

checkpoint.

SPRING 2019 CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Lifelong LEARNING



From the Editor



God willing, we are all lifelong learners about the reality and depth of sin, the overwhelming mercy of God in Christ Jesus, and the sanctifying power of God's Holy Spirit. But when

someone begins serving as a missionary, this lifelong learning takes on a unique new colour and complexion. That is what we're exploring in this Spring edition of *Checkpoint*.

Most of the articles in this edition are written by CMS missionaries who (though thoroughly committed to the CMS distinctive of 'long-term focus') have only been on location for a relatively short period of time.

This newness can bring its own opportunities to be humbled. **M** discovered that she needed to relearn how to wash dishes (page 13). **Derek and Rosemary Snibson** had to come to terms with being called 'olmen' and 'olgamen' (to understand why this might be a challenge, read 'Wisdom in White Hair' on pages 8-9). **Colin Puffett** speaks of struggling with language. At the end of Colin's article is a link to a video you can view on the

CMS website. When I watched it I was struck by the rawness and weight of Colin's words that "our spiritual lives are limited by using a foreign language".

CMS Tasmania's State Director **Scott Sargent** also shares about the joys and challenges we encounter as we partner financially and prayerfully with those offering to serve elsewhere.

If you read on and feel this challenge of partnering, why not go further? Type 'CMS prayer points' into your favourite search engine, and discover what new things you can pray for our missionaries each day. Take the opportunity to register now for a CMS summer conference. There you can meet CMS missionaries personally and hear more from one of our article writers, **Grishma Parajuli**, about his conversion from Hinduism and his involvement in the astonishing growth of God's church in Nepal. There are many ways to be a part of *a world that knows Jesus*.

Gordon Cheng

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Editor: Gordon Cheng; Editorial Coordinator: Naomi Jones; Editorial Assistant: Evangeline Hester; Communications Coordinator: David Carpenter; Design: Clarisse Avila; International Director: Peter Rodgers.

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for *a world that knows Jesus*. We aim to do this by:

- Reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ
- Equipping Christian leaders for church and society
- Engaging churches in cross-cultural mission

More articles at:

checkpoint.cms.org.au



Summer Conferences

CMS Summer Conferences are part of our vision for *a world that knows Jesus*. A chance to hear from God's word, meet missionaries, spend time with brothers and sisters who share a passion for mission, and shape your mission plans for the year.

2020 LINE-UP

"There's no better way to start the year than by getting up to Summer School for the first week in January. It's the greatest investment we make in the year as it gets the family and the church focused on what really matters, the Kingdom of God. Our church and family love it, it's been growing us for years!"

Tim Booker, Senior Minister, Guildford Anglican Church, NSW



INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER

Grishma Parajuli

Grishma Parajuli is the senior pastor of Nayagaun church in Nepal, where he has served for over 30 years. Today his church of over 1000 people has planted 11 other Nepali churches. See Grishma's amazing conversion story on page 22, then come and hear him at a CMS Summer Conference near you.

Grishma will be speaking at several CMS Summer Conferences.

BIBLE SPEAKERS



CMS NSW & ACT

Simon Manchester



CMS QNSW

Will Timmins



CMS SANT

Kanishka Raffel



CMS TAS

Simon Gillham



CMS VIC

Peter Adam



Jackson Wu



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CMS Summer Conferences are for you!

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SUTS
15-18 JANUARY
2020

CMS WA
SUMMERFOCUS
29 MARCH
2020



CMS Director of Training and Development David Williams has sought to strengthen cross-cultural mission training for CMS over the past 12 years. Here

he explains the significance of our ongoing commitment to training, and why it begins long before a missionary arrives on location.

Back in 1799, CMS discovered the importance of training missionaries. Sadly, our forebears learned this lesson the hard way.

It took some time for CMS to raise up its first missionaries. No British candidates offered to serve, so CMS recruited German Lutherans who went to Sierra Leone. The first two missionaries were Melchior Renner and Peter Hartwig. They came to London for training, but the focus was mostly

on learning English. Soon after arriving in Sierra Leone, Renner was appointed the colonial chaplain to the British Governor. Hartwig lost the plot completely and became a slave trader. Other German Lutherans followed Renner and Hartwig. CMS's policy was to start schools for local children, who spoke the Susu language. Andrew Walls comments:

We have, therefore, the incongruous spectacle of a school for Susu children taught entirely in English, entirely by Germans. One or two of the boys did well; at least one came to England, piously lived, and soon succumbing to the climate, serenely died, and became the subject of an edifying tract.¹

As a response to these early problems, CMS decided to invest more thoughtfully in missionary training. In 1807, they employed Rev Thomas Scott, a well-known biblical commentator. Inevitably Scott had no experience in mission, but this didn't stop him from trying to teach Susu and Arabic to his students as well as grounding them in the Scriptures.



Why the deep focus on training?

On a different continent, 220 years later, CMS continues to believe in the importance of training our missionaries. At the simplest level, this is because missionaries with no training can make terrible mistakes that ruin people's lives, as Peter Hartwig demonstrates.

This is not just a story from long ago. I recently heard of an Australian short-term development worker who felt emotionally overwhelmed by the poverty he experienced. He responded by raising money to launch an orphanage. Sadly, the story has a tragic ending. Because of a series of cultural mistakes, the orphanage closed 18 months later in a catastrophe of crime and sexual violence.

Of course, CMS does not believe in missionary training only to avoid mistakes and catastrophes. We long to see the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed effectively in every context that we serve in. As Australian Christians, we believe

that our own church ministers should be properly trained if they are to preach Christ and lead local churches. Exercising a gospel ministry across cultures is more complicated than serving in your home context. So, rightly, we expect that missionaries will need careful and specialist training.

As CMS missionaries share the good news of Jesus in different cultures, they need to be able to answer the questions that people are asking. These questions will be profoundly different to the questions that our Australian friends are asking. They flow out of a different worldview. But in order to learn another person's worldview and proclaim the gospel faithfully to them, we need to be able to understand their culture and speak their language.

CMS places a high value on excellent language learning. You don't have to speak Greek, Hebrew or English to follow Jesus Christ. The God of the Bible speaks your language. His Word can be translated into your mother tongue and



**The single most important aim
of St Andrew's Hall
is simple: we want to
enable our missionaries to
self-reflect and self-correct.**



your culture. Effective cross-cultural mission requires in-depth language learning, which doesn't happen quickly. So this, in turn, means taking a long-term perspective on missionary service. And the evidence is clear: the more specialist cross-cultural training a missionary has, the more likely they are to survive and thrive in long-term mission.² We want the nations of our world to hear the good news of Jesus Christ, taught to them in their heart language in a way that they can understand. So we as CMS believe in the importance of excellent missionary training and preparation.

A closer look at CMS training

In the light of all this, what is involved in equipping CMS missionaries to serve on location? The process begins before St Andrew's Hall (SAH), takes place in community at SAH, and continues after SAH.

Biblical foundations

Before attending SAH, CMS expects all our missionaries to complete core theological education at Bible College. Our minimum expectation is the equivalent of one year full-time, although the majority of CMS missionaries have completed a theology degree. Studying at Bible college provides the core training in biblical studies, systematic theology and church history that puts in place a strong theological foundation for future mission.

Missiological and cultural studies

At SAH, we have the great privilege of equipping women and men who have this strong foundation in place. This means that we can focus specifically on specialist missiological and cultural studies. The single most important aim of SAH is simple: we want to enable our missionaries to self-reflect and self-correct. In many of the contexts in which CMS missionaries serve, you can go on making the same mistake for 20 years and nobody will ever tell you. In order to keep growing in our cultural understanding, missionaries need to know themselves well; and they need to know how to learn another culture.

So at SAH, we focus on missiology, anthropology, other religions, cross-cultural Bible teaching and practical skills such as cultural transitions. We help our trainees think through the best way to learn language in their context. We equip them to manage challenges relating to poor security, living in contexts of poverty, bringing up your children in a different culture. But we also give attention to understanding ourselves well, building our skills in self-reflection, conflict resolution and in managing our own well-being.

² Rob Hay, *Worth Keeping: Global Perspectives on Best Practice in Missionary Retention, Globalization of Mission Series* (Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2007).

³ Walls, *Crossing Cultural Frontiers: Studies in the History of World Christianity*, 116.

3 Involvement in genuine cross-cultural relationships

All these skills cannot be learned in a vacuum. So trainees at SAH get involved in real cross-cultural relationships while they are living in Melbourne. SAH asks them to attend a language other than English church—it is a humbling thing to sit through a church service where you don't understand anything. But for most of our missionaries this is what the first couple of years on location is like. We also ask our trainees to make a friendship with someone from a different culture and religion in order to learn that person's worldview.



4 Learning in community

A key component of the SAH training is the process of learning in community. Our trainees come as a cohort and go through mission preparation together. Often these groups stay in close contact with one another and support each other in the years of mission that lie ahead. It has been a joy to see how our heavenly Father consistently puts together groups of trainees who can encourage and equip each other for mission. The intense, residential nature of our training is a critical aspect of the effectiveness of our course.



5 Support while serving

After SAH, we support new missionaries in their language learning for the first three years of service. We also provide learning support for all our gospel workers, to enable them to keep growing and learning as they serve in mission.

CMS wants to do everything we can to enable effective gospel ministry. Our investment in SAH reflects our desire to see the good news of Jesus proclaimed to the ends of the earth. In 1964, a loyal generation of CMS supporters invested in the current property in Melbourne. Their vision has enabled over 50 years of missionary training and has resourced over 10,000 years of missionary service. The facilities at SAH desperately need redeveloping. In the kindness of God, the redevelopment project is now under way and we are currently raising support, but we are praying for more people to help in this. It falls to us to be the generation that invests in the next 50 years of gospel mission.

It is good to remember that this is God's work. It doesn't all depend on us. Despite the frailties and failures of the early CMS missionaries in Sierra Leone, God was powerfully at work. The capital city, Freetown, became a diaspora mission location that released thousands of African Christians into gospel ministry across West Africa. One of these was Samuel Ajayi Crowther, who became the first African Anglican Bishop in Nigeria. Today, the Anglican Church in Nigeria is the largest expression of evangelical Anglican faith in the world.

And Peter Hartwig, the missionary turned slave trader? 10 years after arriving in Sierra Leone, he turned back to the Lord Jesus and renewed contact with CMS—"penitent and very sick ... his last months were spent in translating the Gospel of John into Susu."³ God can use our weaknesses and failures for his glory.

Last Checkpoint we looked at the important subject of 'training the trainers'. See that whole issue, and previous issues of Checkpoint, at
cms.org.au/checkpoint-magazine/



St Andrew's Hall in Melbourne, where all CMS missionaries train, is currently going through a long-overdue upgrade. Learn more and support this vital work here:
cms.org.au/sah

WISDOM *in* WHITE HAIR



CMS missionaries Derek and Rosemary Snibson, in their 60s, recently began serving in Northern Australia. Read how God has led them – and how their age has conferred both joyful challenges and opportunities along the way.

In mid-2018 we arrived in the Northern Territory. With encouraging support from the Diocese of the Northern Territory, our vision is to get alongside and equip Indigenous Christians in Darwin in their ministry, mission and emerging leadership. It is crucial that they own and shape ministry for themselves if it is to endure fruitfully: to know and worship Jesus and make him known in their own languages and ways. We share here some reflections from the story so far.

Too old to go?

Over the past 40 years, we have been privileged to serve in cross-cultural ministry and mission in Melbourne suburbs such as North Fitzroy, Carlton, South Melbourne and Clayton. When first approaching CMS, we were initially told “Sorry, you’re too old for full time service, and there are no training vacancies at St Andrew’s Hall (SAH) for some time!” Others said, “At your stage of life, why bother with the training? Just go!”

However, we were delighted when CMS did accept us to train to serve God in Northern Australia, and as doors graciously opened to guide our way. We are so glad we did agree to first go to SAH. We relished the time and space there to learn new things from God and others, to reflect on what we had already learnt, and to be enriched by the great privilege of the training and community life.

Too weak to go?

Three months before arriving in the Northern Territory, Derek had back surgery. We wondered again whether we should go. What about the long trips and bumpy dirt roads? Thankfully, his back is going well. We have been through a number of lessons in vulnerability in ministry over the years (such as when Rosemary was in bed for many months with back problems when our children were toddlers). Awareness of our own limitations continues to be important in serving here.

Firstly, God graciously reminds us that our confidence is in his strength, not our own (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). We will increasingly face limitations of age, and the relatively short time ahead; we are not in our 30s! Our efforts often seem so small and fragile. We have been stripped of familiar supports. Our pride means that this is a lesson we need to keep on learning.

Secondly, our vulnerability enables us to relate a little more to the people amongst whom we serve. We can share our need for grace, healing, forgiveness and help—particularly in learning language. Yet Indigenous people face and have been stripped of far more. They often battle with relentless

challenges of health, family pressures, housing, language, prejudice, poverty, addiction and intergenerational trauma. Their churches and local communities are small and struggling, with many needs. However, their faith, worship, witness, and resilience in the power of the Spirit is inspiring.

Lastly, our vulnerability reminds us to pray. People we invest in can get sick, overwhelmed, move away or die. Sometimes so little appears to be achieved. Yet prayer reminds us to keep trusting with hope. Through the finished victory of the cross, God has promised to be at work to build and provide for his church amongst those our world considers as weak, foolish and of no account (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

Such hope gives this 'old couple' (us!) and others encouragement and joy to rely on God and to *kipgon* (Kriol for 'keep going') day by day.

Our vulnerability enables us to relate a little more to the people amongst whom we serve.

Our orientation to mission in North Australia

After a few weeks in Darwin we went to Ngukurr, a remote Aboriginal community eight hours away in Arnhem Land. We stayed for three-and-a-half months before returning to Darwin.

Ngukurr grew from the first CMS mission to Roper River in 1908. Living there was very different for us, but triggered some familiar memories of Housing Estate communities. We received 'skin names' (adopted into the kinship system) and were immersed in learning Kriol and culture. Our time in Ngukurr has been a valuable foundation; opening doors and fostering bonds we could not have imagined.

With grief at leaving behind many experiences and friends we came to love, we returned to begin serving in Darwin in December 2018. Increasingly, people from remote communities like Ngukurr move to and from the city. Some have settled more permanently in Darwin, with its mosaic of different languages, cultures, needs and degrees of urbanisation.

Challenging values and worldviews

After some time at Ngukurr, more than one person said: "We want you to stay, but if you have to go, tell CMS to send older people like you, those with more experience." We were called '*Olgamen en Olmen*' each day (Kriol for 'old lady and old man'). Although we felt some indignity at first, these are actually terms of endearment. White hair doesn't mean reaching for a bottle of dye. As in other cultures, Aboriginal

folk look respectfully to seniors for wisdom and advice. We have also encountered other Indigenous values that have challenged our own, such as extended clan relationships and sharing in a collective culture.

The bigger picture and partnerships

Along with the support of churches and local partners here in Darwin, we are humbly aware that we stand on the shoulders of those before us. One week after arriving in Ngukurr we attended the funeral of Rev M. Gumbuli W (OAM), the first ordained Aboriginal Anglican in the Territory. We saw and experienced the rich local legacy of his ministry and that of many other faithful Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals. It was moving to pray with local leaders at the fallen tree trunk where the first service was conducted 110 years earlier by the original six CMS missionaries, including three Aboriginals.¹ We are thankful for the privilege of playing a small part in this bigger story.

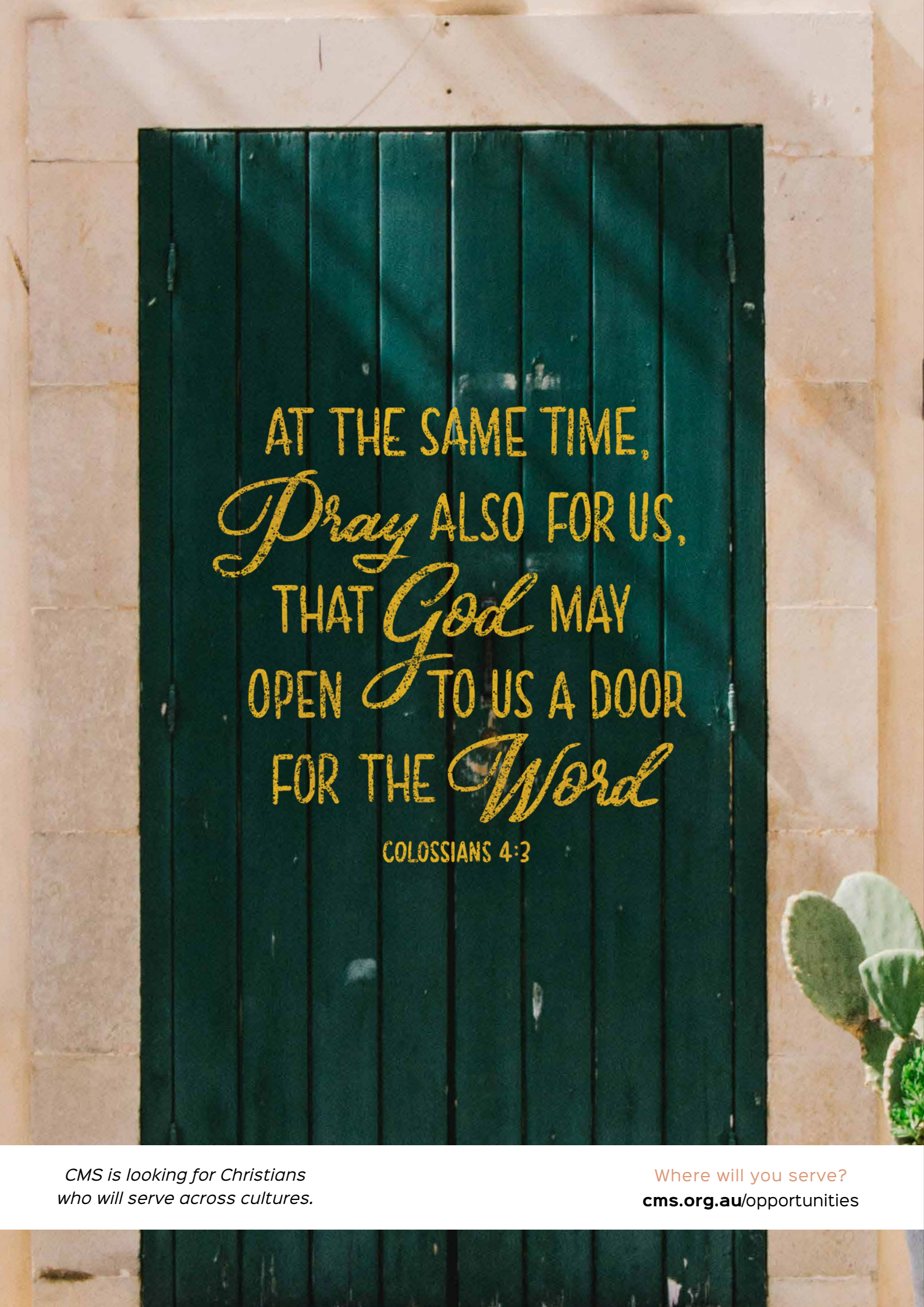


Northern Territory Bishop Greg Anderson, ex-CMS missionary, writes about how to help build a strong Aboriginal church at cms.org.au/stronger-aboriginal-church



In some locations, having more years of life experience can be an advantage for ministry. If you are an older Christian thinking of mission, contact your branch to learn of opportunities.

¹ For more on the legacy of the ministry of Aboriginal Christians, see Seiffert, Murray 2008, *Refuge on the Roper*, Acorn Press; Seiffert, M. 2011, *Gumbuli Of Ngukurr*, Acorn Press; also Harris, John 1998, *We Wish We'd Done More*, Openbook Publishers.



AT THE SAME TIME,
Pray ALSO FOR US,
THAT *God* MAY
OPEN *TO* US A DOOR
FOR THE *Word*

COLOSSIANS 4:3

*CMS is looking for Christians
who will serve across cultures.*

Where will you serve?
cms.org.au/opportunities



I DON'T UNDERSTAND



CMS missionary Colin Puffett, serving with Catherine in France, reflects on three 'I's of language learning: irritation, identity and importance.

Irritation

The prevailing opinion and experience of language learning is frustration (but 'irritation' starts with I, so I went with that). It is much harder to track and feel the progression than it is to ignore all the times you can't quite say what you want, as quickly or clearly as you want. Many times a day a language learner is faced with situations where we feel helpless, or silly, or frustrated. This is not reserved for those of us who are slower to acquire language, but people of all learning speeds and styles are almost constantly aware that they cannot express themselves as well as they might like.

Two years in, I can sense still sense my own difficulty in small talk after the church service. And as I'm leading a Bible study on Romans, I really wish I could be as sensitive and nuanced as I am in English, while I try to express some difficult concepts. Wherever I set the bar of expectation of my competence, it tends to be a bit (or a lot) higher than I can currently jump.

Identity

A few weeks ago I delivered a sermon, in English, at a special bilingual service at our church in Nantes. Afterwards some of the church members (who almost never hear me speaking English) commented "Wow, you're like a completely different person!" Add to that the fact that Cath has also had to assure our French friends several times that I'm not normally a silent or boring individual, and you'll get a little insight into the overall situation here.

It strikes me how much society values you being yourself, while Christ calls for us to die to ourselves daily to take on the new character defined in us by the Spirit. Being in

another culture and having to express myself in a different language has taken away certain aspects of what I might instinctively call my persona.

More than that it has been an opportunity to shape and prune me in patience, pride, listening, and learning to serve the church in non-teaching roles. Perhaps this is one of God's good motivations behind some of us taking longer in language learning than others: we have further to go in some areas!

Importance

There are many reasons for the importance of language learning and proficiency in CMS's ministry, and I couldn't begin to improve on the explanations that have already been given in the past. But I wanted to share here that I really do see and feel the importance of language for ministry. Many workers have shared their difficulty and discomfort in foreign language prayer. And to me, that's the point—our spiritual lives are limited/hindered by using a foreign language.

That's why I'm confident in the importance of the task of language learning for crossing cultures—others shouldn't have to process or relate to God in an anglophone environment. I don't want to allow my lack of proficiency to block a smooth, comfortable, natural relationship between them and our great and living God—and so I press on!

About four months into his time in France, Colin recorded this video clip giving an honest look at the difficulties of language learning.
cms.org.au/puffett-learning-language

Care



Missionaries struggling with language learning often feel culturally dislocated and alien. How could you remind missionaries, through messages or other means, that they are not alone?

Tasmania TO THE world



CMS Tasmania State Director Scott Sargent is excited about new workers offering to serve with CMS. Here he invites us to share his joy in building partnership with new CMS missionaries.

When I began as State Director of CMS Tasmania in November 2016 we only had one missionary unit deployed to the nations, a family serving in South East Asia. This year that doubled to two units as we deployed another worker to South Asia. A few months ago our small branch received the news that a third unit have been accepted by both our branch and CMS Australia as workers-in-training. They are a couple who (God willing) will move to Cambodia after their St Andrew's Hall training next year.

In the middle of all this excitement I'm very aware of the challenge of raising support for this gospel work, as well as renewed thinking about the nature of partnership.

In my private devotions I have been slowly working through one of my favourite letters, Philippians, where Paul writes, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:3-6)

All gospel ministry is a partnership, and long-term cross-cultural mission is no exception. 'Partnership in the gospel' lies at the centre of all that CMS and its workers do.

How partnership works

Partnership is between the CMS branches all around Australia who promote global mission and raise up future workers, and CMS Australia who train, place and care for them when they are deployed on a term of service. That partnership is also between workers and branches, and the churches that both send and link with those workers, and individual supporters who enable their ministry to occur.

The partnership between the branch and worker, and their supporters (both churches and individuals) runs two

ways. The workers bless their link churches and supporters by encouraging them to think about how they can be more missional locally, and by giving them the opportunity to pray for and give towards global mission. In turn the churches and supporters bless the workers by cheering them on, praying for them and giving so that they can go to the nations.

The churches and supporters bless the workers by cheering them on.

In the case of CMS Tasmania, having new workers offering for service is wonderful. However, this will also see our annual quota (the money we as a branch send forward to CMS-A so that workers can deploy and stay on location) roughly triple in less than four years!

We need your prayers

More than ever, we need both the prayers of the whole CMS fellowship, and people who will partner with CMS Tasmania by giving sacrificially, generously and gladly so that we can annually meet our obligations to fund our gospel workers

Just as Paul thanked God daily for those who partnered with him in his gospel ministry, the workers and staff of CMS "thank God every time we remember you...praying with joy because of your partnership (with us) in the gospel", as you pray, care and give to those who go in Jesus' name and power to the ends of the earth for a world that knows Jesus. You can see this partnership reflected on Day 31 of the CMS Prayer Diary, where we ask all supporters to give thanks for the involvement of the wider CMS fellowship.



Give a regular or one-off gift to partner financially with a CMS missionary by going to **cms.org.au/give** or contact your local branch. See back page for details.

WASHING DISHES *differently*



CMS worker M, serving in North Africa, like all missionaries new to location, is facing the challenge of learning new things. Here she explains how Christ-likeness means learning to wash dishes differently.

At St Andrew's Hall (SAH) we were taught not to arrive with all the answers in our new home but to have the humble attitude of a learner.

I expected to learn a lot of new things during my first term, not least of all a new language. However, how to wash my dishes was not something I had on my list. But I've changed my ways since I overheard my friend laughing with another lady about the foreigner who didn't know to scrub the dishes with soap outside the sink before rinsing them.

It was tempting to tell my friend that I'd successfully washed my dishes for many years without complaints, but I bit my tongue and learned her way.

Loving through learning

Being a learner is loving because as we listen and observe and, where appropriate, change our behaviour, we show respect to our friends and let them know that we value them and their experiences.

It's also the way we love better, because as we more deeply understand the person and the reasons behind their actions (being a good and efficient housewife, therefore honoured by other women) we can identify how to best express love to them and especially the connection points for the gospel.

Finding cultural icebergs

At SAH we were introduced to the concept of cultural icebergs; words and actions are what we see of each other, but there's a lot more going on beneath the surface. In our heads there's a huge mix of ideas and concerns, all shaped by our families and friends, our faith and our experiences.

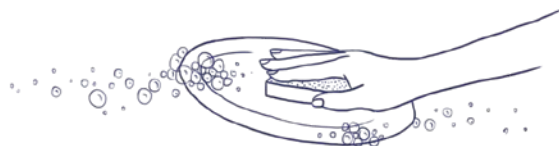
On the surface, the lady who taught me how to wash dishes is brusque, funny, immensely capable and a recent widow. She comes across as unworried and completely in control. Beneath the surface, I know that she's grieving, and I think that she's deeply concerned about her reputation and honour. This is a culture that thrives on gossip and having to work outside the home to support her children leaves her open to malicious comments. She needs to know the God of the Bible who cares about widows and to see how Jesus honoured and respected women in all sorts of situations. It was only when I humbly spent time with her and learned from her that I began to understand her heartfelt needs.

Our model is Christ and his humility.

Of course, taking the time to learn and understand is easier said than done. It's tempting to hang onto my pride and suggest to my friend that my method of washing dishes might be better. But that shuts down the conversation and doesn't show her that I value her and her experience.

Our model is Christ and his humility. So, day by day, I try to take up the humble attitude of being a learner so that I love and respect my friends and learn to love them even better.

In the meantime, I'm quite enjoying this new method of washing my dishes.



care



As you write to missionaries whom you support, consider deepening your understanding by asking what unexpected cultural challenges they are encountering.



A L W A Y S
W I T H M E



CMS missionaries Dave and Beck McIntyre share how they have seen God at work in their family, particularly as their children settled into school in Japan.

How will our children go at school?

This question summed up one fear we held as we approached our move to Japan over three years ago. It is a concern that resurfaced in recent months as two of our children moved up into higher levels of schooling.

School takes up a lot of our kids' lives. We were worried about how they would go as Australian children at a local kindergarten and primary school. While my own experience attending schools in Japan was positive overall¹, I also knew the challenges.

The first day of school

Natasha, our middle child, started kindergarten with virtually no Japanese and little knowledge of the culture. On her first day, Beck took her to the school gate. The principal met her, took her by the hand, and hustled her off to class. Beck only had time to grab a quick photo and no time to pray. Beck was upset at the lack of a proper goodbye, and returned home to worry and fret.

We'd prayed not that things would be easy, but that our kids would trust God when things were hard.

When she picked Natasha up, she asked about her day.

Natasha said she had cried during singing time. But then she'd prayed and was ok, because "God goes with me everywhere I go, even *yochien* (kindergarten)."

Here was God's clear answer to our prayers in this new place! We'd prayed not that things would be easy, but that our kids would trust God when things were hard.

In many ways God has given us the privilege of reinforcing our kids' faith in Jesus as we have settled into our new location. We try to pray each morning at the front door before they go to school. Our family Bible reading and prayer each night after dinner have been important—especially when they haven't understood Japanese Sunday school.

Hard words from other students

Alyssa, our eldest, was finding the comments of the other kids difficult. They were saying that she needed to get on and learn the kanji (Chinese characters) faster or she would fall behind.

We reminded Alyssa that God approved of her, no matter how well she did. We explained how for the other kids, particularly in an aspirational area of Japan, doing well academically is the highest priority placed upon them. But God loves us no matter what.

Challenges—for us as well as them—have meant that we have looked to our Lord Jesus together.

God's care in little events

Alyssa started at an international school in April, which means a one-hour train trip each way, and again getting used to new people and ways of doing things. Beck went with her on the first day to get used to the commute.

At the school, they met some girls who were in Alyssa's new class, who befriended her and hustled her off to show her around.

While she was happy that the school kids had welcomed our daughter, Beck felt a bit left behind; like she hadn't said goodbye properly, again!

The school is very close to a beach, so Beck got a coffee and sat down to enjoy the view and sea breeze. While there, she noticed some letters in the sand: L...O...V...E. Another person's random act. And in that moment, Beck was reminded of the love of our Father God—who cares deeply for our kids, even when we aren't there with them.



See an expanded version of this article at cms.org.au/mcintyres-in-japan, including their experience during an earthquake.

care



Going on location with children means increased joys, challenges and opportunities. Find out when some CMS missionary kids celebrate their birthdays, and send a card or gift to them on those special occasions.

¹Dave grew up in Japan as a missionary kid.
Image: Natasha with her school principal.

A week IN



CMS missionaries Chris and Stef Overhall and their family are coming to terms with a very different shape to their week.

A year and a half ago our family of five moved to Santiago, Chile. We serve here as part of the MOCLAM¹ team, making Jesus known through Bible training. Our first year was a blur of setting up life and learning language and culture. This year things seem to be settling down a little as we get used to life in Chile.

For us, a regular week involves walking our two older kids to school each day, doing the shopping, various ministry commitments and cooking meals. The city is polluted, so cleaning is an unending affair and new bills seem to pop up as soon as the last one has been paid. We experience all the regular ups-and-downs of family life, whilst trying to learn Spanish, and not embarrass ourselves any more than is necessary. So take a peek at a week in our shoes!

Sunday 10:45am Chris

Our family rushes out the door to church. At 11:03 we are relieved to arrive on time (in Latin American terms) and are warmly welcomed. Eliot and Theodore are happy because today there are lollies! This week it is Stef's turn to listen to the sermon while I take a tired Nathanael out for a nap in the pram.

Monday 7.30am Chris

The kids and I are rugged up in jackets, beanies and gloves as we walk to school. We always say a quick prayer before they head into class. I'm back at home by 8.30am to read my Bible and pray. I prepare some MOCLAM notes, as I'm currently teaching a group of uni students on Tuesday nights. The rest of the morning is spent on Spanish homework, replying to emails and paying bills.

Tuesday 10am Stef

I head to a neighbour's place upstairs for my weekly women's Bible study. A year ago I had no idea what was going on, but now I'm able to read the Bible aloud in Spanish, and join in the discussion. I still struggle to pray out loud, but I always give it a go. I'm so thankful to be sharing life with such a wonderful group of women.

Sunday 2:30pm Stef

We arrive home tired and hungry. In Chile the main meal is lunch and is often eaten around 2-3pm (dinner is also later at 8 or 9pm). Our stomachs are still struggling to get used to this!



Monday 2.30pm Chris

I catch the metro into the city for a meeting of the Grupo Bíblico Universitario Chile (GBUCh). Our weekly meeting is a chance for the staff workers across the country to chat about how ministry is going, read the Word and pray together. I'm excited about the opportunities I'll have to teach uni students how to read the Bible with a focus on the person and work of Jesus.

Tuesday 2pm Stef

I wake Nathanael and we walk to collect the kids from school. My arrival on foot is a daily disappointment for the kids, who want to be driven home!



Watch a video from earlier this year that lets you see the Overalls talk about their early experiences cms.org.au/overalls-in-chile



As Chris and Stef have asked, please pray with them for a Chile that knows Jesus. Go to cms.org.au/pray to request prayer points, as well as news from other CMS missionaries.





OUR SHOES



Wednesday 9am Stef

I strap Nathanael into the double pram and we walk down to the *feria* (market). I love the colourful spread of fruit and vegies and the lively atmosphere. We load up the bottom seat of the pram and head home. It's Chris's day off so we enjoy coffee and sunshine on the balcony.

Thursday 9am Stef

This morning I meet a friend to read the Bible together. We chat in English and read the Bible in Spanish. It's certainly more challenging reading God's word in another language, but she is very patient with me.

Friday 9am Chris

This morning I have three Spanish classes back to back. Last year we studied almost full-time, but this year I've been able to step it down a little. I'm grateful that CMS is committed to supporting us long-term with language learning.

Friday 1 pm Stef

Friday Family Fun! The kids finish school early on Fridays and we try to mark the end of the week with something special. Changing country and culture is challenging for everyone, so on Friday afternoons we enjoy a familiar routine from Australia: a movie and homemade pizza.

Tuesday 8pm Chris

Tonight I teach a small group of uni students MOCLAM's 'Creation to New Creation' course. I'm excited to be sharing the big picture of the Bible, but I struggle to express these huge ideas and precious concepts in Spanish! However it's satisfying to be doing what we came here to do, and I look forward to when the words flow more easily.

Thursday 8pm Stef

Two guests arrive at our place for Bible study. Despite our small size we always enjoy great discussions as we dig into Romans. Chris is doing a good job of leading the group, and we're thankful for his in-depth theological training at Moore College. Please pray that our little group will grow and continue to bear fruit.

Friday 8pm Chris

It's time to drink a coffee to wake myself up! I drive 20 minutes in traffic to our church's youth group in a nearby apartment. I politely decline the pizza offered to me, explaining that I've already eaten pizza. I don't think people can really believe that I've already had dinner! The youth chat amongst themselves and later there's a Bible talk. At 11pm I head home.

We hope you enjoyed this snapshot of our lives! Each day, by God's grace, we grow a little more in our understanding of Chilean culture and our ability to minister here. We live ordinary lives whilst being involved in the extraordinary work of God. A week in our shoes is a fun-filled, stress-filled, faith-filled existence that wouldn't be possible without the support of CMS (that's you). Please continue to pray for us and for a Chile that knows Jesus.

¹MOCLAM is a Bible training course developed in Australia but now translated and used widely in churches across the Spanish-speaking world.



TRUSTING GOD THROUGH



CMS missionaries Dan and Olivia Webster are based at Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary with their four homeschooled boys. Olivia looks with honest eyes at

the ways that God has blessed them through a 'sink or swim' transition.

I can hear birds singing sweetly outside our house as I lie on our couch and steal a few minutes of rest from a hectic day. The smell of wood smoke wafts in the window with the breeze as our neighbours get ready for their regular Friday afternoon *Braai* (BBQ). Dan will come home from teaching at Bible college any moment. Our boys aged 9, 7, 6 and 4 are reading or playing quietly.

Moments of joy through confusion and difficulty

Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it? To be honest, it doesn't happen very often (even an hour ago the boys were fighting!) But in the past few weeks and months I have been surprised by more and more moments of peace and even joy in life here in Namibia.

I've witnessed God's kindness in providing special friends for different family members at just the right times. I've been surprised by how much my boys play creative imaginary games together. I've been refreshed by glorious sunrises on the way home from early morning swims and amazed by plants that can survive and even flower in this dry country. I've enjoyed being called a 'sister' by a college student, even though I feel so culturally inadequate. I've seen faithful NETS students graduate and start ministry. I've seen God orchestrate the timing of the new Physiotherapy course that began last year—meaning that I could start teaching this year. And I've seen our boys grow and learn through their homeschooling.

Yet the 11 months since we moved here haven't all been easy.

We have had several transitions over the past eight years of ministry life in Sydney and especially preparing for mission, but moving here was the hardest thing we've ever done as a family. Our kids, our relationships and our marriage have been strained like never before. Our challenges have included unsettled children, being disconnected from our family and friends, the trial and error of beginning homeschooling and lecturing, marital tension, cultural confusion and the time-consuming logistics of life in a culture where everything seems to break and you don't even know where to buy underwear. It's hard to convey just how much we need your prayers to sustain us on location!

St Andrew's Hall helped our transition

And yet here we are nearly a year later. By the grace of God, we continue. Our time at St Andrew's Hall (SAH) prepared us well for the challenges of transition. We learned some great tips for helping the children feel like our family is a safe bubble that we can take anywhere. We've done that through new family traditions, routines, familiar pictures and toys and regular communication with friends at home. We had the benefit of practicing transition when we moved to SAH for training. It was a safe place to talk through the emotional and physical challenges of living in a new place. One picture that stuck in my mind from our training is that going through a big move is like crossing a lake.

Transition: like swimming across a lake

Imagine a picture of a family on the edge of a large lake. Their plan is to swim across the lake to the country on the far side to tell them about Jesus. They are excited. They start strong, buoyed by the enthusiasm of a new adventure and the encouragement of those back at home.

As they get to the deepest part of the lake they start to falter. The adrenaline has worn off. They feel like they can't go back and don't want to. So, they swim more slowly. They are not sure if they are going to make it. They wonder if they

TRANSITION

were right to come. How could they possibly be of help to God's mission here?

But then they start to notice the water is getting less deep. Shopping takes half the time it used to. They have some people they can even call friends in their new location. The children don't complain every day about school. They don't fight every spare moment. They aren't afraid of someone breaking in at night anymore. They don't dread going to church. There is less illness and bed wetting and more spontaneous laughter. As they teach at the college and university, they see that the students seem to be grasping concepts. And by the time they reach the opposite shore, they find they are slowly becoming part of a new community—one that God has prepared them to be part of.

**We have had several transitions...
but moving here was the hardest
thing we've ever done as a family.**

We now feel like we are reaching the other side of the transition lake. There are still challenges here, but we can now look back and see that there were many times where God encouraged and sustained us when we felt we were sinking. And, because of our training at SAH, we knew this was normal. So we didn't panic but just kept paddling.

Our youngest son, Reuben, recently learned to swim without a floatie. It was a very special moment for me, given that helping ensure my children don't drown has been an important goal in my life! But until that time, Reuben would have drowned without that floatie. Coming to Namibia has been like learning to swim all over again. And without help we would have drowned many times. We praise God for the floaties we were given at SAH that have enabled us to keep trusting in him through the transition.



Read CMS Director of Training and Development
David Williams' 'Five tips for new missionaries' at
cms.org.au/five-tips-missionaries



Shifting cultures for gospel reasons is a wonderful but daunting challenge. Is God calling you to go? Contact your CMS branch to find out what steps you can take to prepare.

SEIZING A new opportunity



CMS workers J and I recently began serving in a university context in South East Asia. God has provided exceptional opportunities for speaking the gospel to students who would not hear it in their countries of origin.

For over two thousand years, merchants from the East have sailed to our location country in South East Asia to trade with merchants from the West. Today, we are seeing these links between East and West develop in new ways.

Let us share an example of one such link; a link that will show why we are so thankful to be working in this country.

The story of Hamid*

Hamid is an Iranian who came to South East Asia for postgraduate study. He told us that growing up in Iran, he had no access to a Bible. Churches were off-limits to the general population. When he found out that one of his school friends had become a Christian, Hamid was curious.

The restrictions that Hamid faced in Iran were a barrier to his curiosity. But then he travelled to our location country in South East Asia. Here he was free to attend a church and to learn about Christianity. As a direct result, Hamid put his trust in Jesus and was baptised. He returned to Iran as a believer!

Extraordinary opportunities amongst students in South East Asia

Hamid's story is far from unique. Our location country is now one of the top destinations worldwide for international students. The government has made education a key area of economic investment. Western universities have established branches here that provide students with degrees and education at a fraction of the normal Western cost.

Our location country is particularly attractive to many foreign students because it is a Muslim country. In fact, of the top ten countries that send foreign students here, eight are Muslim nations. Of the eight, three are completely closed to gospel organisations like CMS.

As we prayed about where to serve, we saw the opportunity to bring the gospel directly to these international students from gospel-poor Muslim countries. Our hope and prayer is that when they finish their studies, they will take the gospel back with them to their countries of origin.

*Not his real name.

Making a start

Our first year on location has been spent learning more about the language and culture and establishing good relationships, including with the people at our church.

Surprisingly, we have discovered that very little outreach work is being done among international students. As it turns out, there are a number of reasons for this. Most local people have negative views of foreign people from developing nations, which means it is difficult to find people who are interested in working among foreign students. In addition, local churches have few trained workers and prefer to focus on long-term growth, which is difficult to see when students are only in the country for a limited time.

Nevertheless, for the past few years, a small group of local and international Christians have been praying for ministry among international students. Not long ago, they contacted our church and expressed interest in starting an International Student Ministry (ISM) team in this country. Recently, after a series of meetings and interviews, and after much prayer, they have appointed us to help lead the ISM team!

How we got here and how we will continue

The journey to this point started during our training at St Andrew's Hall (SAH). Our cross-cultural training at SAH equipped us to connect with people and culture on location. Our earlier years of theological training also made it possible to be involved in the numerous ministry opportunities at church here. This, in turn, led to the opening for us to get involved in the student ministry that God placed on our hearts. We are thankful for the amazing support that we receive from Christian supporters who pray for us, write to us and give sacrificially to CMS.

This work has just begun! We stand at a critical moment where we need much wisdom and support as we chart the way forward. We need more people for the ISM team. We need a clear strategy for the ministry, and ways to encourage churches here to be involved. We need to balance this with our other ministry involvements and commitments. But we are confident that the pieces will come together. Why? Because of the great God we serve, and through the constant support from all who want to see more 'Hamids' taking the gospel back to their nations. Will you pray with us?

pray



Pray for CMS workers like J and I, who are in a unique position to reach students from closed countries. Go to cms.org.au/missionaries to sign up for updates.

GIVING *thanks* TO GOD

BETTY DURHAM



We praise God for the long and fruitful life of Betty Durham, who died on 28 May 2019 in Sydney, aged 89. Betty joined CMS NSW in 1956 then left in 1959 to serve with CMS in Tanzania. She worked in Christian literature in the Central Tanganyika Press for 17 years, then moved to ministry in the Pacific region. Betty returned to Sydney to serve CMS Australia as Editorial Secretary from 1984. In 1987, she returned to Tanzania for four years, concluding her missionary career in 1991. She remained active in support of her church and CMS.

VICKI DEMMER



We give God thanks for the life of Vicki Demmer, who died on 31 May 2019, aged 68. Vicki served the Lord with CMS in Pakistan from 1979-82. We ask God to grant his grace, comfort and blessing to Vicki's mother, Chris, and to other family and friends.

VIRGINIA WATSON



We give God thanks for the life of Virginia Watson, who died in Sydney on 6 June 2019, aged 81. Virginia served with CMS in Katoke, Tanzania 1968-71 with her husband Alan. Virginia worked as a teacher of Science and English at Katoke Teacher's College as well as cared for a young family and household in difficult conditions where medical help was neither close by nor very good. She reached out to the community by teaching local women from the Bible and also taught skills in sewing garments, in nutrition, cooking and health. The family were forced to leave in 1971 due to Ugandan incursion into North East Tanzania. We ask God to grant comfort to Mark, Anita, James, Alan and Maria, and their families including 11 grandchildren and many friends who farewelled Virginia at her funeral.

WARWICK ATKINSON

We praise God for Warwick Atkinson, who died in Sydney on 10 June 2019. Warwick served the Lord in CMS Australia as Finance and Administration Secretary from 1993-2006. We join with many in thanking God for Warwick's life of grace and service. We pray for his widow, Sue, and their three adult children and their spouses, and their five grandchildren.

KAY CLARK



We give God thanks for Kay Clark, who died in Sydney on 21 June 2019. Kay and her husband Russell served with CMS firstly in Hong Kong from 1973-85. Kay taught English and worked with poor families in Kowloon while Russell worked in the hospital. They returned to Sydney, where Kay was ordained as an Anglican minister. The Lord led them to a new venture in 2002 in Tanzania, when Kay joined the staff of Munguishi Bible College while Russell worked and taught in the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre. Back in Sydney in 2009, Kay enjoyed serving the Lord again in parish ministry. They were both given Queen's Birthday honours in 2015. We praise the Lord for Kay's life and pray for Russell and their extended family. Russell writes: "Thank you for your prayers... I will miss her. It has been such a privilege to have been married to her for almost 49 joyous years."

VIVIENNE THORBURN

We give thanks to God for Vivienne Thorburn, who died in Sydney on 13 June 2019, aged 90. She and her husband Trevor served the Lord in Tanganyika from 1953-63 and later in Kenya. Their first four years in Tanganyika were at Alliance School in Rungwe, where Trevor trained primary teachers and Vivienne was raising the first of their five children. This was not a CMS area but they were able to shine the light of Christ to the students and staff from 14 tribes. In their second term of service, they were in Berega. They left in 1963 for Sydney. In 1988-92 they worked in Kenya, at the Weithaga Bible School. Here they both taught the students, who were amazed because "the Thorburns always turned up for lectures". Please pray for Trevor and their five children with their spouses, 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

NED ISHAM



A special note: Ned Isham, the grandson of CMS missionaries David and Prue Boyd, was reported in *Checkpoint* Autumn as 'cancer-free'. Sadly, after publication his cancer returned and Ned went to be with his heavenly Father on 29 March 2019 at the age of six. Please pray for his family and friends.

"FOR THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES; THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY, THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BE FAINT."

Isaiah 40:31



MEET GRISHMA PARAJULI

International Speaker for CMS Summer Conferences, January 2020

Grishma Parajuli has a remarkable story of God's grace in his life. Here, CMS missionaries G and R share some of the highlights.

"You can pray for me, but I challenge you: I will never become a Christian!"

This was the reply Grishma gave to a senior Nepali nurse who had offered to pray for him.

Grishma, the grandson of a Hindu priest, was very proud of his Brahmin caste. He knew Christians followed the cow-eating religion, touched low-caste people, and didn't keep Hindu purity rules.

Grishma met the nurse because he was attending Christian meetings as a spy. He was looking for evidence to report to the authorities, and so pretended to be interested in the Christian faith. He had been to church. He had visited patients at the Green Pastures mission hospital. Now he was visiting a mid-week Christian home group.

One of the members of this group was this senior Nepali nurse, who worked at Green Pastures. She too had been a Hindu, but after contracting leprosy years earlier, she had gone to Green Pastures Hospital for treatment. In contrast to the rejection she had experienced from her Hindu community, she was deeply impacted by the genuine love of the staff at the Christian hospital. These people treated everyone with dignity and respected them as equals. Something in her confirmed that the faith of these Christians was true.

In time, she put her trust in God and became a passionate follower of Jesus. She explained to Grishma that unless the Lord opened his heart to know the truth, he would not be able to become a Christian. So she offered to pray for him.

Grishma started reading the New Testament looking for arguments to discredit Christians. However, while reading the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), his heart was touched. He couldn't help but be impressed with Jesus. Jesus' teaching was insightful and authoritative, and his lifestyle was consistent with his teaching. Jesus' miracles pointed to his identity as none other than God himself.

As Grishma continued to research Christianity, he couldn't find any evidence for the accusations that Christians were forcing and bribing Hindus to convert. Instead, he became more and more impressed by this community and the way they sacrificially served—especially the poor and despised. In the end, Grishma lost his challenge as God wonderfully answered the nurse's prayer. Grishma committed his life to Jesus.

Being a high caste Hindu, this decision precipitated intense persecution from his family, who threatened him that he would have to choose between his family or Jesus. He couldn't have both. Like many Nepali converts to Christianity, Grishma experienced what Jesus meant when he taught about the "narrow gate" and the "narrow path" (Matthew 7:13-14). He had to leave home and turn his back on the support of his family.

This all happened over 30 years ago. Today, Grishma is the senior pastor of a thriving church with over 1,000 members and 11 church plants it continues to support. A number of CMS workers in Nepal are members of this church, and the now-retired senior nurse is co-leader of the home group to which Gordon and Ruth belong.

You too can meet Grishma and his wife Laxmi and hear more about his story and ministries. He will be the International Speaker for CMS Summer Conferences in January 2020.

PRAYER DIARY UPDATES

DAY 7 – CMS TRAINEES COURSE 2, 2020



DAVID & JENNIFER JUNIPER
(CMS WA)
Planning to serve in DR Congo



ANDREW BUCHANAN & ABI TANDISERU
(CMS NSW & ACT)
Planning to serve in Indonesia



CHRISTOPHER & JULIE DEAN
(CMS VIC)
Planning to serve in Timor Leste



R & S with N and R
(CMS NSW & ACT)
Location to be determined



DAVID & CATHIE SANDIFER with Annabelle and Josiah
(CMS NSW & ACT)
Planning to serve in The Netherlands



E
(CMS NSW & ACT)
Planning to serve in Dubai



BOOK REVIEW

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping out and fitting in around the world*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2002.

Review by **Gordon Cheng**,
Writer/Editor at CMS Australia

This 2002 book remains on the current reading list in missions courses around Australia as an excellent, easy introduction to major issues in cross-cultural work.

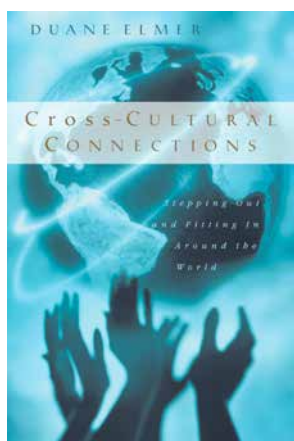
Cross-cultural specialist Duane Elmer of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School introduces his overview by telling of the monkey who decides to help the fish. The fish seems so uncomfortable in its underwater environment, swimming against the river current in raging waters. So the monkey, at considerable difficulty and risk, pulls the fish out of the torrent and carefully lays it on the ground. The monkey observes that the fish is very excited at its release, but ultimately stops thrashing about and lies calm and still, at peace and no longer needing to struggle against the stream. The monkey congratulates himself on understanding the fish's needs and rescuing it from its terrible plight.

This, says Elmer, is not dissimilar to how missionaries can fail when they encounter a new culture and seek to tell the gospel to needy individuals. He helps readers—including those training for mission—become more aware of how the cultural differences they observe are not always simple matters of 'right' and 'wrong'. He deals with a range of important mission matters: identifying expectations, building trust, basic categories for understanding culture such as 'guilt' and 'shame', 'individualism' and 'collectivism'; and much more.

Some might complain on seeing the subtitle, '...fitting in around the world' that 'fitting in' is the last thing

Christians are called to do. But the author is really challenging readers to consider, carefully and prayerfully, how to prevent cultural barriers from becoming a stumbling block to those who want to know Jesus.

Available in e-book and paperback.



GET INVOLVED!

Go to cms.org.au/get-involved OR complete this form:



pray

☐ I will pray for the extension of God's kingdom and would like to receive prayer updates about CMS missionaries and their locations.

MISSIONARY NAME/S



care

☐ I will show practical care for CMS missionaries and the communities in which they serve.

Visit cms.org.au/get-involved/care to find out more OR fill in your contact details to receive information about caring for CMS missionaries.



give

☐ I will give money to CMS so the work of proclaiming Jesus can continue.

Visit give.cms.org.au OR fill in the form below:

I will give a: ☐ monthly gift ☐ one-off gift

Amount: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 other \$

I will pay by: ☐ direct debit (please mail the form) ☐ cheque/money order (pay to 'Church Missionary Society')

Credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard Expiry: /

Card no. CVV:

NAME ON CARD

SIGNATURE

☐ Please send me information about making a bequest to CMS.



go

Visit cms.org.au/go OR talk to someone about serving as a missionary by contacting your local branch (see back page).

Title _____ First name/s _____

Surname _____

Street address _____

Suburb _____

State _____ Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____ (M) _____

Email _____

Name of church I attend _____

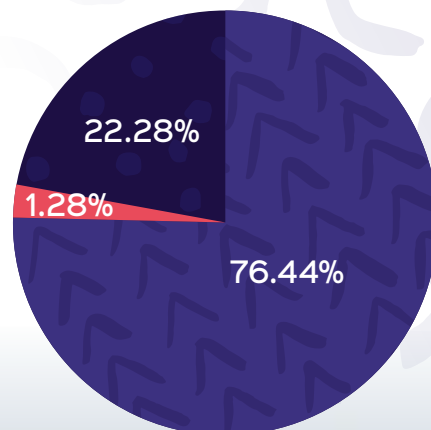
Best days/times to contact me _____

MAIL THIS TO YOUR CMS BRANCH
(SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS)

WHY Europe?

Europe tends to be one of the places people least think about for missionary locations. With its long Christian history, many people may identify with Christian traditions, but they are gospel poor and do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

CMS has over 30 missionaries serving in different countries across Europe*. How will you partner with them for *a world that knows Jesus*?



Professed Christians

Evangelical Christians

Other religions or Non-religious



*Data based off the countries CMS missionaries are currently serving in and gathered from the Joshua Project; joshuaproject.net



CMS (Church Missionary Society) works with churches to set apart, equip and support long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CMS NSW & ACT

Level 5, 51 Druitt St SYDNEY NSW 2000
PO Box 21326 WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002
(02) 9267 3711 nswact@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/nswact

CMS QNSW

Level 4, 126 Barry Parade (PO Box 617)
FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006
(07) 3171 3020 qld@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/qldnsw

CMS SANT

37 Angas Street ADELAIDE SA 5000
(08) 8212 4838 sa.nt@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/sant

CMS TAS

PO Box 501, SANDY BAY TAS 7006
0438 590 559 tas@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/tas

CMS VIC

Level 1, Building 1, 630 Mitcham Rd
MITCHAM VIC 3132
PO Box 2150 RANGEVIEW VIC 3132
(03) 9894 4722 vic@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/vic

CMS WA

31 Acheson Cr WOODVALE WA 6026
(08) 6209 9159 wa@cms.org.au
cms.org.au/wa

CMS Australia

Level 5, 51 Druitt St SYDNEY NSW 2000
PO Box 20095 WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002
(02) 9284 6777 cmsa@cms.org.au
cms.org.au

St Andrew's Hall

190 The Avenue PARKVILLE VIC 3052
(03) 9388 1663 sah@cms.org.au

cms.org.au