

Philip and Rosemary Halliday

Prayer Letter

May 2019

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You will be aware that our primary role, among the French Baptists, is to give a national lead on church-planting and on 'revitalising' congregations that have, for whatever reason, become quite small. In addition, we are involved personally in a church-plant locally and in trying to 'revitalise' two small congregations on the north Brittany coast. In this letter, however, we'd like to share with you some of the other things that we do 'around the edges'.

Les Cèdres French Language School

Rosemary serves as chaplain to the French language school in our town of Massy, the place where we studied French some 26 years ago! The French Baptists run this language school as a service to the world-wide Church. Mission workers come from all around the globe to learn French before going on to serve in a multitude of francophone countries. There are typically around 50 students at any given moment.

Rosemary's role is one of friendship, providing support and practical help to the students and their families: accompanying pregnant ladies, as they navigate the French health-care system; helping students to get their documents translated; providing a listening ear, as students eat meals in our home or come round for coffee; sharing her experience of learning the language, of raising children in France, and of ministry in our particularly secular context. This all requires energy, as there is a constant flow of students through the school, but it is worthwhile to invest in these Christian leaders during what is often a vulnerable period in their lives.



International Baptist Theological Study Centre, Amsterdam

Philip currently sits on the Board of the IBTS Centre in Amsterdam. The growing research community, connected to this Centre, specialises in providing opportunity and resources for researchers pursuing PhD studies that, in turn, will aid the Church in its mission and ministry across the European Baptist Federation region. In addition, however, the Centre is carrying forward its vision to make available and deliver accessible, affordable, non-formal theological education throughout Central Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Philip was elected onto this Board because of the experience his previous regional role gave him of the Church across the EBF areas.



National Council of French Evangelicals - Evangelism Commission

Philip was recently elected onto the Evangelism Commission of the National Council of French Evangelicals (CNEF), which unites 32 church unions. Philip particularly represents those Evangelical unions of churches (such as the Baptists) that are also members of the French Protestant Federation. During the coming three years, the Evangelism Commission will undertake research, publish a report, and convene a consultation in the autumn of 2021, all around the theme of "Relevant evangelism in the contemporary French context".



Family News

As the decades go by, we find that we need to give a little more thought to trying to stay well and healthy. This translates into us striding round a local wood, with our Nordic poles clicking away! Or, when the time and weather permit, we like to get out on our tandem bike and raise our cardiovascular rates for a couple of hours. That said, we're not at all averse to spending our afternoon off just sitting in our local park with a good book and a flask of tea!



Prayer Points

The many students passing through the Les Cèdres language school in Massy and for Rosemary's investment in them.

The International Baptist Theological Study Centre in Amsterdam, providing opportunity for both PhD research and non-formal theological education throughout Central Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

The work of the Evangelism Commission of the National Council of French Evangelicals.

We will look forward to sending you a further brief update in July.

With our warm wishes and our thanks for your ongoing support,

Philip & Rosemary.

If you would like to support Philip and Rosemary Halliday by prayer and committed regular giving, visit bmsworldmission.org/partners or call 01235 517617 for a 247 Partners leaflet.



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