

# window

the newsletter of www.worldshare.org.uk •

issue 2019/1





## Where did 2018 go?

As we enter 2019 it is good to reflect on the past year. Do you remember the long hot and dry summer? To me, it seems a long time ago!

We were involved, through our ministry partners, in responding to a series of natural disasters; Rohingya refugees in Myanmar, communities displaced by the eruption of Volcan de Fuego in Guatemala, flood relief in Laos, Myanmar and Kerala and more recently the tsunami in Indonesia.

But our role and that of our ministry partners, isn't one of a humanitarian aid agency. That's certainly part of what we do, but our focus is also working with the local church to reach out to those who've never heard the gospel message.

As we highlight in our mission statement, "In the world's neediest places, we partner with local Christians in their vision to bring about social and spiritual transformation"; it isn't one or the other but both together, sometimes held in tension.

As James reminds in chapter 2: You can't explain to a hungry homeless person about the good news of Jesus Christ, without demonstrating some practical care first through providing shelter and food.

Thank you for your partnership in allowing us to do just that.

2018 has also been a significant year financially as we've been able to send out the largest amount of support to our ministry partners for 5 years. That, of course, isn't the office's achievement but rather because of your partnership in the gospel.

You, our supporters and donors, have generously responded to the needs of the least-reached, least-resourced communities served by our ministry partners. Thank you so much for your partnership.

Alan Butler, Chief Executive

14What good is it, my
brothers and sisters, if someone
claims to have faith but has no
deeds? Can such faith save them?
15Suppose a brother or a sister is
without clothes and daily food.
16If one of you says to them,
"Go in peace; keep warm and
well fed," but does nothing about
their physical needs, what good
is it? 17In the same way, faith by
itself, if it is not accompanied
by action, is dead.

James 2:v14-17

# Grace School, Siyabuswa, South Africa

In our centre pages this month, we've focussed on the reactions and reflections of the pupils from Bury School who visited Grace School as part of their trip to South Africa last summer.

So, if you don't know much about Grace School, here's a quick snapshot:

Grace Christian Private School is part of the ministry of Hope for Africa Missions, set up in 2003 by Bishop Hendrick Mahlangu and Muriel Ntuli (Headmistress) along with other South African Christians. The initial vision of the school was to help children orphaned by HIV/AIDS by giving them the hope of a brighter future. The alternative was to have established an orphanage, but, in Hendrick's words, "...the children would have had nothing to do all day except to run around and get up to mischief". Also, an orphanage incurs maintenance costs whereas a school can become selfsustaining through a healthy balance of supported children as well as feepaying pupils.

From the beginning, the school has had a strong Christian ethos and is known for its academic excellence, good moral standards and support of disadvantaged learners.

It has a high standard of education and is regarded well in the local community.

To find out more about Grace School and Hope for Africa Missions visit: www.worldshare.org.uk/

sub-saharan-africa

Some children, who mainly board, come from over 100 km away! In the most recent Government inspection (Equivalent to Ofsted) back in 2017, the school gained the highest rating a Quintile 9. Small class sizes and very committed staff help to achieve this high standard. With 575 pupils enrolled in 2018, WorldShare supporters sponsor over 30 of these.



As the School grows there is always the need to improve the facilities. In 2018 a new boy's hostel was completed with a new office building also currently under construction. This will allow the existing office to be converted into an extension of the girl's hostel. Another recent development is that of sporting facilities – a multipurpose sports court for tennis, volley ball and netball. An exciting development for 2019 is a programme to expand the teaching of Information Communications Technology (ICT), making the teaching available to a wider range of pupils and enlarging the existing facilities.



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## WorldShare Week Sunday 17th-Saturday 23rd March 2019

Last year, in our 75th year, we launched WorldShare week, this year we want to make it even bigger!

WorldShare Week is an opportunity to put aside a week in the calendar to intentionally pray for our work and to share news about our ministry partners with others as well as your own passion for being a supporter. It is also an opportunity to raise some funds to help support the wider work of World Share.

Here are some ideas of how you can get involved:



# Evangelical Mission to Assist Fisherman, Brazil

Brazil is a country of diversity. The fifth largest country in the World, it is home to 208 million people; a country of megacities, wealth and growth, but also one of great poverty.

Along the Amazonian basin, there are many communities that are accessible only via water. This means the people there are often isolated and living without access to healthcare or education for their children. Within these unreached areas, over 10,000 communities have had no Gospel witness and, for over 30 years, it has been to these very people that the Evangelical Mission to Assist Fishermen (EMAF) has been ministering.

Led by Marcio Garcia, EMAF ministers through a number of means including boat clinics that take medical care to isolated communities. Last year this helped nearly 4,000 people! There are also 72 community development projects in operation, helping communities to access needs such as fresh, clean water.

Doing ministry work in the Amazon is beyond challenging. Travelling on rivers presents many obstacles that risk the lives of our missionaries. We still see God caring and protecting His children.

To find out how you could sponsor a child at EMAF visit:

www.worldshare.org.uk/childaid-brazil

There have been difficult times throughout the year, but the Lord has always come to our aid. We give Him glory for the Boat Clinic and are thankful for what we have been able to accomplish through Him so far.

Through our Child Aid scheme, WorldShare has been particularly involved with the EMAF ministry to children. These children are given education, food, medical and dental care - the tools which will help them escape the cycle of poverty. Most importantly, the children are given the chance to hear about the love of God!



Social, economic and political instability in Brazil in 2018 has meant that their funding has been impacted.

Consequently, they've had to adjust and rebalance their budgets. Despite this, by the grace of God, they have still managed to increase their outreach.

EMAF has 162 full time missionaries and 14 missionary bases (7 along the Brazilian coast and 7 more in the Amazon Window), 31 leadership training centres, 72 community development projects, a force of 1,200 volunteers, and 46 boats operating on a daily basis.

# Bury CE High School's South African Adventure

Bury CE High School is a Church of England High School that lives out its Christian ethos, creating better communities and transforming lives for good. A strong link has been developed with the support of WorldShare. In July 2018, 4 members of teaching staff and 21 pupils from Bury School embarked upon a once-in-a-lifetime expedition to South Africa with the primary focus of spending time with their partner school, Grace Christian School in Siyabuswa. As part of the expedition, pupils went on a two-day safari in Kruger National Park as well as also completing The Giants Cup trail through the southern Drakensburg mountains. Although the trek and the safari were amazing experiences, the five days spent with Bishop Hendrick and Grace School made the most impact on the hearts and minds of the Bury School pupils and staff, and on Grace's staff and learners too.

There were a myriad of social encounters, learning experiences and encouragements of faith that are too numerous to be covered in a short article, but there are definitely some moments that really do stand out. The greeting the pupils and staff received from arace was both incredibly warm and also very humbling. It clearly showed the importance of the relationship between the schools. Also, during the morning worship, the cultural difference in praise was very noticeable to the pupils - the use of song within their worship was



I met so many lovely people. The memories I have from the school will last a lifetime. I will never forget the Grade 7 class who welcomed me with open arms, being able to provide them with stationary and sports equipment was amazing as something so little gave so much joy.

Harriett



simply beautiful and incredibly uplifting. The way that Christ conviction of their faith, was so Falls.

Following the welcome to the school, the pupils from Bury School with the learners and teachers ways.



One group of pupils led lessons for Grade 5 pupils with the support of their teachers. Another group worked effectively as 'teaching assistants' for pupils in Grade I and Grade Z and a further group organised sports and games activities for each class. Other pupils followed lessons with older pupils and learnt a lot about the South African curriculum whilst also being able to share their experiences of the English education system. Some of the pupils also had the privilege of visiting the church attached to Grace School for Sunday worship. All Bury School pupils also led worship in the mornings for the Grace School pupils which emphasised how the relationship of our common Christian faith binds the schools together. Each evening, when reflecting on the day's experiences. the pupils and staff were full of praise about the Lord's blessing.

In addition to sharing understanding about each other's learning, curriculum and education, the most powerful aspect of the visit was the enduring friendships that began to develop between both sets of pupils. At break times, during lunch and after school, both sets of pupils mixed with each other socially and learned incredible amounts about each other's cultural background. They realised that, although thousands of miles



separated them, they still have lots of fundamental similarities, so much so in fact that many shared contact details with each other and remain in touch now.

As the pupils were leaving, the flood of tears (of both sets of pupils and staff) really did show how powerfully the Holy Spirit had touched all on the trip. Since the return of pupils back home, many of the pupils have reflected on their experiences and are seeking to engage with supporting Grace further. Pupils and staff at Bury School are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have visited Grace that has been facilitated by WorldShare — it really was a blessing to be able to visit.

Rev Craig Watson and Mr Phil Guest

When we arrived all the children were lined up singing for us with all their hearts and it was so touching and overwhelming that I could feel myself starting to cry.

Spending time with the children made me realise how lucky I am to have the lifestyle and opportunities available to me, that I have today.

Antonia

# Duars Rural Development Project



In the shadows of the Himalayan mountains, Indian tea plantation workers toil on very low wages, barely able to feed their families.

Now some of the tea plantations have closed down because of low tea prices and the local economy has suffered seriously. Many families in distress are hungry for a message of eternal hope.

Nicholas Narjinary, Director, and the staff of the Duars Rural Development Project, serve tribal people who live and work in the tea plantations in the foothills of the Himalayas. The ministry has multiplied rapidly, providing help and hope in the name of Jesus to people of all beliefs.

The ministry serves these communities through a range of activities that include:

- Education and care for vulnerable children.
- Village outreach ministry now serving over 5,000 people in 150 villages.
- Thriving community centres which become beacons of hope for people living on the edge of despair. They provide mother and child care, adult literacy classes, economic assistance and other social development activities.
- Relief for displaced people.

The children attend Cornerstone School where they have access to quality

where they have acces

education. This project has been very successful with many children from very poor backgrounds now being helped.

We are very happy that older children have gone on to study in colleges and are doing very well. A young woman that was sponsored, Sujata Munda, passed her medical entrance examination this year! Her parents are very poor as both are tea plantation labourers. We trust God will provide her needs to study medicine. Please continue to pray for Sujata as she moves to the city.

#### We have children in need of sponsors;

please contact Clare Hill if you are able to support a child, call 01302 775209 or email clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk



Sweety's father is a tea plantation labourer and he doesn't earn enough to pay for her education or daily needs. Sweety and many other children like her, are in need of sponsorship to help provide them with education and proper care.

#### **PLEASE PRAY**

- Pray for the physical health of these children.
- For peace and stability in their communities.
- Good success in their studies and exams
- Encouragement and help from family members.
- And finally, a responsive heart to the Good News of Jesus.

### News...

#### **Fond Farewells**

In the autumn we said a fond farewell to Adam Lynch who, very much being the public face of WorldShare, left us after just over a year's committed work spreading the word in churches and at exhibitions.

We want to thank Adam for his dedication, enthusiasm and sense of humour and wish him well as he goes to work with his local community in the Doncaster area.

In early November, we also said a fond farewell to Corin Goodman who left us after nearly 2½ years of dedicated service to WorldShare developing and improving our print and digital communications.



We want to thank Corin for her hard work and wish her well as she develops her freelance business. Congratulations are also due to Corin and her husband Tom as they are expecting baby Goodman in June.

#### Hellos

We have also welcomed Nick Franks who has joined the team recently. Nick will be working with us to further develop our print and digital communications.

Nick has worked with Christian charities previously and has a particular interest in photography and video productions. Welcome on board!



#### Other News

We are pleased to report that Bury Church of England School have been made a "International Cross of Nails School" ICON, in recognition of the work it does to; heal the wounds of history, learning to live with difference and building a culture of peace. Congratulations!

We will be exhibiting at Spring Harvest (week 1) 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April come & see us!

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## Thank you for your support . . .

Thank you for your generous support towards our Moldovan Single Mothers appeal, which raised nearly £2,500.

These gifts are helping our ministry partner to make a difference for these mothers and their children, restoring hope in their lives.

Thank you for your generous support towards our Indonesian Tsunami appeal, which raised over £14,000.

These gifts are helping our ministry partner to reach out to those communities made homeless by the tsunami, with practical help, but also in sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generous support of Freedom Gifts, which raised over £8,400.

These gifts are ranging from "bibles", "a pair of chickens" or a "mobile medical consultation" through to "a clean water system" for a village in Indonesia. If you haven't got around to buying your Freedom Gifts yet, have a look, browse or purchase on-line at www.worldshare.org.uk/freedomgifts







## Pray with Us..

Did you know we have a monthly prayer calendar with daily prayers for WorldShare's partner ministries around the world?

You can download the calendar and sign up to receive it monthly at www.worldshare.org.uk/pray



## Leave a gift in your will

After you've provided for your loved ones, your gift can give vital support to our partner ministries in their efforts to make a lasting change among their communities.

Legacies can make a huge difference and allows you to do something really significant for a cause you believe in.

Your gift, whatever the size, can make an incredible difference to how we support our ministry partners.

For more information contact jenny.hunt@worldshare.org.uk or call 01302 775209



#### WorldShare

To give to WorldShare, please fill out this form and return to us, using the enclosed Freepost envelope or post to WorldShare, Armstrong House, First Avenue, Doncaster DN9 3GA.

| Grace School   | £                             | Othe                          | rs (please specify)                  | £                                 |
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| Evangelical Mission<br>to Fisherman  | £                             |                               |                                      |                                   |
| Duars Rural<br>Development   | £                             |                               |                                      |                                   |
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