

June 2025, Michael & Rani Grivas-Allison



Michael and Rani Grivas-Allison

with Alexi (3)

Serving the Lord in Belgium



Dear Friends,

As we shared in our previous newsletter, **the month of June in Belgium is a mad end-of-year rush** before the long Summer holidays. 🏃☀️

We're very thankful for your prayers for us since we last wrote. God has been graciously sustaining us, and **as you will see from the stories below, he has certainly been listening and at work.** 🙏

Looking ahead to the next few weeks before things slow down, there are several specific things for which we'd greatly value your partnership in prayer (as well as the ongoing prayer-needs language and culture - please don't stop praying for those!). As always, we look forward to reporting back on how God works through our asking together.

With many thanks for your partnership and warmly in Christ,

'End-of-year' happenings...



This month we joined a GBU staff meeting and had a great discussion with Alex and Sara about the DNA and vision of the GBU. Praise God for the stunningly clear Gospel focus of this ministry and **please pray for good understanding** as we peel back the layers of how and why the ministry is different to our experience of uni ministry in Sydney.

Rani got to do an extended interview at a church women's brunch. This involved 20 minutes of speaking time, followed by questions. Praise God for the warm trust and welcome shown to Rani by the women, and for some good cross-cultural insight from people's reactions and what they asked about afterwards. Please pray too for **God's continued growth and strengthening of us in this space** - at the moment, these kinds of opportunities involve a humbling amount of preparation and guts!





The GBU hosted its end-of-year picnic for students and supporters. The highlight was hearing an interview with **Raphaël**, a first year who picked up a GBU flyer off the ground, decided to come to the Monday evening meeting, was warmly welcomed, started reading the Bible with a staff member...and recently became a Christian! **Praise God! And please pray for this new brother in Christ as he continues to follow Jesus.**

In God's amazing providence, this month we also discovered that **Alexi's best friend at school has recently moved here from Malta**...where his family were connected with **CMS missionaries Chris and Kirsty Galea** through their ministry to Catholics (!). We've since had a few playdates, and Rani and Michaela have already had some great chats about following Jesus. Pray these might continue and bear fruit over the Summer!



Finally, our family reached new heights of integration when **Alexi performed in his end-of-year school spectacle as a Smurf** (did you know they are from Belgium?), in front of a very large Belgian flag, to a song by Stromae, Belgium's most popular rap artist. Unrelatedly, he also

received this very sweet cross stitch from a woman at church. It says, "Alexi - his beloved sheep".

Upcoming dates...

- **Exams** (30 June - 2 July)
 - **Alexi finishes school** for the year (4 July)
 - **Interaction Kids Camp** (Michael leading, Rani and Alexi on site, 4-10 August)
 - **Leave and family holiday** (11-23 August)
 - **La rentrée** (Alexi back to school, 24 August)
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Please thank God...

- **For the Gospel centre of the GBU** ministry and the fruit he is producing through it!
 - **For growing trust with our neighbour Isabel**, who now asks Rani to pray for her when they catch up and who has asked to make a plan to read the Bible.
 - For **giving Alexi a 'bestie'** at school and **many people who love him at church.**
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Please ask God...

- **For Gospel-filled hangouts** with Michaela, Matt and James over the Summer.
 - **To firmly establish Raphaël** in his new faith.
 - **For a fast approval of our work permit renewal** (re-submitted this month after we submitted it 'too early' a few months ago), and in due course our visas.
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From Michael and Rani

The CMS Lasting Hope Appeal is one of the ways people express their partnership in the gospel to keep missionaries like us serving on location, as well as raise up new workers for God's harvest. Will you prayerfully consider giving to support CMS missionaries as they share the gospel of lasting hope? If you would like to contribute please go to cms.org.au/nswact/lastinghope.

 **CMS**
LASTING
hope
APPEAL

Give today

Go here to give

30 JUNE DEADLINE

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

*"You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'
The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes
from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."
John 3:7-8*

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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