



Andrew and Lisa Peart

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Location: Bolivia



What we do: Partnering with the local church to engage with the community in pioneering mission through generous, creative hospitality

Dear friends,

We had a lovely time in the UK this summer – our first official furlough since becoming mission partners in Bolivia with CMS three years ago, July. Trusting the Lord with what seemed insurmountable details as we planned our journey and stay, we were completely blown away at his provision through others, which we reflect on below – we hope it’s an encouragement!

As planning began, our biggest wish was to have our own place as a base from which to travel about. We considered the option of short-term rental, but were told this would be difficult as rental properties were scarce. Without a chance to worry, friends from our sending church, St John’s Hartley Wintney in Hampshire, offered their “rental” cottage, prefaced with, “our long-term tenants just moved out, it’s tired and unfurnished, but it’s yours if you’d like, rent free.” We accepted! Following this, contacts from a link church in Guildford asked us how they could pray in the lead-up to our travels – we told them we had a cottage to live in, but no furniture! Turns out they were moving their 95-year-old father from a house in Norwich to a smaller place in Guildford a few days before we were to arrive and had plenty of furniture, including the exact number of beds needed. Delivery sorted and furniture placed, again by friends, just in time for our arrival. Whatever else we needed, it seemed to appear! The cottage provided a perfect space for us to chill out together between the busyness of link church visits and catch up with family and friends whom we had not seen for three years. After we left, most of the furniture was donated to the British Heart Foundation and Hope Hub, a local charity supporting the homeless based in Camberley and run by friends. Lovely how the Lord’s blessing continues.

We were also given the use of a friend’s cottage in gorgeous Pembrokeshire, Wales for a week’s holiday. We spent time walking the coastal trails, kayaking, paddle boarding, and watched A Midsummer Night’s Dream in the grounds of the 11th century Pembroke Castle, under the night sky. We even managed to (safely) hitchhike between two small Welsh villages when let down by public transport after a long coastal walk.

Our link church visits were a huge source of encouragement. We felt so welcome – it was wonderful to meet and connect in person, as many we had only met virtually! What a privilege to share stories of Kingdom work and our lives in Bolivia with enthusiastic and interested listeners, who included our daughters in everything, generously opening both hearts and homes to us – one home in particular became a two-weekend stay, and the loan of a car to get us to the CMS conference in Hertfordshire and collect the girls from the Peak District after our car broke down – we figured it a bit far to hitchhike! We came away from each visit with a renewed



Andrew filling the gap at a church visit as we madly try to sort out the tech

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**

sense of God's presence, provision, and purpose in our lives and his mission, spurred on for what awaited us in Bolivia. One vicar wrote following our visit to say how pleased he is to partner with us in the gospel – something we treasured in our hearts as we visited other link churches. Paul's words to the church in Philippi faithfully remind us of this key partnership:

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:4–6

To their excitement, our daughters Liliana and Anayah attended Reconnect TCK camp for teens. They were on the waiting list for months, then two places opened up two weeks before the start of the camp! A highlight for them as they connected through the shared experience of living in another culture with new friends from around the globe, in the gorgeous Peak District. Liliana also attended Satellites by Youthscape in its inaugural year, with youth from our sending church, St John's Hartley Wintney. She returned happy but exhausted after a full-on week of camping with thousands of teens during one of the hottest weeks on record!

Family fun... Andrew's mother (91) hosted a family Olympics day; including a medal ceremony and a picnic feast! Our daughter Anayah turned 13 – we celebrated over several days, in different locations: Grandma's house, later in Aunt and Uncle's decked-out VW camper van in the New Forest and then Avon Beach with her cousins and best friend. So grateful for all the family visits and days out.

The girls and I returned to Bolivia mid-August, ahead of Andrew as planned, to get back for the girls to start school while Andrew visited a few more churches and spent time with family. Unexpectedly, three weeks of separation turned into two months due to a hernia repair operation.

Prayers of thanks for:

- ▶ The safe return of Andrew
- ▶ The amazing witness of God's goodness and provision through family, friends and link churches
- ▶ Our faithful partners in the gospel across hemispheres and cultures as we journey together with Jesus to the edges.

Join us in praying for:

- ▶ Andrew's continued recovery
- ▶ Andrew and Raúl as they lead the first F4 (Financial Freedom for Families) course for parents at a local school next month
- ▶ Us as we listen to the Lord, each other and our community, seeking to "be" Jesus in the neighbourhood of our church.

Bendiciones en Cristo,

Andrew, Lisa, Liliana and Anayah x



Photos from top to bottom: Relaxing with a cuppa in the garden of our cottage; dropping the girls at Reconnect camp; Andrew receiving his Olympic medal from his mum!, Anayah's 13th birthday celebration with Grandma, friends and family on Mudeford Quay



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