

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of the Lord for 2010! Here in Santo Domingo the rains are faithfully watering the rich soil after a drought. We have just finished "Carnival" when people are allowed to douse their friends and family with water without prior notice....!

Life has been very full, and I give thanks to God for his provision of so many people and resources.

Visits

It was great to have [Avril and Andrew Betts-Brown](#) to visit in October and November. I think everyone has received the report of their adventures, so I will not repeat them here.

In January we had a visit from Kim Swyden, Senior Pastor of Henderson Hills Baptist Church Oklahoma USA, and his team of three ladies, Beth, Katie and Wendy. In four days they managed to visit and talk with nearly everyone. Kim preached in the central church and we prayed about their future involvement with the charity.

I am delighted that the team feel it is God's will to give ongoing contact and support for our ministries. Part of that provision may be to send a college student to work with us later in the year. I am very excited about this.

Sydney Harbour Bridge!



Also in January I visited my sister Janet in Port Macquarie, NSW Australia. As well as being a private visit, it was the opportunity to make new friends. I gave a presentation about the charity to folk at St. Thomas's Anglican Church. They responded most generously, and I hope to keep in contact.

I praise God that the work of LIAT is becoming known in other countries and that people respond so warmly towards us.

It is of course, all the Lord's doing, and I am reminded of John 15.5. *I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. NKJV*

Christmas at the charity

Between all these visits there came Christmas, which for us takes most of December:

With a generous donation of sweets from a firm in Quito we were able to make up 100 goodie bags which were given to all our children.

Dr. Andy from Nuevas Horizontes gave us 100 handmade dolls from her sewing ministry which we also distributed.

The classes

The school put on a programme for parents and other invited people, which included a drama on the story of Christmas seen through the eyes of the fox, folk dancing and games involving both children and adults. To end the occasion there was chicken with rice and a present for every child.

We are now in the holiday period and are very thankful that the majority of our parents will send their children back to our school next year. We are looking forward to welcoming Lydia Palmer, a Latin Link strider, to help us in the classes in April.

Laura Flores

The youth from the central Baptist Church masterminded a Christmas programme with drama, puppets, music and many gifts of toys, clothes and food for needy families in this barrio. It was fantastic to see how the youth are taking up the challenge to go to the needy of their own community. Praise the Lord!

*PEPE children at Laura Flores
End of year party*



Our children in the PEPE programme also had their own separate Christmas party. People in the community took the initiative so that each child had a gift.

More recently a woman was delivered from the power of witchcraft by the church team, led by Uriel. Following on from this more people are making a commitment to follow Jesus. A two month old baby, granddaughter of Carmen, died some days ago. We brought the body back from a neighbouring town for burial. Through this also people see their need to draw near to God.

The Clinic

There continues to be a high demand for our help at the clinic. One family came to us because literally they had no roof over their heads, which is bearable in the dry season, but very hard in the rain. We have helped in various ways, including plastic sheeting to keep out the rain.

*This family had a house but no roof!
We were able to help them*



The government is now providing anti-convulsive drugs for certain people, so we are discontinuing this particular service. It is lovely to have another helper, Rocio, who volunteers with us and is a great help.

Workshops

Just before Christmas we submitted a project to the government by which it would pay for 40 women to be trained in handicraft skills. We hope it will be approved.

Changes

Uriel Solórzano will continue as the Co-ordinator, but hopefully working more independently. There are many possibilities for advancing and expanding the work of the charity through projects. I hope that the directiva will be actively involved with the next stage of the work, which involves taking major decisions, and working with government bodies. We must always keep in mind that our work exists primarily to glorify God, and we can never compromise on anything involving the Lord.

I hope to take more of an overseeing role in the charity in the coming year. I continue to head up my house group, but otherwise I will be working with the central Baptist Church, as I felt that my work in the Northern Church was complete.

I am planning to move into one of the flats above the charity house, accompanied by Katy Griggs of Latin Link, who is here long term. Ruth and her cousin Lesley may stay on at the house for a time.

Women's ministry

As you know from Avril and Andrew, we have made contact with the charity "Paz Y Esperanza", a Christian charity that works with abused women, and we are hoping they will help us with individual cases and with training. Unfortunately we already have one case of great need. I believe the Lord is gradually leading us into this area. It is not for the faint hearted!

Prayer points

Please pray

- ❖ that the statutes are processed as quickly as possible.
- ❖ for Caroline, the young mother who lost her two month old baby
- ❖ and for abused women in Ecuador.

Isa 40:31 NKJV

But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Many thanks for your ongoing support for this work. Many the Lord always shine His face upon you.

Jill Ball 23 February 2010

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Life in Abundance (Ecuador) Trust
7 Hart Road, Thundersley
Benfleet Tel: +44 (01268) 795 888
Essex E-mail: office@liat-ecuador.org
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Jill would love to hear from you! You can write or e-mail her at:

Casilla 17 24 351, Santo Domingo de los Colorados
Ecuador, South America
jballiat@hotmail.com