

- Existing countries
- Potential new countries
- Conflict is preventing training

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017

PTI strengthens the church in many of the poorest places in the world, by teaching pastors to expound the Bible more effectively. Our fundamental purpose is therefore to *Teach to Preach*.

**WELCOME** to the November edition of **P** newsletter. This autumn saw an exciting new departure for PTI - our first-ever conference in the Americas, in the Caribbean. The exact location has to be secret as Christians there face persecution, but PTI's input was most welcome and we would like to return if possible. This is also one of a number of additional conferences that we hope to run this year and next, but they all have to be paid for, so do please prayerfully read the second article too.

**Caribbean, 22 September to October 7**



Hurricane Irma blazed a trail of destruction across the Caribbean in September. Despite the devastation we were given the all-clear to go by local pastors. When we arrived we could already see the roads were being repaired, the buildings made safe and life was returning to normal.

The first conference was held in a church in the capital and some local pastors hitchhiked for six hours to get there. It was a great place to teach and provided good eating and sleeping space, too. Numbers began low but swelled each day as news of the conference spread. Even more thrilling was how quickly and eagerly the pastors understood and applied the teaching. They shared that being a pastor there is not easy but they love their Lord and their country and feel privileged to serve Him there. When we left they showed their appreciation for what they had learnt and the skills they had acquired.

The second week we were on the other – very rural - side of the island, with ancient cars, bicycles and taxis and even a

horse and trap. But when the conference started we saw the same enthusiasm and desire to learn. Again, numbers grew day by day as pastors heard about the teaching. The men joined in all the studies enthusiastically and enjoyed sharing their thoughts.

It was clear at the end how - with God's help - we had been able to "teach to preach". Some pastors are in touch by email and the few who speak English are joining the mentoring scheme. All thanked PTI and its supporters for making this conference possible. Simon and I would also like to thank everyone for their prayers and support. This is a unique county, but one where it is very difficult to be a pastor. However, those who have been called to serve have both the need and desire to be trained, so that they may serve their churches effectively and glorify God in their ministry.

by Gareth Jones and Simon Percy, PTI Trainers

For more information about us, our vision under God, and our plans to considerably expand the current work, please visit our website [www.pastor-training.org](http://www.pastor-training.org) follow us on Facebook

If you would like to give to support us, either through prayer, financial giving or volunteering your time, please contact **Simon Percy** on 0208 504 0709.



## Pounds, shillings and pence (remember shillings?!)

Like all mission organisations, PTI needs to receive monetary gifts from supporters and others or the work cannot happen. PTI's current annual income is around £125,000. Of that, £40,000 is given by churches and individuals to support the Director of Ministry. So how are supporters' gifts of £85,000 used?

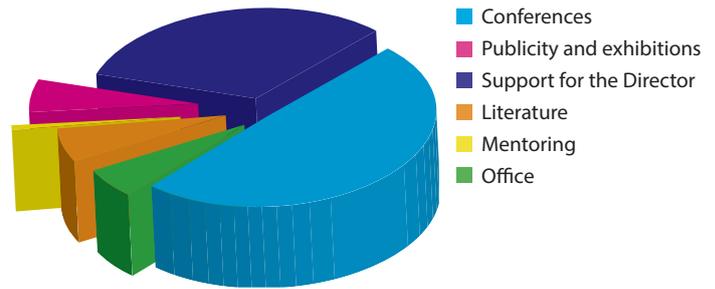
In 2016, £25,000 was spent on a range of UK-based activities, including buying, distributing and storing the Literature; Distance Mentoring; writing of the curriculum; newsletters; the website; exhibitions at UK conferences such as the EMA; running PTI's office - and Charity Commission compliance. The remaining £62,000 (or nearly half the entire budget) funded the 22 overseas conferences organised last year.

In 2017, however, we increased the number of conferences by more than a quarter, to 28. This cost an additional £25,000 (which also reflected the devaluation of the pound, post the Brexit referendum) which was found from our reserves.

What about 2018? If we stay still at 28 conferences we will need a further £10,000 from our reserves. If we add an additional 4-6 conferences (and the demand is certainly there) that would cost an additional £10-15,000.

**The bottom line is that for PTI to continue to grow (as we think it should) an additional £20-25,000 is needed in 2018.**

### How your gifts are used



### How can you help?

1. Prayerfully consider whether you or your church could give more.
2. Prayerfully consider giving a Christmas gift to balance the budget in 2017.
3. If your church is sending a trainer, prayerfully consider contributing £500 towards the conference costs.
4. Could you or your church support the training in one particular location? Each conference costs approximately £2500.
5. Consider leaving a legacy to PTI, which would help us replenish our reserves.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you so much for your continued support. It is very much appreciated.

With very grateful thanks in our Lord Jesus

■ by Jeremy Marshall, Chairman

## Prayer points

Everything by prayer... with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6)

NOVEMBER 2017

### Thank God for:

- The Caribbean conference and for how well the pastors responded to the training
- The excellent Ministry Board and Trustees' meetings that took place in September and October
- The good opportunity PTI had to share about its work at the recent Grace Baptist Mission gathering in London
- The 28 conferences and the 22 trainers who have conducted these conferences this year, 8 of whom were new for this year

### Please pray for:

- Ken and James as they conduct the second year of conferences at Addis and Jima in Ethiopia
- Keith and Tim as they conduct PTI training in Asia for the first time that it goes very well
- For Andre and Maciek and later Paul and Ian as they conduct further training in Myanmar. Pray that the Lord would help them to identify those who could become potential in-country trainers
- For Merv and Rob as they conduct further training in Jaipur India and on the Andaman Islands, asking that they might spot those who could become local trainers

## Proposed conferences for 2017, God willing

October 30 – November 3	Asia	Keith F, Tim S
October 30 – November 3	Ethiopia, Jima	Ken MacIntosh, James Sercombe
November 1-3	Myanmar, Mandalay	Maciek S, Andre B
November 6-8	Myanmar, Yangon	Maciek S, Andre B
November 6-10	Ethiopia, Addis	Ken MacIntosh, James Sercombe
November 13-16	India, Jaipur	Merv N, Rob O
November 14-16	Myanmar, Myitkyina	Paul W, Ian C
November 20-23	India, Andaman Islands	Merv N, Rob O
November 21-23	Myanmar, Kyaingtong	Paul W, Ian C

