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The Evangelical Alliance and Global Connections.

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Newsletter - November 2017

Letter from Revd. Terrick Barratt, SEAN International Director.



Dear SEAN partners and friends,

Warm greetings in the name of Jesus. Now, well into our 47th year of ministry, SEAN is entering a new era, and as such needs new ideas and fresh vigour. In view of this, we prayed that the Lord would provide us with a new International Director who could take over from me in the near future.

I'm delighted to inform you that the Lord has provided. So at our recent Trustee Board meeting, we invited Pastor Dr. Markus Voelker to take over the leadership of SEAN in September 2018. Our vote was unanimous. We believe that under God, Markus is the right person to lead SEAN. There are many reasons for this, but I prefer to let him introduce himself.

My request to you, our partners and friends, is that you pray for this time of transition, that the Lord will bless Markus and his family, as they end their TEE 'Theological Education by Extension' ministry in Perú and prepare to lead SEAN next year.

May the Lord bless you all abundantly,

Pastor Terrick J. Barratt, SEAN – International Director

Introduction to Dr Markus Völker, SEAN's future Director

Dear friends and family of SEAN International,

My name is Dr Markus Völker and it is a great privilege and joy for me to introduce myself as the new incoming Director of SEAN International. Many have been praying and supporting SEAN International leadership during this time. Thanks to all of you for this great support.



My family (my wife Monika and our children Sophie, Antonia and Valentin) have had the privilege of living and working in Arequipa, Peru for more than 13 years. I'm involved in theological education in a small bible school and with TEE. Our local denomination has worked with SEAN books for more than 25 years and we can see the great blessing, which they have been to those who have studied them.

I worked as a certified technician for electrical power engineering before I started my M.A. studies in missions and bible. Pastoring a church in Germany and a time as missionaries in Tajikistan brought us to Peru 14 years ago. We work with DMG interpersonal e.v., which is one of the bigger mission agencies in Germany. During my time in Peru, I have had the privilege of continuing my studies, culminating in a Doctor of Ministry in International Theological Education.

Raised in a catholic home, religious traditions have been part of my life since childhood. During an evangelistic outreach at a Lutheran church youth club, I realized that I could have a personal relationship with Christ. This changed my live forever. For many decades, Monika and I have been members of the Federation of Free Evangelical Churches (FeG) where we have both found our spiritual home.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Revd Terrick Barratt, present SEAN International Director, as well as to the whole SEAN International team for supporting this change in leadership and for the warm welcome, we have received.

As a family, we will stay on until 2018 in Peru for our children's schooling and for the ministry we are currently involved in. In 2019, we have scheduled a one-year home assignment. Please pray that we will have a smooth handover of the director's responsibilities. I would like to ask for your prayers regarding where we should live after our home assignment and for continuing support as we take on this new venture. May our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ bless each one of you richly.

In HIM,

Dr Markus Völker

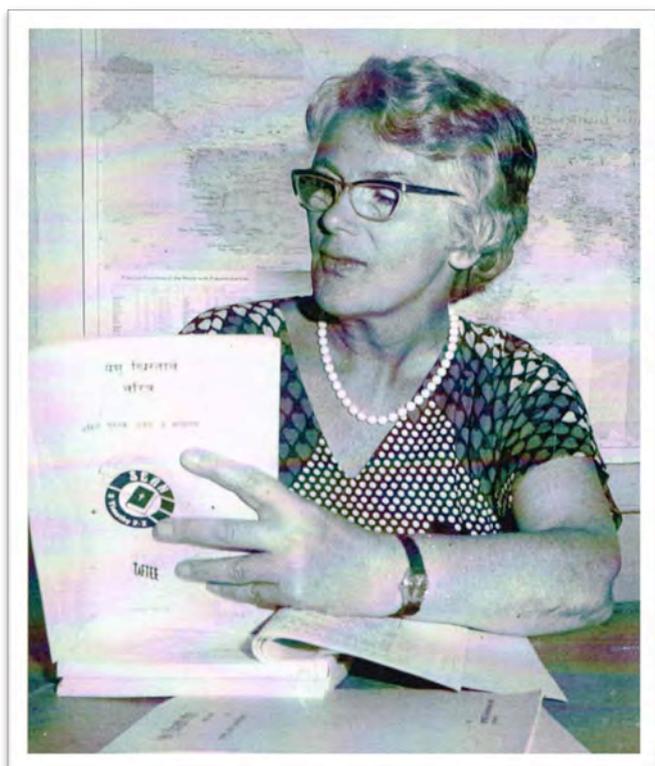
SEAN Trustee Carol Freeman reports:

My twins and friends are loving the SEAN Life of Christ course but have gone out of state for college this August. They plan to finish Book 3 over Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. Hopefully they can do Book 4 over the summer break.



My daughters and their friends have been in accelerated classes since Grade 6 in middle school, yet they love the 'simple' SEAN materials because of the very clear way they reveal Scripture truths and the thought-provoking reflection questions that make them ponder the application of the material to their own lives. They come alive with the discussion points! Because of what they have learned so far in SEAN, they have also found themselves at a clear advantage in their Wheaton college courses in OT and NT this semester!

Joan Newton, 1919-2017



On August 10 Joan Newton, a very special SEAN colleague, was called Home. She was 97.

Fluent in Marathi, Joan served in India for 35 years under BMMF, (later Interserve), ministering to women and girls. Her teaching experience in adult education gave her a remarkable insight as to how extension education, especially TEE with its programmed learning approach, would be beneficial to Christian discipleship and leadership training needs across India.

Later serving TAFTEE's (The Association for Theological Education by Extension) Diploma Programme in Bangalore, Joan recognised how the South American SEAN material, with its tutor manuals, could be usefully adapted for India. Her dedicated work enabled the 6 Books of SEAN's Life of Christ course to become the underpinning of TAFTEE's Certificate Level Programme, resulting in their translations into Marathi, Hindi, Tamil, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayam and Oriya.

Retiring to the UK in her 60s, Joan was co-opted by Tony Barratt to help him in the revision and adaptation of existing SEAN material as well as writing additional courses. I was privileged to join them. Joan, accompanied by Balu, her little dog, mentored me in basic TEE skills.

Joan had a profound love for her Saviour, His Word and India. A wise and clear thinker with a serving heart, she was a wonderful mentor and encourager. She possessed remarkable patience with always that gentle sense of humour and engaging smile.

Michael Huggins

Supporting SEAN International Financially

We are so grateful to all those who choose to give financially to support SEAN International. Your gifts help us to work towards our vision of seeing 'Local churches worldwide empowering all their members for whole life discipleship, mission and ministry in their context.'

Information about how to give can be found on our website at:

<http://www.seaninternational.com/support-us.html>

- Donations can be made online via PayPal by using the 'Donate' button
- You can also use our secure online giving facility at [give.net](https://my.give.net/seandonationgen). (<https://my.give.net/seandonationgen>)
- If you would like to give regularly to SEAN International, please complete the [bankers' standing order form](#) and post it back to us at the address above.
- If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please use the [Gift Aid declaration form](#).
- By post, please make your cheque payable to 'SEAN International' and send it to: **SEAN International, Ferndale, Cranston Road, East Grinstead, W Sussex RH19 3HL**



SEAN International is a grassroots Christian charity set up to help disciple new believers and to train leaders within the context of the local church and community.

Our vision is to see:

'Local churches, worldwide, empowering and equipping all their members for whole life discipleship, mission and ministry in their context.'

We seek to help enable this by:

- ☑ Providing easily understood, biblical and practical training materials;
- ☑ Partnering with others to make these materials available globally;
- ☑ Equipping our partners to use the materials effectively in their situation.

How do we work?

Having invested the time and energy to develop over 30 different courses to fit within a wider programme of study, SEAN International now has several key focuses:

- ☑ To support our existing partners across the world and help to give them access to resources and training to strengthen their ministries locally.
- ☑ To respond to new requests for groups to use our materials and to give them what they need to start and develop a programme effectively.
- ☑ To help provide opportunities for new and existing partners to meet together and share their knowledge; best practice and build networks of mutual encouragement and support.

How are we structured?

- ☑ SEAN is a partnering organisation that empowers our local partners to provide course materials locally. Our partnerships are the key to the effective global reach of our ministry.
- ☑ SEAN has a predominately volunteer governance and management structure drawing from the dedication and commitment of a broad and experienced group, including our Board of Trustees and International Council of Reference.

