

# A Letter from Michelle

Mukinge Hospital, PO Box 120092, Kasempa, Zambia  
Email: michelle.proctor@sim.org Mobile and WhatsApp: +260 977719486

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown!"  
And he replied:  
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."  
(Minnie Louise Haskins)*

Dear Friends,

My home assignment is fast coming to an end and as usual it has been a whirlwind of travel. I have seen family and friends, visited the SIM UK office, spent time with supporting churches and given talks about the work at Mukinge. It has been good to catch up with so many people.

I have also been blessed with times of rest and relaxation including camping in Snowdonia (made it to the top of Mount Snowdon!), a retreat in Pembrokeshire, a visit to Northern Ireland and Donegal, holidays with my sister and time by the sea. I do love being by the sea but as Zambia is a landlocked country and a long way from the nearest coast it's not something I get to do very often. It's been wonderful to visit so many beaches these last few months.



These times of rest and time alone have been not only relaxing and fun but have given me space to think and pray about the future and to make some decisions. As a result, and with lots of discussion with SIM UK and others, I have made the decision to leave Zambia and return to the UK. It has not been an easy process or decision, but it is time. I will not be leaving SIM and will continue working with them as a missionary, most likely in the area of member care, what this will look like is yet to be decided.

To be honest my emotions are all over the place at the moment. I am of course sad to be leaving Zambia, Mukinge has been my home for the best part of 30 years, and

To find out more about SIM visit <https://sim.co.uk/>

# *A Letter from Michelle*

Mukinge Hospital, PO Box 120092, Kasempa, Zambia  
Email: [michelle.proctor@sim.org](mailto:michelle.proctor@sim.org) Mobile and WhatsApp: +260 977719486

it will not be easy to say goodbye. At the same time, I am excited for the future but also a little fearful at the thought of such a big change both in where I live and what I will be doing.

I love the words of the poem "God knows" by Minnie Louise Haskins quoted above. In all the uncertainty of the past few months, God has gently reminded me that I do not make this change alone but that he is with me just as he has been throughout the last 30 years.

My immediate plans are that I will return to Zambia as planned on 21<sup>st</sup> September and will be there for 6 weeks. During this time, I will be pack up my home, sort out practicalities like finding a home for my cats, selling my car and handing over responsibilities to other people. There will of course be lots of goodbyes both at Mukinge and with friends in other parts of Zambia. I will return to England on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, just in time for a British winter, something I have not experienced in a while.

I hope to be in touch again soon with more details of what next.

With love

Michelle