



August 2017

Dear Friends,

St Andrew's Hall

CMS-Australia has been training missionaries at St Andrew's Hall since 1964. In the last 53 years, well over 1,000 long term missionaries have been equipped and sent out for long-term gospel ministry. CMS's average length of service is around 10 years ... meaning that St Andrew's Hall has resourced over 10,000 years of missionary work – quite a record! Back in 1964, the site was developed to meet the needs of the day, which were primarily to train single men and women. However, today we are mainly training families. The physical facilities here have not benefited from a major development since 1964. We are now in urgent need of new teaching facilities and student accommodation. CMS has an ambitious plan to redevelop the site. We have just put a planning application in to the City of Melbourne. At the same time, we are working to raise the substantial funds that we need to bring this project to fruition. Back in 1964, a previous generation of evangelicals made an investment that has resourced 50 years of missionary training. We are working with evangelicals around Australia to be the generation that resources the next 50 years.



Plans for St Andrew's Hall

Meanwhile, our training continues. We have just started a new semester and have welcomed 15 adults and eight children (all boys – David is in his happy place). As with every group, they are a remarkable bunch who are making costly decisions to serve Jesus around the world. Our current cohort hope to serve in Japan, Tanzania, South East Asia, Aboriginal Australia, the Middle East and the Gulf. At the end of our last semester, two long-term members of our support staff retired after long and faithful ministries here. Rachel has done an amazing job, but has been extremely busy, covering these gaps as we wait for new staff to take up their roles.

Time in England

We enjoyed a wonderful three weeks in the UK in June/July. It was so good to see Jonathan again and to spend time catching up with him. He has now finished his degree and will begin his internship with CARE in September, working with a Tory MP. He is very much looking forward to this role – please pray for him that this year would be a time of great spiritual growth and encouragement for him. Over the summer he will be helping out at the Keswick Convention and at a CYFA youth camp as well having some holiday. We loved catching up with family – Australia is



a long way away and we have felt the distance and separation acutely this year. It was a joy to visit Crosslinks and St Mary's Basingstoke. We continue to thank God for the long and faithful partnership that these visits represent. We never cease to be thrilled, encouraged and humbled when we visit churches and meet people who tell us that they pray for us every day. Thank you for bringing us to the throne of grace and for your faithful perseverance.

Other Family News

Tom and Mia will have a holiday in Kenya in September, revisiting old haunts and introducing Mia to Tom's roots there. Thank you for praying for Sam and Melanie – Melanie has been appointed to a part-time role at CMS in Victoria, helping young adults to consider long-term mission. She would love another part-time role to complement this one or to have the opportunity for further study.

With our love and best wishes,

David and Rachel

PRAYER POINTS

Thank God for:

- The progress made on a site redevelopment at St Andrew's Hall
- A job for Melanie

Please pray:

- That we would receive planning permission for the new building
- That God's people would generously provide all that we need to make the redevelopment possible, enabling the next 50 years of missionary training
- For new staff to settle in quickly at St Andrew's Hall, to thrive here and to make a strong contribution to our team; and for Rachel with the busyness of getting the new support staff up and running.
- For the final stages of David's DMiss research, that this would be successfully completed over the next three months.

Please contact your local Crosslinks office to change your contact details

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