wonderful opportunities opening up through the Romance Academy programme.

Cecilia Valdiviezo

I have spent a lot of time over the last weeks visiting people, talking to people and listening to what they are saying, joining in with the different groups and praying that God will show me His priorities. There are probably 100 people and things and places my heart could lead me to, but I am trying to hear God's voice and heart. There have been many times over the last few weeks when people have talked to me about things going on in their lives that I have felt I need to be more equipped. When I was here before I thought to myself more than once that nothing shocks me anymore, but a few times recently I have been shocked. Anyway I thought it would be good to do a Christian Counselling Course to see if I can learn some things that will be helpful and that I can pass on to others. I have started that and am enjoying it.

THINGS THAT HAVE DRAWN MY ATTENTION

Many peoples fight for survival. Prices here on most things are at least double what you can



Concepción Calling

get them for at home and yet the minimum wage is a quarter of what it is in the UK. Many places don't even pay half the minimum wage. Having enough for just the necessities is a luxury many can't afford. When you see the above on a daily basis your priorities change. It makes you appreciate what you have. A few people have said to me that they thank God for their needs and suffering because it helps them to trust Him. Taking time with people is so important.



by Claire Holmes

THINGS THAT ARE DIFFICULT, PAINFUL OR CHALLENGING

Readjusting to the heat. It has been hovering around 40 degrees for the last month. I am trying not to complain too much though. The lives of so many people, including the children and young people, are so incredibly messy, complicated and full of pain. So many people suffer violence. Many have been brought up by people other than their parents. There is a big need for healing. I knew there was prostitution here but never realised until now just how much. It is much more subtle

than the street corner type – thus maybe more difficult to deal with.

REQUESTS AND THANKSGIVING

Thank God for the different teams and visitors that were here and all the people they had contact with.

Thank God for the courage and faithfulness of His people in the midst of many difficulties.

Pray for success for those who are trying to open their own small-scale business and that none of them will lack their daily necessities.

Pray that God will show the church and me his priorities.

Please pray too for God's healing from emotional scars for those people who have been badly hurt.

Thank you for your prayers.
God Bless you.

Claire



COLÉGIO SAN ANDRÉS

Gwen Carlisle, Mags Southern and Hannah Taylor

It's the beginning of the school holidays in Paraguay and the population is experiencing the hot humid weather of another Paraguayan summer. Gwen, Mags and Hannah are enjoying a well-deserved break from school. For Gwen and Mags (the head and deputy head of the school), it has been another busy year. The school year concluded with Sports Days, Art Exhibitions and exam preparations. The 6th form had a special "last day" at school; an emotionally significant time in their young lives after having spent 15 of their 18 years attending the school. They had a special breakfast with their parents, were presented with a bible and took part in a special service in the Anglican Cathedral.



Hannah has spent just over a year working in San Andres and so for her, each experience is new, challenging and exciting. She writes, "I can't believe how settled

I feel here compared to this time last year. I think then I doubted that I'd ever feel at home here, but here I am, one year on. I'm still getting to grips with the language and the culture is sometimes still a bit of a mystery to me but that's ok." Hannah

has also had a busy school year teaching classes, preparing the pupils for important exams and coping with endless marking! Pray for Gwen, Mags and Hannah as they rest and relax for a few weeks before the new school year begins in early March.



WALKING FOR BRAZIL

I had previously visited Rio in 2009 where I experienced tremendous Christian love among the workers and the children of the Reencontro Day Care facilities in Niteroi. I found it very humbling and felt I wanted to do more. I decided that since I was going to hike Ben Nevis with the Dromore Walking Club I would use the opportunity to raise some funds. The first part of the walk was difficult as I'm vertically challenged! We reached the top and were blessed by having a 360° panoramic view. It was amazing.

Thank you
Beth McCabe

ABSEILING FOR PARAGUAY

Each year, Harlow Rotary club organise charity abseiling down a local water tower. I've never done anything like this before but I enjoyed it immensely. After taking part in a Mission Paraguay trip it was a great opportunity to raise funds for the Church in Paraguay. It's a fun carnival atmosphere with many people watching and abseiling to support a wide range of charities. Not only has this been a good way to raise money it was also an opportunity to talk about Mission Paraguay and to say why I'm involved to many people I know at work as well as at church.

Blessings
John Rumble



Friday Night Live

Hosted By Rev Andrew Forster

Keynote Speaker SAMS Mission Director Bishop Ken Clarke
Craigavon Civic Centre Friday 1st February 2013 7.30pm

Teaching Opportunity in Brazil

Mount Horeb Training Centre, Itaperuçu, Brazil

Teacher of English required for 3 months

Student age range - 6 to 14 (with possibility of classes for adults)

Further details from John Logan johnplogan@hotmail.com

LEGACIES

SAMS is extremely thankful for legacies which are left by individuals for the benefit of the work in South America. Legacies can make a real difference to the ongoing work and the extension of God's Kingdom. Thank you for partnering with us. For further information in confidence contact the SAMS House.

Thank you for being part of the SAMS family. If we can serve you in any way please do not hesitate to contact us.

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