

# Hot off The Press

News from Peter and Kay Goodchild at  
Emmanuel Press in South Africa



Hello again. We are now already well in to our third month in South Africa! We thought it appropriate to tell you a little of Emmanuel Press' history in order to set the scene for our mission of discovery and doing here in White River.

Emmanuel Press was founded after the Canadian linguist Charles Austin Chawner met the English engineer Hubert Phillips in 1928. Hubert owned a small hand press capable of printing 6"x4" sheets and together they started printing all sorts of Christian literature from a small Shingwedzi mud hut.



*The original manual printing press.  
It's not used anymore!*

Since then Emmanuel Press has been staffed by Canadian & British missionaries along with a team of local Africans. Over the years, millions of Gospel tracts sharing the love of God and inviting readers to enrol in a 14 lesson Basic Christian Discipleship correspondence course have been posted out. Postal responses peaked in the late 20th century as hundreds of thousands enrolled for these simple yet powerful courses. And, all of these ABSOLUTELY FREE! Some of you will remember David & Loreen Newington who pioneered that amazing chapter.

The picture today is vastly different; we are down to just hundreds of responses each month. With the turbulent political scene in South Africa, the postal service has taken a big hit, and for The Press that has been devastating. Today most of the post is terribly delayed or never makes it through. Last November in the UK I posted a Christmas card to the EP director. It finally arrived here a couple of weeks ago, in late April! Sadly, tired workers became discouraged, wondering where to go from here. It's been almost an 'emergency landing' feel as we arrived on the scene.



*David and Loreen in the 1980s*

Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the printing press brought about a communication revolution in the 1400's. Similarly, the development of the internet has birthed a dramatic change since the The Press's historic high.

So, the challenge is before us... Millions of our 'target audience' have access to the internet, yet there are still millions who don't. We need strategies to reach them all. For the moment, we



*A selection of the English leaflets we distribute*

are assessing, praying, and waiting on The LORD of the harvest. We need to know what God has in mind for this next generation needing to hear His Word.

Can God cause the vision to live again and the effectiveness of Emmanuel Press to be greater than ever? God called us to help rebuild what is struggling. He has spoken good concerning our coming and assured us that

His Word is strong and His promises sure. We believe it!

We do thank you for supporting us and the vision of Emmanuel Press and we'd be grateful if you would join us in praying for new staff, new projects, new students and new ways of disseminating God's seeds of Life.

With love,

*Peter & Kay*



*Trying to look busy in the office!*

*Join us in thanking God for:*

- The glorious history of Emmanuel Press.
- The wonderful way HE arranged for us to be here today.
- Financial support through dear faithful friends like some of you.
- The promises HE has given for the years that lie ahead.

*Please pray for us, that:*

- God will give us HIS ideas and strategies.
- He will send us the right people to help us get the job done.
- JESUS will be at the centre of our work and worship here at The Press.