

DOWN to EARTH

Emmanuel International UK News
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EIUK Annual Conference and AGM 2017



A good number of people interested in the work of Emmanuel International UK, nearly 40 (including 5 children), attended the conference at City Temple Conference Centre in London on Saturday 4 February 2017. This included people who have known EIUK for decades and some who have only recently found out about the work we do! Everyone was made to feel equally welcome.

There was an opportunity to share tea and coffee, while meeting and greeting each other and looking at the posters and other displays available.



Leading worship

After a slight hiccup (technology that did not cooperate from the word go and the worship leader

who had called in sick), we started an informative day. As it is fitting, we started and ended the day with worship, competently led at the last minute by Lucy and Simon Harding.

The morning's activities mainly focused on Tanzania, with Andy Sharpe giving feedback on the Rural Island Community Health project on Kome Island, near Mwanza. He had the opportunity to visit this project last year. Simon and Victoria Ewing, who with their children Tabitha and Reuben, left for Tanzania on the Monday after the conference, will be working on this project with Tim and Rachel Monger as well as Dr Bernard Makori. Simon and Victoria told us about their calling and their immediate plans, which included living in Iringa for a few months while they learn Swahili and receive orientation from Andrew and Miriam Wingfield. They will move north after a few months. We prayed for them as a family.



Praying for the Ewing family

Andy continued the report on the trip that he and Angela undertook in 2016, and told us about the new Imarika project that is being started in Iringa. The project title, '*imarika*' is a Swahili word meaning 'to be strengthened' and is also an acronym for '*imarisha mazingira, riziki, na kanisa*' – meaning to 'strengthen environments, livelihoods and the church'. This project has grown out of the very successful fuel efficient stoves project that came to and end in August 2016. Dave and Tricia Rollett and their son, Titus, will be working with this project when they go to Tanzania. Dave and Tricia 'interviewed' each other to tell us about their calling and their plans, which was to leave the UK for Iringa in March¹.



Praying for the Rollett family

After a delicious lunch and another chance to catch up with other attendees, we got down to business for the AGM. Mairi Dorward stood in for the Chairman, Dave Varcoe, who was sick. She did a great job and official business was dealt with efficiently.

In the afternoon, the focus was on Uganda. Nathan Targett, EIUK alumnus to Anaka in Northern Uganda (1999-2001) visited the area again towards the end of last year, together with his family. It was good to hear from him how things have changed in the North of Uganda in the last 15 years - for the better. Sue Fallon also reported on her trip to Uganda in January 2017 where she had the opportunity to meet with the team and partners.

We spent the rest of the afternoon praying for the wider EI family. We used prayer requests to help us pray in a focused way.



It was over too quickly, as ever! There is so much to share, so many people to see. We are looking forward to the Summer Event that will take place on Saturday 8 July 2017. We hope to see you there!

¹ Due to an unplanned medical issue, they had to postpone their departure for a couple of weeks and would very much appreciate your prayers as they deal with the disappointment of this setback.

Conference Reviews

“This was our first time at an EI conference and we really appreciated the opportunity to meet up with the team, other supporters and EI mission partners. As a church, our particular EI mission interest has been in Simon and Victoria Ewing as well as Tabitha and Reuben, who are now out in Iringa, Tanzania where they have started their Swahili language training. However, it was good to hear much more of EI's work in Tanzania, particularly Andy Sharpe's presentation on the Rural Islands Health Project. Also, the very engaging dialogue between Dave and Tricia Rollett, who will be joining Simon and Victoria in Iringa in the near future.

Bob and Barbara Bansback, from Hockliffe Street Baptist Church (Simon and Victoria's sending church)

“The conference was a good time to catch up with the familiar faces of the EI family and meet a few new people. We were just about to board a plane to start our new position as missionaries in Tanzania. It was good to hear the news from Wingfields and Mongers, the families we will be serving alongside. We also met the Rollett family for the first time and heard about their journey to serving with EI. We will be sharing a house with the Rolletts for a short while in Iringa. We had an encouraging time of singing and prayer before a delicious lunch. It is encouraging to know that there are so many people working behind the scenes with EI, and many prayer partners supporting the work, we feel so blessed to be part of the organisation.”

Simon and Victoria Ewing, EIUK missionaries to Tanzania

“Since returning from Uganda in December 2010 and attending the Conference in 2011, we have not had the opportunity to attend any EIUK events. Somehow I felt strongly that this time, after some six years, I really did want to reconnect with my old friends in EI and see how things were developing. Seeing people who were such a pivotal part of our African story after such a long period of time brings complex emotions. There is a temptation to gather all of “your” people together and reminisce for hours. But it was not the time for that! The Organisation is always moving forward and there was a great deal of activity to hear about.

It was interesting to see how much the projects have expanded. Watching the two families enthusiastically dealing with a range of challenging questions, whilst striving to manage their young children, took me right back to the presentations we made in 2005/6!

I went home with lots to think about and reflect on, feeling not a little homesick for our beautiful African home, but also reminded of many special friendships and people that had been part of our journey. I look forward to hearing how the new missionary families get on as they start their own African adventure.

Andrew Wickham, EIUK Alumnus (Uganda 2006-2010)

“We enjoyed spending time with our EI family. It was a pleasure to share something of our story on how God brought us to partner with EI. We felt very welcomed at the conference and look forward to doing the journey ahead in the knowledge of your love, prayers and support.”

Dave Rollett, preparing to go to Tanzania

Milestones in keeping girls in school



The Pads Ministry in Pader, Northern Uganda, has after three years, reached more than 10, 000 girls and more than 100 schools in the region! We are expecting to pass 12,000 by the end of term (end of April). Please keep praying that the girls will learn something of our Gracious God through this ministry.

“Please join us in thanking God for this life altering ministry to girls and continue to uphold us in prayer; as we reach schools further away from home-base the miles we travel per school are doubling and the danger of accident is ever real.”

Tom Edom

This valuable outreach has given girls a chance to manage their menstrual cycles so that they can stay in school for longer! It gives the girls the opportunity, that they did not have before, to be successful at school. It does not cost much to provide each girl with the necessary pads and underwear (about £2.25, depending on the exchange rate).

Please support this very valuable project as Tom and Milly work together to reach even more girls!

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Dates for your diary

Board Meeting: 2 June 2017 at
Trinity Church, Harrow

EIUK Summer Event: 8 July 2017 at
Trinity Church, Harrow