

## Prayer Letter August 2007

*Dear friends*

It has been too long since we have been in touch and we owe you all a big apology. Since taking on the new role of Regional Secretary for Latin America, I have found it less easy to know how best to share the needs and the news of our life and doings. So we are going to try a new format on a quarterly basis and hope this will be helpful, as we value so much your prayers and informed support.

### Headline happenings:

#### Consular visit to PEPE HQ

In February, British Consul Martin Raven and his wife Philippa visited the whole PEPE team at the BMS Mission Centre in São Paulo (where the PEPE HQ is based) and then went on to see the first PEPE in the Jardim Olinda favela. Philippa has now arranged for a buy-a-book birthday scheme at the British School in São Paulo to support the PEPE schools, and also for the lady mayoress of London to do the same visit on 24 August!



#### OBE and MA

Georgie received an OBE from the Queen at Buckingham Palace in March (only Bruce couldn't be there) and will hand in her completed MA in International Education at Sussex University in August.



#### Diary dates for your prayers

##### Stuart's travels:

28 August to Paraguay, 29 to north east Brazil.

1 September to the Amazon, 3 São Paulo, 7 to Lima Peru, 10 to Guayquil Ecuador, 18-23 São Paulo, 24-26 Buenos Aires, Argentina, 27 to the UK.



#### Ben and Lindy:

1 October start back at Bournemouth and Kent Universities respectively.

#### Georgie and Stuart:

13 October return to Brazil.

October 22-26 PEPE 15-year celebration in São Paulo.

4-9 November to Ecuador for Latin America PEPE co-ordinators training conference

## Country focus: Paraguay

BMS World Mission helps support the Brazilian Baptist Missionary, Lidia Klava, who does a tremendous work developing the PEPE Network in Paraguay and throughout Spanish speaking Latin America.



Paraguay is a landlocked country. It lies between Argentina, Bolivia, and Brazil. The population is concentrated in the southern part of the country. It is probably the poorest country in Latin America.



### Population:

6,669,086 (July 2007 est.)

**Ethnic groups:** Mestizo (mixed Spanish and Amerindian) 95%, other 5%

**Religion:** Roman Catholic 89.6%, Protestant 6.2%, other Christian 1.1%, other or unspecified 1.9%, none 1.1% (2002 census)

**Languages:** Spanish (official), Guaraní (official)

Emma and Damian Mawer have just returned to the UK after spending a fantastic 18 months as BMS Volunteer workers in Asunción,



Emma with the PEPEs and Damian as a doctor. Rosemary Williams, a volunteer for a year, is there at the moment.

I shall be visiting Paraguay on 28 August to see how Rosemary, a retired pre-school teacher, is getting on with

her language and settling in to help with the PEPEs. I shall also be discussing country needs with the general secretary of the Baptist Convention, in particular, the outstanding request for BMS and British Baptists to help them develop ministries amongst the elderly- a greatly neglected group in Paraguay. Is there someone known to you with experience and vision for helping local churches to start effective programmes to reach and support the elderly and who could bring two or three years as a mid-term mission worker to respond to this request?

*Blessings and thanks from us all.  
Stuart and Georgie.*

BMS World Mission supports 360 personnel working in more than 40 countries of the world. Together they are involved mainly in church planting, development, disaster relief, education, health and media and advocacy.

Stuart and Georgie are BMS workers. Stuart is the BMS Regional Secretary for Latin America. If you would like to know more about BMS and its work, please visit our website, or write, phone or e-mail us. Details at bottom right-hand corner of this page.

This prayer letter is now available via our website. Register online on [www.bmsworldmission.org/gschristine](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/gschristine) to receive an e-mail alert for future letters from Stuart and Georgie.



PO Box 49 129 Broadway  
Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8XA  
Tel: 01235 517700  
Fax: 01235 517601

E-mail: [prayerletters@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:prayerletters@bmsworldmission.org)  
Website: [www.bmsworldmission.org](http://www.bmsworldmission.org)  
Registered charity number 233782