

DOWN to EARTH

Emmanuel International UK News
Forum House, Stirling Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7DN Phone: 01243 931094

Registered Charity No 289036 www.eiuk.org.uk info@eiuk.org.uk

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The Rolletts' Tanzania story begins...



Dave and Tricia Rollett, and their son Titus, are planning to work with EI Tanzania in 2017. Dave visited EI TZ to get a feel for life and work in Iringa. Dave has written to tell us about his impressions.

I returned from a ten-day visit to Tanzania at the end of October. Andrew and Miriam Wingfield were my fantastic hosts, and after spending a number of months liaising with them electronically, it was good to get to meet them in person. Living under the same roof, as well as shadowing the work that was being done, was an excellent way to see if I thought our family could fit in in both a practical and relational way. We got on really well, and Andrew even looks a bit like the older brother that I never had!

Once you subtract the travel time from my ten days, I was left with about 6 days to experience life and work in the Iringa district of Tanzania. I happened to hit the bonus of the Iringa Christian Fellowship retreat weekend. The English speaking congregation are a wonderfully diverse bunch of folks brought together by a love for Jesus and shared language. It was a lot of fun, as well as a time of teaching, prayer and reflection. For me, it was also a good opportunity to meet some of

the people who will make up our wider support network when we arrive.

A brief trip to see Bishop Joseph, of the Ruaha Diocese, was helpful. He was happy to let me take a little video of him sharing the vision and mission of the diocese and how EI partner with them in the work. (Seeing a Bishop is always a bonus when your sending church is Anglican). After that we visited a village, Kiwere, where we were meant to be seeing handwashing



With the Wingfield family



Hand washing station with tippy tap

training in the primary school after the recent installation of a gravity fed water supply. Understanding that plans have to be somewhat flexible when working in Tanzania is vital; this was aptly demonstrated to me when the water wasn't flowing in Kiwere at the time of our visit due to maintenance work. Handwashing was postponed and plan



'Sanplat' or lid for pit latrine

B emerged: making toilet lids for toilet slabs! I was lucky enough to then see a slab installed in a villager's house and excited to see that the same family were already using two other simple technologies for health and hygiene improvement (the tippy tap and the SODIS method).

Along with other EI staff I visited two more villages where projects are improving the lives of the community. I was pleased to see that there was an embracing of what EI could help to bring, no doubt due to the many years of relationship and trust that have been built. Having conversations with Andrew, it was also clear that his view is that the work of EI is very much about partnership and mutual learning; there was no space for saviour complexes here.



With Katy and Ben Ray

Overall it was an excellent trip, which affirmed our understanding that this is where we should be living and serving for the next period of time. Another wonderful confirmation was that some All Nations friends of ours, Ben and Katy Ray, working for Neema Crafts in Iringa, had been praying for another young family to arrive! It really feels like there is a Rollett family shaped space prepared for us in advance.

Since I returned from Tanzania at the end of October we have hit the ground running with networking, communication and support-raising. We hope to be boarding a plane, Tanzania bound, in the early part of next year.



Stoves saving marriages!



The lady on the left is called Ernesta. I asked her what difference the fuel-efficient stoves project had made in Lyamgungwe village; part of her answer came as somewhat of a shock “the stoves have helped to save marriages”. I had heard that the stoves were more eco and health friendly, saved money, time, and could become a means of income and microfinance but how could they be a means to a better

marriage? When you hear a bit more you can understand why...

Fuel-efficient stoves need just a third of the firewood compared to the conventional three stone fires. The women, who often have to travel to collect the firewood, are therefore away from the village, and their husbands, for a much shorter time. Sure, this doesn't paint a good portrait of the husbands! But people are people, and we all have common weaknesses. I, for one, am celebrating that this simple, transformative technology has helped keep marriage flames burning!

Copsey News



I made a mistake on “home address”, filling in my immigration card. It really made me realise how difficult it is for me and the countless missionaries going home on furlough! While I am a Canadian by nationality, I have lived most of my life in the Philippines – as a missionary. My kids and grandkids are in California, USA. Ken’s mom lives in Texas and my “clan” resides in Canada!

So where’s home? I have yet to come up with a good answer. If “home is where the heart is” then I still have many homes!

Because of some health issues for both Ken and me, we took this time to be both a furlough and a medical leave. Almost the whole month of October was spent going to doctors’ appointments, having so many tests done (mine a 48 hour Doppler, ECG with bubbles and an MRA and Ken’s eye exams) and waiting for the results. We thank God for Ken’s mom who made our doctors’ appointments ahead of time and who took care of us while in Texas.

Praise God that all my tests are negative and that Ken’s eye problems have now been properly diagnosed and treated. We are both under medications and asking for your prayers for complete healing.

Canada has been very kind to us with so many of my family spoiling us with great home-cooked meals and taking us to different restaurants and grocery stores. I think we have gained 5 lbs since we left Davao city! Our churches here have also been so generous and hospitable. We feel so blessed! Why, we even got to see all the beautiful colours of autumn and experience snow all in a matter of 2 weeks this November!

We thank God for this time of rest and re-connection with family, friends and supporters. We have a few more speaking engagements in California, and we also get to spend Christmas with our married children and 2 grandchildren, Then we head back “home” to the Philippines in January 2017!

by Ruth Copsey

The Sayers’ visa situation



The Sayers family’s long-term visa/residency permit in South Africa has not yet been resolved. They have been waiting for several

years for this to be finalised by the Department of Home Affairs. “We are praying for a furlough in late February. It’s been 4 years since the whole family has been home and we’re ready for the break.”

Christmas Office Closure

The office will be closed on 22 December and open again on 3 January 2017. We wish everyone a truly blessed Christ season!

Dates for your diary

Board Meeting: 27 January 2017

EIUK AGM and Conference:

4 February 2017 at City Temple