



# **BushNet**

News from EMMANUEL INTERNATIONAL

**GIVING PRACTICAL HELP - MEETING SPIRITUAL NEED**



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# Brazil Mission Trip 2012

*Jade Springett, one of the members of Chichester Baptist Church (CBC) and of the team to Brazil, wrote on behalf of the team.*

Last year, the student group from CBC felt called to mission abroad, so we contacted Emmanuel International, and they connected us to their projects in Brazil. Our team consisted of 15 people from CBC; mostly student age with a few adults, including our youth minister, Mark Stratton, and Sue Fallon, Fred Silva and Bernard Lane from EI. We also had a fantastic driver, Flavio, who tackled some extremely scary roads! We spent a year fundraising in various ways, and it was definitely worth it!

We took a 12 hour flight to Belo Horizonte followed by a 12 hour bus journey to Araçuaí the following day, but our spirits were lifted by the amazing meal prepared for us by Fred's family on our first night in Brazil. We stayed in Araçuaí for 3 days while we prepared to go to Queixada, and the church made us feel very welcome, particularly by letting us use their building as our accommodation while we were there. When we had loaded up the bus with enough food and water to last us 7 days, we

travelled to Queixada, which is a tiny village in the north of Minas Gerais State.

For our week in Queixada, half of us helped the locals to build a church and the other half did children's work. We also visited people in their home, singing songs and praying. Sadly, several families had been recently bereaved, so the visits were also intended to bring comfort and hope to those families. On another home visit, a mother had dreamt about a member of the team the night before the visit, and as soon as he arrived at her home she understood that God was telling her to follow him again, and her faith was restored.



Araçuaí



The children's work was based on the gospel of Mark, and involved craft, games, singing, colouring and stories. The children were between 2 and 18 years old, and they were all fantastic, and happy to do anything we gave them. We had a translator with us to tell the story and help with the organised activities, but for the rest of the time there was a lot of smiling and miming to overcome the language barrier.

The building work was very successful, and every day our builders returned covered in

The new church in Queixada



dust with big smiles on their faces, having achieved a huge amount. By the time we left, the builders had only a little bit to add to get to roof height, which was a fantastic accomplishment considering that there was nothing but rocky earth when we arrived. We were pleased to leave the villagers to finish the last bit as a community, and they were extremely grateful for our help and support. We attended their outdoor services several times during our stay, and really enjoyed the experience, particularly the singing. We were sad to leave Queixada, as they had made us so welcome and we had really bonded with them.

The last place that we stayed was the Day Care Centre in Águas Formosas, which Bernard and Sue had visited in

Kids work in Águas Formosas



2011. We stayed there for 3 days, but we wished it could have been longer because the children and the women who ran the centre were all so amazing and inspiring, with so much love to give. We did much the same children's work as in Queixada, with a different group in the morning and afternoon. It was wonderful to be able to play with the children and see how much happiness it gave them, and before we left, several of the children made beautiful cards for us to say how much they had enjoyed our visit.

We also went on some home visits in Águas Formosas, where we saw heart-breaking poverty and awe-inspiring faith. In spite of some truly awful situations, the power of prayer was clearly shown here on several occasions, including one of the boys from the centre praying for his house to be painted, and some of our team being able to complete this job during our stay. It was a real privilege to meet so many brothers and sisters in Christ, and one of my favourite moments was during a church service here, when we sang 'Light of the World' in simultaneous English and Portuguese.

*We felt honoured to be able to show God's love through our actions, and we all gained a huge amount from our experiences in Brazil.*

Above all, it was fantastic to see how God showed His power and love throughout the trip. We witnessed so many miracles, ranging from God subtly lifting our spirits when we needed energy to miraculously stretching food intended to feed 19 of us to feeding everyone else who was around at meal times at Queixada.

**tes-ti-fy** [tes-tuh-fahy] v.

to bear witness; give or afford evidence; give testimony.

We asked the team members: What did you think of the trip? Would you do it again?  
This is how they describe their experiences.



*This trip has been incredibly eye opening, faith strengthening and challenging. I would happily jump at the chance to go to Brazil again. It is an amazing place with great, inspiring people, food and breath taking scenery.*

*Joy Horton*

*Life-changing, heart-breaking but amazing and something I would love to do again.*

*Miles Jenkins*



*I could describe the trip as 'once in a lifetime' but I would definitely do it again.*

*Perry Emerson*

*God blessed us in so many ways  
- but most importantly God has  
blessed others through us - and it's  
been a privilege to be a part of that!*

*Jo Hawker*

*This trip will stay with me for  
the rest of my life, I'm so glad  
to have gone.*

*Holly Hermon*

*What an amazing experience. The  
love and hospitality of Brazil will  
never be forgotten.*

*Mark Stratton*

*I am certain that none of us will  
be quite the same in the future. It  
would be great to look ahead and  
see what those changes are but  
only God knows the future. I have  
a sense of beginning rather than  
ending.*

*Peter Mckeever*

*The people in Brazil are lovely.  
I really enjoyed sleeping in  
classrooms and churches and  
yes, I would definitely do it again!*

*Annabel Haugh*

*I can't put the trip into words  
except that it was so 'God' and  
he is indescribable! I would  
certainly do a trip like this again.*

*Emily Cooper*



*Challenging and inspirational.*

*Jade Springett*

*The trip has truly been unforgettable  
and eye-opening. I will definitely do it  
again if I was given the chance.*

*Chloe Charnick*

*The trip was a life changing  
experience for me. It has  
been so full of exciting,  
heartbreaking and exhilarating  
encounters. I would love to do  
it again if God gives me the  
strength.*

*Stella Mckeever*

*Tiring and challenging but an amazing  
experience.*

*Ellie Richards*



# 100 years!

## In July 2012 the Terena Indians marked the 100th anniversary of the Gospel coming to their tribe.

*Sue Fallon (General Manager EIUK) and Fred Silva (General Secretary EI Brazil) had the privilege of sharing in the celebrations. Here Sue tells us about the event and those parts of the celebrations that were a highlight for her.*

It was an amazing time. Many people came together from various tribes and missions to mark the occasion. Some of the early missionaries returned to participate in the activities and it was great to see how they were welcomed. The celebrations started by calling the elders to the front - those who remembered the stories their parents told of the first missionaries and how it impacted their lives. The weekend finished by bringing the youth to the front and praying for and encouraging them. It told the start of the story but reminded us that the story still continues.

In-between the start and the finish of the celebrations, lots happened. My favourites were the tribes sharing some of their cultural dance allowing us to see

an important part of who they are. The communion service on the Sunday morning it was different and yet familiar at the same time. Again I was being reminded that we are a part of a huge family and no matter where we go in the world, when we come together as Christians, we feel at home.

While we were in the area, we took an afternoon to visit the church that one of our summer teams had helped with. In 2007, when we arrived in the village, the congregation had done the foundations for the building, saying that God had told them they would have a new church. We worked together and when we left the walls were pretty much up. Five years later it was encouraging to see how the community had been working together, saving and

### Terena cultural dancing



# What a celebration!

when and as they could, working on finishing the building. They still have a small way to go but are hoping to have the dedication service in December. They are an inspiring group of people.

We also visited a number of families and what took me totally by surprise, was walking into one home and being called by name 5 years after my last visit.

Another highlight was meeting Sérgio and Beth, El Brazil missionaries working with the Terena people, and having a chance to work alongside them and getting to know them. They are doing a brilliant job.

## Our on-going work with the Terena people

Emmanuel Brazil understands the importance to build the capacity of the Terena church, so they can train their leaders and missionaries. The last conference of Brazilian indigenous pastors and leaders, held in July for about 2,200 people, most of them indigenous, showed the importance of that. We are excited with the idea to work side by side with the Terena Church, helping them train their leaders and send missionaries to other indigenous people in Brazil.

We also want to encourage churches in the Terena villages with a holistic approach, helping them in their spiritual and physical needs, in such a way that they can continue to carry out their activities without our direct involvement.

The participation of churches and individuals is vital in this process: helping the Cades Barnéia Terena Bible Institute, sponsoring a student, providing fuel for the village visits, or materials for the teaching in the villages.

*By Fred Silva*

Julia, Beth, Sérgio and Gabriela Souza



Progress on the church building



# EMMANUEL INTERNATIONAL UK ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013



## SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2013

The 2013 EIUK Conference was scheduled to take place from 15 to 17 February 2013 at our usual venue, Sunbury Court. Unfortunately we have been informed that Sunbury Court will be closed for renovations during that time and that they will not be able to host us. We have tried to book another conference venue, but they were either fully booked or very expensive.

Trinity Church Harrow has offered their church facilities to meet at. Unfortunately they are unable to provide accommodation for the weekend and the conference will have to be one day only, on Saturday 16 February 2013. If it will be difficult for you to reach Harrow in a day, please contact Sue or Linda at the office as soon as possible. We'll look into the possibility of cheap accommodation in the area.

The EIUK Annual General Meeting will still take place on Saturday 16 February 2013.

The starting and finishing times, cost, directions, etc. will be confirmed nearer the time. We do hope that you will be able to still join us for a "family gathering", catching up with each other and the work that EI is doing.

### EMMANUEL INTERNATIONAL UK Annual Membership 2012/13

Please renew your membership  
or become a member of EIUK!

With your support and encouragement, we shall be able to  
continue helping churches serve the poor.

Forms available online or from the office:

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