

# Barrow's Buzz...

December 2018

Dear Friends...

We want to thank you as you prayed during our recent ENGAGE trip to India, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan. It was a tremendous privilege to visit the SIM teams in these E. Asia countries, to meet with and minister God's truth in the various partner churches and organizations, to share more about the ENGAGE vision and needs, and to build relationships for further partnership and cooperation. We were also grateful for the wonderful hospitality in each of the locations... not just enjoying discussion over meals but also being welcomed into homes, where we truly began to experience and learn the generous and fascinating Asian culture. The schedule was concentrated but the less structured periods balanced well and allowed us to adjust as we travelled many miles, and also to appreciate a little of the location we found ourselves in. We believe the many opportunities of interaction with SIM staff, church partners, seminaries and SIM supporters provided excellent opportunity to enlarge upon the ENGAGE vision, build understanding and secure partnership for future cooperation. The pictures convey just a little of our amazing visit.



Since our last writing in September Tricia has taken on the responsibility of SIM UK Health Coordinator – a position which was being vacated. During our time at ROSA (Region of Southern Africa), Tricia also served the region's missionaries by advising on health matters, helping procure various medications and fulfilling the necessary medical administrative requirements associated with going to the field and returning home. She will now perform a similar role for SIM UK missionaries on a voluntary basis as she continues with her NHS nursing duty. Please pray for Tricia as she balances these roles.

Tim continues to explore the expanding boundaries of ENGAGE, not only trying to secure conventional placements of gospel workers coming from the majority-world to UK churches, but also seeking to discover alternative ways to bring SIM gospel workers into the UK. One of the constraints that has affected the ability to deliver on ENGAGE placements has been SIM UK's lack of visa sponsorship status, meaning that SIM UK as an organization is unable to sponsor an overseas gospel workers coming to fulfil a UK church need. Acquiring this status is essential but it does require meticulous care in attaining and maintaining the status. So, while we wait for SIM UK to apply for and receive sponsorship status it has been necessary to discover alternative ways to secure placement of SIM workers in the UK. Other approaches include working with returning UK missionaries who now wish to continue serving in the UK with SIM, as well as internationals who over the years have become naturalized in the UK and now wish to serve under the banner of SIM UK through the ENGAGE program. In each of these cases we are currently working with enquirers and considering placement options so please be praying that these unconventional approaches are fruitful. A third way of introducing SIM gospel workers into the UK through ENGAGE is for the receiving church to become the visa sponsor. Interestingly, one such couple have just arrived from the USA to work with a church in Cardiff, Wales, focusing particularly on the cross-cultural university student population. As the Hunts are very new to life and ministry in the UK please be in prayer for them as they gain orientation, setup home,





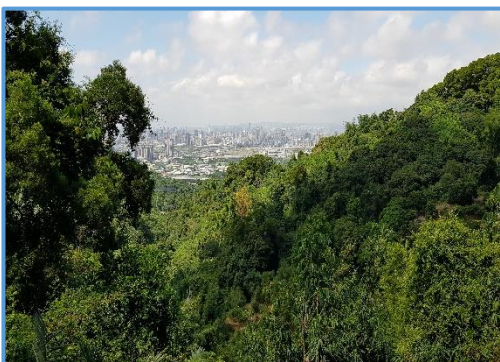
adjust to life and slowly assume ministry. Finally, Tim has been spending an increasing amount of time working with Greater Europe Mission (GEM) in fulfilling the partnership agreement between the two organizations. The shared trust and cooperation through this provision will allow SIM missionaries to carry dual membership with GEM and be placed in UK churches through the sponsorship status that GEM currently hold. Please pray that several missionaries currently in view may be strategically placed through this means. Ideally, SIM UK needs to achieve visa sponsorship as early as possible in 2019 as other candidates are considered for placement during the year, and without which it would be difficult to deliver on their placement. Please pray...



At the end of our last letter in September we mentioned the invitation to attend and speak at the SIM Namibia Spiritual Life Conference (SLC). An SLC is a fun time where SIM missionaries and colleagues come together for several days to enjoy rest, fellowship and spiritual renewal. Dates have now been set to March 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> and Tim aims to speak on the events of Easter through the lens of Messianic Psalms. St Marks, Gillingham (long-time supporting and present home church) have generously donated half the budget for Tricia and I to attend the conference, while we continue to trust God for the remainder. If you'd like to know more about this need please do contact us through the gmail or home address below. Donations are being collected in the SIM UK Barrow ministry account. Please also be in prayer that we might be in a position to book flights early 2019.

### Prayer Points

- Thanks for Tim and Tricia's Asia trip, Sept. 14-29, that the various E. Asia offices (and their partner churches) would prioritize ENGAGE for their candidate placements.
- For the opportunity to serve at the Namibia SLC in March/April 2019, for the outstanding funds needed.
- For Tricia as she balances the SIM UK health coordinator role with her nursing duties.
- For the Hunts as they settle into life and ministry in the UK.
- For partnership with GEM, and other ways of bringing gospel workers into the UK.
- For SIM UK's visa sponsorship need.



Thank you once again for your faithful and prayerful care, and wishing you a good and meaningful Christmas.



(Pictures from the top: With the SIM N.E. India staff, with the SIM Singapore staff, with Rev. Viji, Vicar of St. Barnabas Anglican Church and Director of W. Malaysia SIM Council, with the SIM team in Taipei, presenting ENGAGE to the Singapore team, over-looking the city of Taichung, Tim and Tricia in Taipei).



### WITH OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE

**Tim & Tricia, Michael, Ben, Sacha (& Kyle) and Gabby**

**Barrow Address:** Kinglake, Gravesend Rd, Higham, Kent, ME3 7DZ, UK [ntmbag@gmail.com](mailto:ntmbag@gmail.com) (H)  
**SIM UK Address:** SIM UK, Wetheringsett Manor, Wetheringsett, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 5QX T.01449-766464 [info@sim.co.uk](mailto:info@sim.co.uk) ; [www.sim.co.uk](http://www.sim.co.uk)  
**SIM USA Address:** SIM USA, PO Box 7900, Charlotte, NC 28241-7900 T. 1-800-521-6449 [postmaster@sim.org](mailto:postmaster@sim.org)