



Letters from I

in South East Asia

News from I in South East Asia

Dear friends,

Yes, you haven't heard from me for weeks. Accompanying dad around Japan went very smoothly, only minor happenings/illness which I was able to handle. I was relieved to see him off back to Melb last night and hear that he went straight to bed this morning after my s-i-l took him home. Also sad as this was his last overseas trip, ticking things off his bucket list. Of course some of my bucket list too—Sakura blossoms and Mt Fuji. It was quite an emotional strain for various reasons, I am a bit claustrophobic and get sea-sick easily and we were on a cruise! Dad had taken Mum with him on a business trip to Japan in the 70s. She adored daffodils and magnolias and tulips and there were gazillions of these everywhere as well as blossom. So both of us were thinking about her all the time. And travelling with someone who has no faith perspective is a challenge.

We finished in Manila, however my one-year work visa is not ready so I am staying here till it is. Dad became very upset about this, but of course it is par for the course in my location! I have plenty of computer work to do. And I am staying in the old city, beautiful walks and museums in every direction. Pray the visa arrives in my email this Friday so I can return to my location.

From A area, Mr D I snow in public prison which could be better or worse than the solitary confinement he was in before. In 3 weeks he will face prosecution. He has a good legal team. Pr also for his wife's anxiety.

From my location in C area our team leader Angel is homeside caring for her sick mother. She became ill herself. Pr for them both recovering.

Much love, I

From I



Supporting and Equipping Aboriginal Christians and Leaders in Darwin

A time of farewell

'Well, the time has come..... to speak of many things....' (Lewis Carroll).

This happened for us, as sadly, we prepared to leave Darwin and the NT: our friends, 'skin families, colleagues, the amazing environment and laid-back style of living, the communities and various church friends. There were many last words, affirmations, hugs, some tears and exhortations to keep going in faith, love and serving.

Our emotions are very mixed. There is pain in parting with people who have given us so much through sharing their lives and faith. We are encouraged from kind affirmations from those to whom we have given little. There is also a deep assurance with joy and thanks to God. As He has led and provided for us, so we trust his Spirit will keep on working in the lives of those we leave behind with his ongoing grace and faithfulness as they gather around his word. They are in his hands and bigger purpose beyond us.

We are also grateful for the mercy of God and others where we have failed, been weak, and for things left undone.

A time of thanks

At this point, we want to give great thanks to God for sustaining and guiding us with his mercy and grace in all things over our years in the NT.

We also give thanks for you, our faithful and generous partnership as

supporters, friends and family; for your prayerfulness and upholding us in many ways over our time up north.

You have inspired us to keep on going and growing in the privilege of serving here on your behalf. We have often felt overwhelmed and unworthy, yet have thoroughly delighted in our a small part of God's wider family, purpose and work in the Northern Territory.

As we shift gear over coming months, we are grateful to you too as we continue to depend on your ongoing partnership.

We look forward to reconnecting in person as we visit many of you and our Link Churches from May to early October. There are many reflections we are keen to share with you then or through coming Newsletters. We also hope to hear some of your own stories and learn from where you live and serve.

Give thanks with us for:

- The immense privilege it has been to live and serve in the NT. The learning in faith, relationships, culture and in the ways of seeing the world and life has been rich.
- The joy of seeing people being sustained and growing in following Jesus, with hope and love through many challenges.

Encouraging signs of people being called and guided to share in and develop some of the ministries we have been part of.

Please ask for:

- Indigenous leaders and others to be raised up and equipped to help others grow in ministry amongst many needs and opportunities.
 - Grace and wisdom to grieve and transition well having farewelled people we have grown to love;
 - Trust through new beginnings and unknowns in Melbourne, with some Leave before Final Home Assignment from early May.
 - Re-connecting with family and friends, while attending to many practical and matters.
- Healing and wisdom for Rosemary's on-going health issues.



This was my first year that I chose to be intentional about Lent, the 40-day lead-up to Easter Sunday. It involved changing a few routines like, I listened to a short reflection each morning on the transfiguration of Jesus; I fasted from things like meat, alcohol, social media, and, for some of the month, even coffee. Most noticeably, I also placed my phone on **black and white**. It was initially confronting, but honestly, I got very used to it and now I find its colour a little overwhelming. Life in black and white connotes simplicity and clarity, but there are also shades of blandness and boredom. So, I thought you could join me in the **greyscale** this month.

At the start of April my fellow Australian and mentee, Maddie, flew back home. It was a real joy to share with her each week as we scoured the city in search of Melbourne-grade coffees and read the Bible together. For a few hours we'd pretend that we were in Australia and made the most of being understood at a deeper level with common language, culture and faith. Maddie leaves with lots of prayer as she transitions back and looks for work, discovering what God has planned for her.

One of my biggest updates from Easter is last month's *Misión Posible* (MP), the conference where I led a workshop! In the weeks leading up to it I experienced days of calm and stress. I long to explain clearly and usefully how the Bible helps us to better know God, his mission, and even ourselves. I was also eager for the new contacts and MOCLAM students who would emerge from the weekend.

God so evidently and graciously answered prayers over the weekend. Being in a new culture and learning how to make friends has, for potentially the first time ever, given me some social anxiety. Camps in particular, can be much harder places to connect than I'm used to. On top of that, the workshop was in Spanish. I prayed about these issues a lot and felt profoundly comforted by God. He reminded me to take on his yoke, watch for his movements, and lean into the people with whom he was connecting me. I made some deep and precious new friendships, the workshop went really well, and a lot of people were super keen to learn about MOCLAM!

This last month I've gained helpful insight into the part that missions play in the church in Spain. Long being on the receiving end of missionaries, their involvement in mission is minimal. Very few people would consider doing mission or know what it looks like to partner in prayer, care, and giving. Obviously, I'm passionate about this, but I'm eager for locals to capture the vision; to want to see **a world that knows Jesus.**

I've since returned to Madrid, and beautiful Spring has as well! There's a skip in my step: I've got a close friend visiting from London this week, and birthdays, and weekends ahead with road trips out of Madrid. It's not just me. There's an upbeat atmosphere of 'seize the day'. I want this to not just be in light of the beautiful sun, but in light of Jesus. It's only two weeks since we celebrated history's greatest story—when he rose from the grave defeating death and sin. **COLOUR** burst through in all its magnificent glory and variety! The world needs no longer to live in black and white; in darkness, monotony or hopelessness. This great news is ours, let's share it. Thanks for being on the topsy-turvy and colourful ride with me!

*In Christ,
Lauren*

Ash & Sue Goode

PARTNERING IN THE PACIFIC

Journeying together to further equip the church to mobilise missions from the Pacific



Missionaries Rhoda and Manasa Bogo who have come from PNG to minister with Indigenous brothers and sisters in Moree NSW. These photos are of their first trip back to PNG with their Team Leaders Erin and Paul and their family to raise mission awareness and support.



The team arriving from Australia into Papua New Guinea



Some of the food/gifts offered for the ministry in Moree



A portion of the crowd in Lake Kutabu Highlands of PNG which is Rhoda/Manasa home villages



Ash visits Brugam for the SSEC PNG National Conference and signing of a MOU with SSEC PNG Pioneers and Liebenzell



Lunch with ECPNG leaders

Please pray for our family, and for stamina and health. Please pray for Ash next trip in July to attend one of the national churches (ECPNG) 60th celebration of the church forming.
Blessings, Ash & Sue Goode

Longbeach Parish currently supports the following missionaries:

CMS—Derek & Rosie Snibson

CMS—Lauren Raiter in Spain

CMS—I in South East Asia

Pioneers—Ash & Sue Goode

There are many, many other missions and charities that we regularly get mail from. Check the noticeboard of your church for more information.

Longbeach Parish donates 10% of all income to our chosen mission fields. This is reviewed by Parish Council every year and your input is always welcome.

Current mission donations are as follows:

CMS	Snibsons	16.67%
CMS	I—SE Asia	16.67%
CMS	Lauren Raiter	16.67%
Pioneers	Ash & Sue Goode	10%
Ridley College		10%
Anglicare		5%
Chelsea Community Church of Christ	Chelsea Careworks	5%
Bush Church Aid		5%
Bible Society		5%
Longbeach Parish community missions	Pantry 5000	10%

We need someone from the parish to coordinate, email and display the information we receive from the many worthy Christian charities and missions. If you're handy with email and happy to spend an hour a month reading and disseminating the information received please speak with Rev Sue.

Upcoming Visits at Longbeach Parish

Sunday 19 July

Derek & Rosie Snibson

Saturday 3 October

Derek & Rosie Snibson

CMS Farewell: Release & Thanksgiving

Sunday November 15th

Lauren Raiter

Longbeach Anglican Parish also donates to the following organisations:

Ridley College

We help provide the students of Ridley College with a world-class theological education. Donations enable Ridley to continue to be a supportive college with full-time faculty, a well-resourced library, quality teaching and student facilities, and a strong focus on forming students for ministry.

Anglicare

Anglicare supports tens of thousands of Victorians every year and have a team of over 2000 staff and volunteers. They operate from 96 sites across Victoria and assist families, young people and children to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential. This might be a helping hand in a time of crisis with food and medicine, or longer-term support and care.

Chelsea Community Church of Christ / Chelsea CareWorks

Chelsea Community Church of Christ offers a community breakfast once a week, a small food pantry and free laundry facilities.

Bush Church Aid

BCA provides ministry that proclaims Christ, grows the church and equips believers in rural, regional and remote Australia.

Bible Society

The Bible Society has been placing bibles and scriptures into the hands of those who long for it. This often includes translations to local languages.