

...for global mission with Radstock

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- 1/10/100/other () Hindi Bibles going to Uttar Pradesh
- International delegates getting to the Radstock Conference 2010
- Sending Rapport to churches worldwide
- Building the network – please use as needed
- Other (please specify):

Please turn over

round up



Make a note

Please note that with immediate effect, the Radstock UK office telephone number has changed to: 01302 811319. UK Administrator, Ruth Bellerby, is ready as ever to take your calls between 9.30am and 1pm, Monday to Thursday – but only on 01302 811319!

Shared Mission

Summer in the City Marseille (L'Été dans la Cité) saw 15 people, young and old, from The Crowded House in Sheffield, UK, join folk from Le Merlan church in Marseille for a week of intensified outreach, teaching, service and training.

Based on weeks of focused mission held in Sheffield for four years (see Rapport Sept 2007 & Summer 2009), the multi-national team planned Chinese meals, games in the park, football tournaments, BBQs, litter-picking, surveys, concerts in residential homes for the elderly, film discussion evenings and more. 'It was a great opportunity to build relationships with unbelievers, expose them to God's gospel community, and to share the gospel with them,' observes Del de la Hoyde of TCH.

The relationships between the two churches also benefited from the time together and shared purpose. 'As well as learning from one another about mission, community and evangelism, we pray it will have been a springboard for future partnership in mission,' says Del. 'We thank the Lord for His reconciling gospel of grace and the privilege of being His international family on mission!'

Pursuing God... Transforming the World

Radstock's next International Conference is a call and help for our churches to be 'praying with Christ's agenda'. As Anthony Adams, UK Director and one of the main speakers, explains, 'the focus will be on the use of the Lord's Prayer as our guide in our prayer priorities...and its strong implications for mission!'

The programme will include all the elements that have made recent Conferences a highlight for many: international delegates; news and testimonies of God's work around the world; mission opportunities near and far; and Biblical and practical teaching for churches taking their next steps in global mission.

Don't miss out – and don't let others miss out! Save the dates (25th – 27th February 2010) and pass on the news. For full details, including flexible booking options, see www.radstock.org, contact Katy Jones Parry (kjp@radstock.org), or send back the tear-off slip from this Rapport.



rappoort

The Newsletter of Radstock Ministries • Autumn 2009 • Suggested donation 50p / \$1

Breaking new ground

In this issue...

Focus on The Crowded House network of churches and their growing global connections – from France (p.4) to India (pp.2-3) and pioneer opportunities among an under-reached people group (p.1)

The following news of plans to share the gospel among an under-reached people needs to be told – but with sensitivity.

Andy Stovell, of The Crowded House Edge church network in Sheffield, UK, has been reaching out to a South Asian people group for 25 years. 'I've always been saddened that not only are very few in the diaspora coming to faith, but there is also no indigenous church back in their homeland.'

Limited resources exist in the unwritten language of this people group. Andy and others recently partnered with a bible translating agency to see the 'God's Story' DVD translated into the target language, with one of their own friends as the narrator.



'Wouldn't it be wonderful to see a converted family return to their area to be light in that dark place?'

Feeling the Lord encouraging him to act as a catalyst, Andy wrote to UK churches and agencies working among these people: 'Wouldn't it be wonderful to see a converted family return to their area to be light in that dark place? And for the church in the UK to ensure that could happen, under God, by praying and equipping even a few families for such a task?'

And so a coalition was born on June 11th, 2009 made up of agencies and churches with a similar burden. Some initial goals included finding outlets for prayer; contacting and praying with others who share the burden; planning who might join Andy on an exploratory trip in January; and identifying who might be God's choice to lead what they believe would be the first ever church-planting team to these unengaged people in their homeland.

Greg Livingstone, of Frontiers mission agency, has taken the challenge to heart: 'It was a joy to be filled with expectation that we are being led to 'step out' and together believe the Lord of the Harvest to raise up a team for this untouched area; a team which we trust will also develop more disciple-makers for efforts among these people in the UK.'

connect!

Pray for:

- Andy and Amer as they plan to visit in January
- the conference in November for UK workers among this people group
- people in or near the area who might 'open doors' for a resident team
- ongoing gospel work among these people across the UK

For more information about the coalition, use the tear-off slip or contact Andy: fuzl@blueyonder.co.uk

On the up in UP!

From a young age Catriona Potter had a desire to serve God in a developing country. She is now studying human rights law in order to help the poor and oppressed. After meeting Alok Srivastava of Tell Asia Alliance at this year's Radstock Conference, Catriona and her husband David spent four weeks of their summer in Uttar Pradesh (UP), India, to see where the Lord might be leading them.

'Our time in India was wonderful, full of great experiences!' they enthused after returning home to Loughborough, UK. During their trip David taught 25 house-church leaders, some as young as sixteen. 'It was so encouraging to see their hunger for God's word and desire to build Christ's church in their local villages and towns,' recalls David.

Along with Catriona's brother and a friend, they decorated the Blue Haven Children's Home (managed by Alok and his wife, Ricky) and ran a club there. 'It was wonderful to get to know the children, many of whom have become Christians since living in the home. One boy was from Varanasi – a city known as the graveyard of Christian missions. He wants to be a pastor when he grows up and help the poor and tell them about Jesus.'

The Potters were later joined by Ben and Sarah Murray, part of a linked Loughborough church and also keen to serve the Lord in global mission. Together they were able to visit a village church with Alok's help so that, as white visitors, they wouldn't attract unhelpful attention. They recall one pastor's testimony: 'He moved from being intent on bombing his brother's church to accepting Jesus as his saviour, and now leading a rapidly-growing church!'



"a ministry among destitute children is one we are increasingly drawn to"

Looking beyond this visit, there were interesting conversations with Alok and Leanna of Tell Asia Alliance, as well as heads of schools and colleges and a former high court judge, to work out how and where the British couples might be an asset to the work of the churches in UP. 'There are plenty of opportunities, but it will take many more conversations and trips to Lucknow to get a clearer idea of what exactly to do,' explains Catriona. One possible project is a plan to build a self-sufficient children's home with school, 'and a ministry like that among orphans and destitute children is one we are increasingly drawn to.'

'Two years from now we'd love to have a core team and wider support network in place, a clearer vision for the work God would have us do and a plan for the process of moving out.' David and Catriona are eager to use the intervening time to build a partnership between churches in UP and The Crowded House (TCH) network of which their Loughborough churches are a part, and to encourage other Christians to visit



The Murrays (left) and Potters (right) with Blue Haven children

North India and serve the believers there. 'Being involved with TCH, we have become convinced that the local church is best equipped to take the gospel to its community, wherever that may be.'

They also hope Indian believers might be able to visit the UK to help reach Asian communities here. 'Meanwhile, we want to get stuck in to learning Hindi, preferably by getting to know some Hindi speakers in Loughborough, which would also further our church's local mission.'



"Wouldn't it be great... 10,000 Bibles going out across the state!"

Radstock's Anthony Adams also spent time back in UP this summer and saw much to give thanks for among the 'Tell Asia Alliance' churches.

Through both prayer and practical help, you and your church can get involved in what God is doing in UP, too. There is a huge need for Bibles. 'When we met with house church leaders, they were each given 5-10 Hindi Bibles,' recalls Anthony. 'Alok said they could easily have used several times that number.' Literacy level in the villages is around 50% so there is usually someone in a family who can access it.

The '20/20' network – churches and ministries sharing a vision of 20% of the state's population being Christian by 2020 – will hold a conference in December with almost 1000 church leaders from the regions of Uttar Pradesh gathering to pray and be equipped. 'Wouldn't it be great to give

connect!

Pray for:

- David, Catriona, Ben, Sarah and their church network to forge deeper relationships with Alok & the churches in UP
- at least one other family who feel a calling and desire to serve God in UP
- protection and fruitfulness for the new churches and young pastors in UP

Could you and your church be part of what God is doing in North India?

To support a UP church in prayer, or explore longer-term involvement, use the rapport reply slip or contact Anthony Adams: anthony@radstock.org

each of them 10 Bibles to take back with them? By connecting this to the conference, the costs of getting them to each district, whether by post or car, would be avoided. That would be 10,000 bibles going out across the state!

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One Hindi Bible costs 120 rupees (about £1.50/\$2.50/€1.80).

Could you or your church pay for 1, 10 or more Bibles to reach the people of UP?

Why not club together as a homegroup or mission committee?

Send any donation with the rapport reply slip or donate online at:

www.radstock.org/donate-now

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Complete each section, tear off the form and return it in the enclosed envelope.

Yes!

Please tell me more about...

(tick/check any that apply)

- Gospel work among a South Asian people group
- Supporting a church in Uttar Pradesh
- Long-term opportunities in Uttar Pradesh
- The Radstock Conference 2010
- A guest speaker or mission consultation for my church
- Receiving rapport by e-mail
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