

Left: Rachel digs it!
Centre: Shona loved the kids! And the kids loved Shona!
Right: Chimborazo Volcano was often visible as we worked.



News and prayer

UK Missions Team: Time to update you on how the missions team from our home church MCC Harrogate got on in Ecuador. It was a wonderful time for everyone. God worked in the lives of both team members and the community members in Dal Dal, the village where we started work on a new water project.

With the exception of five or six Evangelical families this community is unreached with the Gospel. We were able to encourage this small group of believers by spending time with them. Over the last ten years or so since they became believers they have faced hardship and persecution for their new found faith in Jesus Christ. They were excluded from the community, denied the chance to sell their products at market and even stoned or submerged in water. However as these believers have worked hard to improve the physical and spiritual well-being of the community they are now increasingly respected by the rest of the community. It is through these dedicated Christians that HCJB was asked to facilitate a water project in Dal Dal.

For the week that we were there we worked on the water project, building a structure to capture a spring. God worked to break down barriers, suspicions and hard hearts in the unbelieving community. When we left at the end of the week several community leaders stood up and expressed their feelings with great honesty. They said that over the years they had looked for God in the temple (meaning the Catholic church) and not found Him there. However they said they had found God in the team and in the water project as we all worked alongside each other. The unspoken testimony as we served the community through construction work and the spoken testimony as we ran a Bible club for children was a powerful combination.

Please continue to pray for this community and the work of HCJB's water projects team there as we seek to build on this wonderful start to our latest water project. Pray for us as we seek to raise £20,000 to complete the project which will bring safe drinking water and opportunities to come to Christ for more than 1000 people.

Photos of the missions team >> [click here](#)
Support this project with prayer and finance >> [click here](#)

Corrientes: Last week we met with some Colombian pastors and mission leaders from a large denomination in Colombia. It was a very useful time of sharing and discussion with a number of promising outcomes. Some of these will relate to new missionary training/mobilisation projects that we



The team pauses for a photo whilst working on the spring with the community.



Callum connects with the local kids.



Daily transport to the work site was like this! Followed by a precarious walk along a narrow path on a steep mountainside.



A first taste of the pure spring water that has now been captured and gushes forth at 150 litres/min (33 gallons per minute)!

hope to begin working on in 2012 once we have relocated to the UK. Another outcome is that we will be visiting Medellin in Colombia this December.

Seed Money: I am not sure who invented this phrase. It is used when describing how a small amount of money can be invested in promising new ideas or business ventures. In our case it relates to a small agricultural project that is now getting off the ground in Pichan, a community that completed its water project last year. Using some money from a collection taken at the funeral of Pastor Brian Cooke in 2009 we were able to begin a trial project using a simple drip irrigation system.

To watch video >> [click here](#)

The evangelical church and several other community members have successfully used this system through Ecuador's dry season and now have kitchen gardens full of green leaf vegetables! The church has used the project as an evangelistic opportunity and Pastor Bladimir is now providing training in organic agriculture. As a result of the water project and now this agricultural initiative, non believing community members are now participating in church led development projects when once they would not have gone near the church. There are new members in the church and



A solemn moment shared as MCC work team leader Dr Stuart Jamieson presents the plaque to the community of Pichan in memory of Pastor Brian Cooke. The wording on the plaque in English and Spanish reads "In memory of Brian Cooke 1937-2009. Who loved God and served the people of Ecuador with HCJB Global." Also on the plaque in Spanish are the words from John 4:14.

community members are delighted with their fresh produce. Whilst the missions team from our home church were in Ecuador we visited Pichan to see the agricultural project and to present a plaque to the community in memory of Brian Cooke. The plaque will be located in the village hall, a fitting tribute to a man who began his working life in agriculture and later was a dedicated labourer, scattering the seed of the Gospel far and wide as he worked as a Pastor and also as Personnel Director at HCJB UK. It was through Brian and his wife Enid that we were encouraged into mission and ultimately recruited to HCJB.

Family News: Lottie has recently taken up singing lessons and has

been asked to sing in a choir in December. This will be a prestigious event to celebrate "Quito Day" when the 478th anniversary of the founding of the city will be celebrated. She will sing in the National Theatre in an event that is laid on by HCJB every year. This is a great way to take part in the civic life of Ecuador's capital city and is a wonderful evangelistic opportunity.

Continuing in a musical vein, Ben will be playing trombone in the school concert band this Christmas. Rehearsals are well under way!

Thank you once again for your support and prayers.

Martin, Ruth, Ben & Lottie



Ben with trombone.

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