



'Adventurous' The Latest From Tony Plews, Executive Director

Comfortably Numb?

The other day in my car, an old classic song by Pink Floyd played on Hauraki – 'Comfortably Numb'. It's got a great, memorable and soothing rock arrangement. It leaves you comfortably numb. To be honest I couldn't make out too many words, except the hook line, 'I am comfortably numb'. But it struck me as possibly an apt description of how we are tempted to live our lives here in New Zealand, in the midst of peace and affluence. Even the recession and the Christchurch disaster – real events which are affecting the lives of many Kiwis – have not touched us in the way that every day is a hand to mouth scrabble for millions of our brothers and sisters in Asia especially.

May you and I be reawakened to our privileged position and prolific possessions. May we become 'uncomfortably sensitive' and respond with generosity and sacrifice to help our friends teach thousands to reach millions with the gospel of Christ throughout Asia.

Grace



Aung Mang's 7th visit to NZ

We are thankful to have had the pleasure again this year bringing Aung Mang to New Zealand, Principal of Myanmar Evangelical Graduate School of Theology (MEGST). His schedule was busy and his speaking engagements covered both North and South islands.

If you were able to meet and hear Aung Mang, we do hope you have been left with a passion and desire to further your interest in supporting Christian leadership development in the majority world.



Aung Mang notes: *'I was quite worried about my trip to NZ this time because I was concerned that the severe earthquake in Christchurch would have an impact on my visit. But I thank the Lord for touching the hearts of our brothers and sisters in NZ, as they were still able to show their generosity toward the leadership development of the Myanmar church through MEGST. For this, I am very thankful and grateful to my brethren here in New Zealand. May the good Lord use them more mightily and bless them more abundantly only for His glory and for the extension of His Kingdom in Myanmar and beyond. To God be the glory! Amen.'*

LeaDev-Langham on You Tube

Although LeaDev-Langham's DVD fronted by Rob Harley is on the Home page of our website, we also appear on You Tube. Do encourage your friends, church, colleagues and acquaintances to have a look!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5zwT2t87Jo

Chris Wright's Visit To NZ in October



Chris Wright, International Director of Langham Partnership International, will be visiting New Zealand at the end of October this year. He will be speaking at KiwiMade Preaching forums (25 Oct - Auckland, 27 Oct - Waikanae, 29 Oct - Christchurch) and at public meetings throughout NZ. He will be addressing the theme "*The Mission of God's People*", based on his book of

the same title, and the 'Cape Town Commitment,' which Chris drafted from Lausanne III in Cape Town last October.

For more information either visit the *events* page of our website www.leadev-langham.org/Events.aspx or for registration details visit <http://kiwimadepreaching.com/kiwi-made-forum-2011/> and visit the *news* page of our website to obtain a copy of Chris Wright's book www.leadev-langham.org/News.aspx.

Magnificent Seven Ventures

Student Scholarships · Faculty Training · Literature & IT Resources · Campus Development
Preaching Training · Short Term Adventures · Humanitarian Aid & Development

Student Scholarships

New Student Scholarships

We continue to be in need of student scholarships at MEGST and several of our partner schools. If you can assist, **please contact Tony today:** tony@ldl.org.nz

Literature & IT Resources



Christian literature sent abroad

We are very grateful to all who donate Christian books to LeaDev-Langham. These books are sent to libraries at our partner schools. If you wish to send books as resources for students, please contact tony@ldl.org.nz

Help the Translation of Children's Bible Study Resources

We are aiming to raise NZ\$10,000 in order to provide 100 sets of teacher resource books (in Burmese), and full curriculum materials including colour pictures for one whole year's teaching (36 lessons).

Faculty Training *continued...*

MEGST Graduation



'The Solution is found in walking with God'

Paul Windsor was the main speaker at MEGST's 2011 graduation ceremony at which eighteen students graduated. This couple (right) met as classmates at MEGST; graduated and married on the same day!



Three MEGST faculty trainees also recently graduated from SAIACS with their MTh degrees and will begin teaching at MEGST on 6 June.

MEGST has sent a dozen MTh faculty trainees to SAIACS over the past decade but will not send any more for a few years. It will rather focus on the best being sent for PhDs when support is met. PhD studies take at least four years.

Please contact us if you would like to support this project.

Preaching Training

Preacher Training Events

Over the next three months, Paul will be travelling considerably. In May he is in Nelson taking a two day Preaching Conference at the Bishopdale Theological College. Then on May 27 he heads for Indonesia and the launch of Level One preaching training. Following this, he travels on to Pakistan for Level Three training where up to 80 preachers are expected. At the end of June there is the first-ever gathering in the UK of the 8-10 key coordinators of Langham Preaching worldwide. There is plenty to discuss and decide as this team strives to keep up with the growth of the work. On his way home Paul will be speaking in Sydney at the conference of the South Pacific Association of Evangelical Colleges (SPAEC). Please remember Paul in your prayers as he travels, trains and preaches during this period.

For an update on Paul's events for the year, please visit the Calendar page of: www.langhampartnership.org.nz

Faculty Training

New Zealand's first ever Langham Scholars arrive!



Anna Sui Hluan is one of two MEGST faculty members studying for a PhD in NZ and has been accepted as a Langham Scholar along with Aung Htoo. Anna arrived in NZ in March and is studying at Otago University in Dunedin. Aung Htoo will be studying through Laidlaw-Carey Graduate School (Theology), Auckland. This is wonderful news!

Anna has had a rough time since her arrival but God's grace has sustained her. She left her husband and three young children behind whilst their visas were being arranged. As a result of visa medical examinations, her husband was diagnosed with kidney problems. Concern arose as to whether he would be accepted for a visa and if so, how long it would take. Meanwhile, Anna continued to search for accommodation in Dunedin to meet her family's needs in anticipation of their coming. After a couple of negative leads, she eventually found a suitable apartment and was blessed by the generosity of her new-found church family who helped

Campus Development

Generator received for MEGST

Together with our affiliate colleagues in Australia we have managed to raise enough for a new generator at MEGST. Through donations, our affiliates have also helped fund a dormitory apartment for male students. Thank you.

SAIACS – Land required due to growth in student numbers

It is a great position to be in where further land is necessary due to the number of students enrolling at SAIACS. SAIACS is in a new and vigorous expansion phase of its *vision* and *mission*. Additional buildings on campus are also under construction (family apartments, two blocks of four so far). Plus, SAIACS is looking at adding further storeys to some existing buildings to make better use of their land area. It is wonderful to see the place continues to grow after the energy of the founding Principal, Graham Houghton. What a legacy he has left!

Short Term Adventures



REQUEST FOR MORE ESOL TEACHERS – required for voluntary, self-funding, 4 week stints in teams, teaching undergraduate and/or post-graduate theological students; and/or Bible teachers/theological faculty; and/or translators. Please contact us on 09 376 5190 if you, or anybody you know may be interested in being a part of these great ventures in either:

Kalaymyo, Myanmar –June - October

Colombo, Sri Lanka –August - December

There are plenty of other **short term adventure opportunities** listed on our website. Please contact us for further information admin@ldl.org.nz

Humanitarian Aid & Development

Post Haiti Earthquake - Rebuilding Efforts continue

Dan Tidwell, Southern U.S. Regional Director Overseas Council (affiliate of LeaDev-Langham) recently visited one of our joint associate partner schools, STEP (Séminaire de Théologie Evangélique de Port-au-Prince) to

her furnish it.

Anna then received devastating news that her mother was ill with stomach cancer. Moving country, away from her immediate family and not knowing when they would arrive - and already into her studies - Anna was torn between staying and flying back to be with her mother. She eventually made the decision to return home. Sadly, whilst Anna was on the first leg of her journey news came in that her mother had died. Her transfer to Yangon was in Singapore. By the grace of God Tony was in Asia and a previously changed flight schedule miraculously enabled him to meet Anna off the plane in Singapore. This meant she was not alone when finding out about her mother's death. Tony was able to tell Anna the news and became the shoulder she would cry on. Since then, the visa for her husband has come through and they have gone to Dunedin as a family. Your prayers for Anna and her family, particularly at this time, would be greatly valued.

To support Anna Hluan or Aung Htoo, please contact tony@ldl.org.nz



(Left) Anna and her family arriving at Auckland Airport on 10 May 2011 before their connection to Dunedin.

find out how life was a year on since the earthquake hit Port-au-Prince. Several buildings on the STEP campus itself were destroyed or severely damaged. Since that time new buildings have been built and others have been repaired and/or remodelled.



Dan says: *"After-quake, life in Port-au-Prince is very hard. One wonders how the people carry on amongst the rubble, destruction and hardships they face on a daily basis. Tent cities are everywhere. I even saw tents pitched in the road medians...often only five feet of concrete with traffic moving on both sides. Just to exit the tent, the occupant had to literally step into traffic! This is a country that is in great need of financial aid. But it is also a country that is in great need for hope...a hope that only the Evangelical church can provide. This is a country where there is a great need for Christ."*

Through our Humanitarian Aid & Development Venture and the relief efforts of those at STEP, people of Haiti are beginning to rebuild their lives. Thank you for your donations.

Christchurch Relief Appeal

Thank you to all who have already donated towards Christchurch. If you would still like to make a donation, please go to the Humanitarian Aid & Development venture of our website, current projects: www.leadev-langham.org

Other Relief Efforts

Through MEGST we support a network of orphanage self-sufficiency projects. These typically involve the purchase of land for food and cash crops and also intensive chicken and pig farming. Each project costs about NZ\$20,000. For more information please contact tony@ldl.org.nz.

Praise & Prayer

Praise the Lord

Anna Sui Hluan & Aung Htoo accepted as Langham Scholars

We are thankful to the Lord for Langham Partnership International accepting Aung and Anna as Langham Scholars. The first two for New Zealand.

Prayers

Anna Hluan (read her story above under Faculty Training)

Please pray for Anna Hluan after the death of her mother and having to leave her father to return to Dunedin to continue her PhD studies. Please also pray that her family settle in well and that she is able, by the continued grace of God, to focus on her studies.

Langham Preaching Programme continues to impact nations

Praise God we have seen His blessing and provision for the continuing impact of Langham's Preaching Programme in close to sixty countries in the Majority World. It has been humbling to see this first hand in our Pacific and Asian regions. **Please pray** for the many hundreds of men and women who are a part of these indigenous training "movements" that they continue to study and apply faithfully, clearly and relevantly the Word of God to their people.

Support required for Aung Htoo (pictured here) and Anna Hluan (photo under *Faculty Training*)

We still require funds to support Aung Htoo and Anna Hluan with their PhD studies here in NZ (Anna at Otago University, New Testament, and Aung anticipating entry into a programme with Laidlaw-Carey Graduate School). More about Aung Htoo in our next A.D.VENTURES 21.



Financial Awareness

Please be aware that since the recession and national and worldwide crises which have recently been taking place, charities are noticing a decrease in receiving donations. We know the Lord will continue to prevail but please pray that our financial needs will be met.

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