



## **Mr and Mrs H. McGregor – 1948 (Edition 1)**

Mr and Mrs Harold McGregor first went to India in 1939 and 1940 respectively with an interdenominational mission on the Tibetan border. When they had to leave the area without permission to return in 1948, they severed their connection with the mission and looked to the Lord alone for their guidance and support. At Delhi they had fellowship with Mr Alan McKenzie and subsequently received the commendation of assemblies at Waharoa and Morrinsville. In 1950 they were stationed at Ranikhet for some time but ill health compelled them to leave the high altitude. In 1952 they settled in Bombay helping Mrs Durham in the Gospel Literature Service printing work which was expanding with new machinery installed and hundreds of thousands of tracts being sent out.

Mr and Mrs McGregor commenced broadcasting the gospel over the radio in 1953. "Living Waters Broadcasts" was launched with four vernacular and one English programme each week over Radio Ceylon which was heard all over India. People listened to the Gospel in their homes, in streets, bazaars and coffee shops and there was an immediate response with letters coming in requesting help and thanking them for the message received. People in prison, in military camps, in towns and villages were saved as a result. Other languages were added in succeeding years so that eventually the message was going out in Hindi, Telugu, Marathi, Bengali, Tamil, Kanarese, Malayalam and English. Children's sessions were also broadcast and the correspondence increased from hundreds of letters a month to hundreds a week. In 1959 the broadcasts were changed from Ceylon to Radio Manila of the Far East Broadcasting Co.

During those years Mr and Mrs McGregor had an active interest in the testimony of the local assemblies particularly in the one in Bandra where they lived and which was mainly as a result of their own efforts. They also rented a building to be a hostel where 15 young men could live and where they could conduct systematic Bible studies. The Emmaus Bible Study Courses sent out through the post were also advertised in the radio broadcasts and by 1962 over 4,000 students had completed courses. The estimated contacts at that time were 100,000 people per week.

As the work of "Living Waters" continued to grow it was more than apparent that the spare bedroom of a small flat could not go on serving as a studio, storeroom for tapes and Emmaus courses, as well as office for handling all correspondence. In 1965 400ft. Of space was purchased in a building in the course of construction. It was 18 months before they finally opened the new studio on the 13th anniversary of the work. Five Indian brethren were helping in the work and as a result of the 25 programmes each week in five different languages, thousands of replies were received every year. Thousands of people wrote in requesting Gospel text calendars, literature or Emmaus Courses.

As time went by equipment had to be updated. Other workers helped in different parts of the country by providing music in different local styles, and messages in different languages. For example Dr Short at Narsapur recorded all the Telugu programmes. In 1965 a special outreach at a Eucharistic conference enabled them to sell hundreds of copies of Scriptures and calendars to many ministers and priests of various

denominations. The display was in the form of a well made of stones and real thatching and a special publication entitled "The Living Bread" was distributed in thousands.

Mr and Mrs McGregor returned to New Zealand in December 1966 in very poor health but because of the work, returned to India six months later. They were tremendously pleased in 1968 to have the help of Mr and Mrs Sandy McLeary who took over the work from them in December on their return to New Zealand again in poor health.

Mr and Mrs McGregor have helped in the supervision at youth hostels and old folks homes in Australia and New Zealand since retiring from India.

[Source entry includes an uncaptioned photo of Mr and Mrs McGregor]