

Next steps to Marseille

Del and Laura de la Hoyde and family from The Crowded House (TCH) in Sheffield, UK, hope to spend a week in Marseille from 10th - 17th December, furthering links with local churches and pastors, planning future mission initiatives and helping out with a Christmas Kids' Club at the home of Lonnie and Debbie Smith of Le Merlan Church.

"Lonnie and Debbie have run clubs like this before for children in the La Rose area where they live," explains Del. "Through them they've had great opportunities to share the gospel with families." Partnering in this is another step in the Smiths' long-term dream, shared by Del, Laura and their UK church network, to work with churches in Marseille to see missional churches planted in their neighbourhood, across the city...and across the world – as reported in Spring's rapport.

"Do pray with us that our December visit would be a significant piece in that jigsaw, that families would be saved and churches planted to the glory of God!"



Chan Thon's baptism

In Posat, Cambodia, Brian Jose witnessed rapid developments in the life of one church planter.

"This was a very beautiful message," said Chan Thon, after we finished the bible study. "I never understood the meaning of baptism before."

Our team had met the former gangster earlier that day. His life had been transformed by Jesus, and he asked if we could lead him through a study on baptism. The next day, the church walked down the road to the local river, and I had the privilege of joining in baptising him.

Just one day later, Chan Thon and his pregnant wife left for his home province of Battambang to start a church! Though he had been persecuted there by local soldiers, Chan Thon knew he had to go back.

As the church in Cambodia grows, despite persecution and poverty, Chan Thon is already baptising others. Radstock partner Bunna Yin with Breakthrough Ministries Cambodia is mentoring this young church planter as he learns on the job. Could this be a model for more churches to adopt?



Radstock's website continues to evolve, making it even easier to get connected for global mission! As well as the blog with frequent updates from 'front lines' around the network, Radstock can now accept on-line credit card donations. US donors can also set up automatic recurring gifts and electronic checks. Click to connect today!

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20/20 Vision in India



Alok Srivastava with his family

"This was the most successful training program we ever had...I hope Reverend Richard will come back every year to equip many more new house church leaders!"

So said Alok Srivastava after a five-week visit from Richard Burningham this autumn. Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Weston, UK, Richard joined Alok to teach at a training school for church planters in Uttar Pradesh (UP), north India.

Alok leads Tell-Asia Alliance, a network of churches and ministries in Lucknow, UP, and is driving the '20/20' vision to see 20% Christians in UP by 2020. The largest of India's 30 states, UP is a political, cultural and religious hub, and it is said that where UP goes the country will follow. Nearly 80% of the state's 170 million population are Hindu, 20% Muslim and only 1% Christian. Missiologist Patrick Johnstone has written, "North India will probably be the touchstone of our success or failure in completing world evangelisation in our generation".¹

In this strategic setting, the cross-cultural partnership was warmly received. "Reverend Richard worked hard to help the students understand the depth of the Scriptures,"

observed Alok. "They learned many new important things and were so excited to go home and put them into practice!"

Alok had invited Richard to teach after they met at February's Radstock Conference. Seeds were sown then too for a project to connect church planting and the provision of wells in Indian villages. Keith Mersh, of Bedfordshire, UK, who is driving the wells project, and Anthony Adams, Radstock's UK Director also joined Alok in September to explore possibilities for partnership. "Alok and others had been praying about wells, global networking opportunities with churches and teaching and training," commented Anthony, "and here we all were!"

Alok knows the ambitious '20/20' goal to reach villages in all parts of the state through the local church can only be achieved as churches work together. "This vision is to mobilise existing churches throughout UP for church planting and to connect with churches around the world for local impact."

See p.2 for Richard Burningham's own reflections, and connect your church with Radstock and Uttar Pradesh to, in Alok's words, "unite the body of Christ for a massive church planting movement"!

¹The Church is Bigger than you Think, Patrick Johnstone, publ. Christian Focus



- Pray for many in UP to turn to Jesus Christ
- Sponsor a well
- Pray for fruitful partnerships from the '20/20' network conference (Dec. 2nd – 4th)
- Support Tell-Asia Alliance's ongoing work: church planters, training programs, children's work etc.
- Subsidise non-UK delegates like Alok at the 2009 Radstock Conference (see p.4)

See www.radstock.org/where-we-are/india or contact Anthony (anthony@radstock.org), Alok (alok@tellasia.org) or either Radstock office.

In Step With God: Our part in His Mission Movement

The 2009 Radstock Conference

Strategy is over-rated, argues church planter and author, Tim Chester. God is the primary agent of mission. But he invites us to play our part.

Join Tim and delegates expected from Albania, Cuba, Hungary, India, Ireland, UK, USA and Zambia to explore together what we can learn from church planting movements around the world – and how ordinary churches can play our part.

Save Thursday 26th to Saturday 28th February, 2009 in your calendar now, organise a group and find details and a booking form at www.radstock.org/in-step-with-god or from the UK or US office.

Even if you can't come, imagine what could happen if you help a non-UK delegate like Alok (p.1) to be there! Donate towards conference fees and/or travel costs (£90 - £500 / \$150+ / €100+) online or via a Radstock office.

