

March 2026, Michael & Rani Grivas-Allison



Michael and Rani Grivas-Allison

with Alexi (3)

Serving the Lord in Belgium



Dear Friends,

The month of February has been a big one! 🏃

Read below for a snapshot of **happenings**, things we've been **learning**, some big **changes to our Home Assignment plans**, and as always, **fuel for prayer** 🙏✈️

Thank you so much for continued partnership with us as we keep living and serving in another language and culture, to see a world that knows Jesus 🌍

We would simply not be here without God working through your incredible generosity, prayers and care for us! 🙏

With love in Christ,

Michael & Rani

Hérauts Conference!



Thank you for your prayers for GBU's annual conference on evangelism, Hérauts!

This year **we ended up co-ordinating volunteers and logistics on the day**. Unlike many uni ministry conferences in Australia, Hérauts is not run by students, so this looked like us liaising with around 60 volunteers from across multiple different churches and cities in Belgium, as well as a team from the UK who came to help out especially. Not only was this **a positive stretch for our French** (including expanding the minutiae of our conference vocabulary to include random words like 'lanyard', 'timeslot', and 'chair trolley'!) But it also **clarified some cultural dynamics** for us, notably that Belgium has quite a last-minute culture, but that things come together because of strong relationships and people being willing to be flexible and make things work.

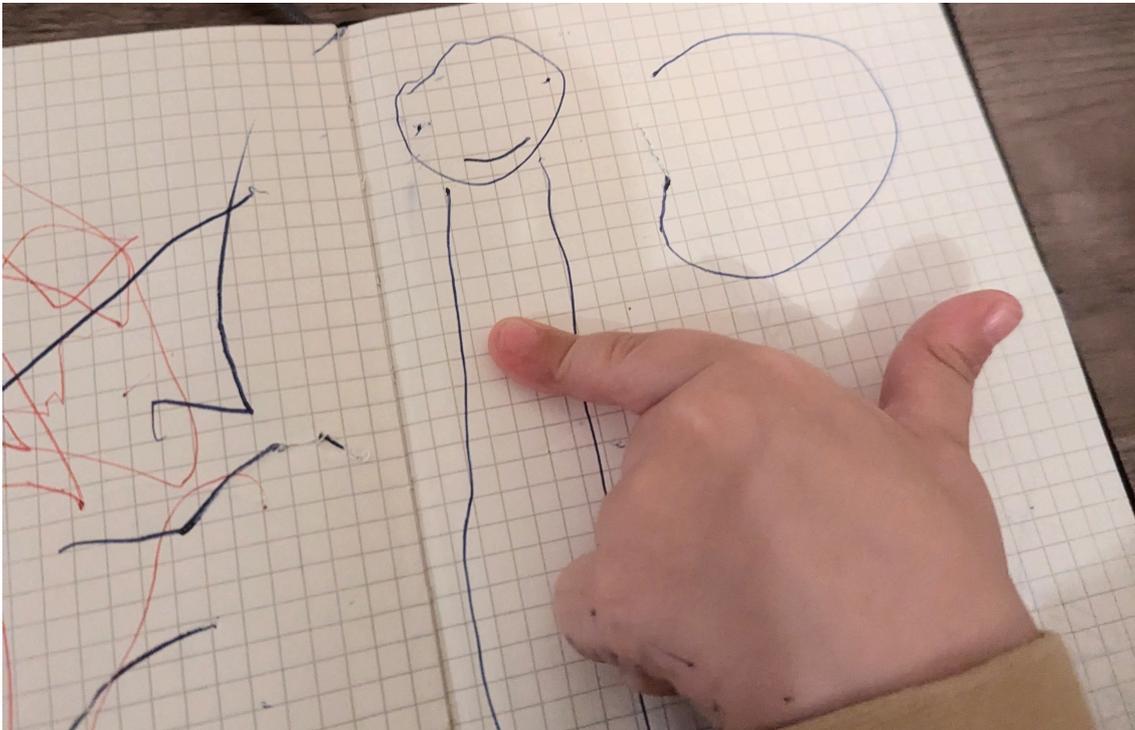
Please pray particularly for the many students who came to Hérauts who are not currently connected to the GBU (more than half). Ask that God might lead them to a longer-term connection with GBU, and raise up more staff and resources to support Christian university students in every city in French-speaking Belgium.

A car !



Thanks to a generous loan from **CMS**, we have been able to buy a car (**the red one**)! In classic Belgian style, it has been sitting in the street, un-driven, as we work out an administrative detail with the insurance company. **Pray that this would be resolved soon, and thank God for this great provision** which will significantly increase our capacity for doing life here. We're looking forward in particular to a 15 (rather than 50) minute commute to church!

A baby!



As pictured above by Alexi, we are very thankful to God to be expecting a second baby in early October. Already, this happy news has upended our lives a little, with Rani off work for several weeks with some fairly debilitating morning sickness, and in consultation with GBU and CMS, the delay of our Home Assignment until December '26 - April '27.

While we were greatly looking forward to seeing many of you very soon, we hope that **a later Home Assignment** will be administratively less risky (with visas, passports etc.), help us put down deeper roots here as we go through the Belgian 'system' and share this significant life event with people, and enable a more settled pregnancy and birth (we had Alexi mid Home-Assignment last time, so have the

benefit of hindsight!)

This also means that we now have a significant stretch of **'bonus' time in Belgium**, for which we would love your prayers. We would particularly love this time to yield concrete plans for moving to a different city as GBU staff, as well as some good ministry opportunities in Brussels. **Please pray that the Lord would wisely fill this time, and for our continued patience and trust as we flex with these changes.**

Still learning !

While we have stopped French classes, we have enrolled in another course at the Institut Biblique de Bruxelles, on **the History of Protestantism in Belgium**. This is quite a precious opportunity as there is not a lot of collated written history on this subject and we are increasingly aware how 'present' the past is in many aspects of life in Europe. **Please pray for insight and encouragement as we learn more of God's work in this country.**



***Pictured above:** A walking tour of Brussels for the first lesson, pictured with a statue of Belgian singer Jaques Brel (no connection to Protestantism that we are aware of!)*

Upcoming dates...

- 6-7 March - **CMS Pastoral visit**
 - 29 March - **Michael doing another 'sermonette' at church**
 - Week of 30 March - **Rani speaking across GBU groups x 3** ('Why doesn't God do something about injustice?')
 - Week of 13 April - **Michael speaking across GBU groups x 3** ('Meet Injustice').
 - April 8 - **Alexi turns 4**
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Please thank God...

- **For the success of Hérauts** in gathering many students around God's Word.
 - **For His generosity** in providing us with a car, and the gift of new life!
 - **For His wise and trustworthy timing** in all things.
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Please ask God...

- **For perseverance and wisdom** for everyone while Rani is out of action with morning sickness.
- **For safety** as we learn to drive on the other side of the road and with different rules.
- **That God would graciously bear much fruit** in our character, lives and ministry as we extend our first term in Belgium to the beginning of December.

“The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”

Lamentations 3:25-26

From Michael and Rani

Say 'hello' or let us know you've prayed for us!

Project Galloway

At the beginning of 2025, CMS purchased a block of 11 units on Galloway St in North Parramatta, to be used for missionary housing. The first missionaries on Home Assignment have now moved in. We are excited that they will be able to live in community while on Home Assignment and share the joys and challenges of being away from location. Will you prayerfully consider giving to this \$8 million project? To find out more or to make a donation, please go [here](#).

PROJECT GALLOWAY

Caring for missionaries during home assignment

Give today >



Financial Partnership

We can't serve in Belgium without the generosity of God's people.

If you'd like to give through financial support, please head to our [CMS giving page](#).

If you would prefer to give using a BSB and account number, please email CMS and they will send you the relevant details.

We're so thankful for your partnership with us to see a world that knows Jesus!

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for a world that knows Jesus. We aim to do this by: reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equipping Christian leaders for church and society, and engaging churches in cross-cultural mission.

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