

NEWSLETTER

September 2003

Jeremiah 6:16a *"This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls."*

From the Director

Dear Friends,

Graham May, our aid administrator, is currently in East Timor with his wife Coral to see first hand the effects of the three shipping containers we have sent there to Youth With A Mission.

They planned their visit to coincide with the arrival of our last container which contained supplies for Soraya Nepomuceno to set up an orphanage there. From the emails we are receiving from Graham and Coral, they are pretty excited! They have been travelling long distances over very rough roads, assessing the needs so that they can report back to us where we can next be most effective.

They have promised to bring back heaps of photos so hopefully we can show them at our AGM meeting on September 20 when Graham shares with us.

I am amazed at the windows of opportunity that God is giving us in Mission World Aid. We have excellent overseas partners which is essential if the aid is to be honourably and wisely distributed. Our Board carefully deliberates over the key decisions that need to be made, and no container of aid is ever packed and sent without the full consent of all the Board members. Anthony Moore, our Chairman, carries a great deal of responsibility and he has wisely guided us through some difficult decisions over the years. He and Christie lived in Nigeria for four years so they understand first hand the logistical difficulties of third world countries.

When Graham left for East Timor we were delighted to be able to give him \$1000 from Rosalie Lewis's huge garage sale, which you will read about in this edition. The money will be given to ministries that have an urgent financial need. Isn't it exciting that all the bric-a-brac and furniture we didn't need here has been turned into finance to bless the poor overseas? And people here got such bargains that they are asking when our next garage sale will be. Rosalie is considering running four garage sales a year.

What this means is that from the supplies that come into the Mission Shed, some are selected to go overseas, some are sold in the Mission Shop and the rest set aside for the garage sales. We also recently had an opportunity to give household items to refugees living here in Adelaide, and warm clothing requested by an Aboriginal community in the north of the State.

Israel Container

The Lord granted us a beautiful sunny day on Saturday 19 July when we packed the big 40ft container for Israel. All the boxes had to be put out over a wide area of ground so they could be sorted so I don't know what we would have done had it rained. We finished by asking those with Jewish ancestry to join me on top of the container when we poured out the precious bottle of oil we had been keeping for this purpose. It was a profound prophetic act to see the release of the Joseph anointing in Australia, as I have shared in previous newsletters.

Barb Morgan has produced a great video depicting the preparing and packing of the container, including us pouring out the oil and praying. Please contact the office if you would like to borrow it.

I do hope many of you can make the AGM meeting on 20 September a priority in your diary. It is such an encouragement to the team when people are able to show their support. For anyone interested who may not have seen our new aid premises we could arrange a visit after the meeting. It is five minutes by car from House of Prayer.

Bless you all as we labour together under the mighty hand of God.

Jenny Hagger

Shop Profiles

What a great group of people we have to help in the shop, everyone contributing in their own way.

Linda and Tina sort stock, arranging the clothes to look their best. Desi's enthusiasm - Bev's efficiency – Anthea takes home shoes to polish and clothes to mend. David does banking and Pris the vacuuming. Joan J and Trish keep all the cards stocked and priced. Barb and Mal are the shed "couriers". Barb also does washing and Mal mends tools ready for sale. Joan S and Viv look after aesthetics, while Patty keeps up the supply of printed price tags. Heather does washing and helps with banking. Suzanne is the faithful standby, often filling in when I can't come. Simone and Dave (university students) give a young face to our shop. How many young people do you know who would give up every Saturday for voluntary work?

We also have ladies who knit for us from Hallett Cove, Reynella, and Sandilands who support us by selling eggs, knitting and donating clothing.

It is a privilege and great fun to belong in such a team. If you'd like to join us give me a call - **Rosalie Lewis (Co-ordinator) on (08) 8388 8099.**

Recent Container Packing

East Timor

The 40ft shipping container for Soraya Nepomuceno's orphanage and pre-school centre was packed on 28 June 2003. Graham May worked closely with Soraya in deciding what to send and the Mission Shed people met with her during her visit to Adelaide. It was proposed initially to send a 20ft container but with the large amount of material, enquiries were made about a 40ft container.

The morning of the packing day was fine but the rain set in after lunch and all the goods had to be dried as they were taken into the container and packed! Extra desks and chairs were included for another school. There were many generous donations of materials for the orphanage and the pre-school centre. The team made eight bunk beds and we were given extra second hand ones. We purchased a fax/copier/printer/scanner for Soraya, among other items.

Coral and Graham May have travelled to East Timor to be on hand when the container arrives and is unpacked. Graham is taking a video to record the events. Soraya has made a car available for them to use. She asked them to bring some coffee and Tim Tams!

Israel

This was perhaps the most challenging container we have ever sent! It involved very detailed prior documentation – over 70 pages weighing 1.5kg – itemizing each box and the goods being sent. These all had to be approved by Israel before packing. To Graham must go a huge vote of thanks for all the extra effort he put into preparing the documentation and to the shed team

in assembling all the goods to be sent, arranging the packing of the boxes, and labelling of their contents. During the process, Graham recalled that his grandmother was Jewish so the container suddenly took on a personal significance.

Daniel Moore, Christie and Anthony's son, developed a computer program to assist Graham in entering the data for documentation which was a big help – thank you Daniel.

A late minute crisis put in doubt whether the container would go at all but we decided to press ahead in faith and the Lord intervened. It was duly packed and sent out on time. The packing occurred on 19 July and many people attended to assist. The 576 boxes were stacked up in order outside and their numbers checked off prior to packing, each box being sorted into a special category. Praise God it was a sunny winter's day. The boxes contained medicines, food, toys, linen, educational supplies, clothes and shoes. We also included 32 hospital beds and new mattresses. The container included \$1000 worth of medicines bought from OPAL.

After the last box had been placed in the container, Jenny had all the helpers who were of Jewish descent – six people, stand with her on top of the container. They poured out a bottle of oil made up of olive oil from Australia mixed with olive oil from Egypt where Joseph's wife was born. They prayed for the release of the Joseph anointing in Australia.

Previous Containers

Solomon Islands

The 40ft container to the Solomon Islands was packed on 5 March and included 58 tents for the many homeless people driven from their homes by the violence on the islands. On 29 June, prior to the present Australian peace keeping force being sent to the Solomon Islands, Pastor Matthias Eddie updated us on the container relief. He was very excited and blessed to receive the container.

“Surprised, beyond surprise! God's provision. The Lord's doing. The pastors were amazed and had never seen anything like it before. The distribution is progressing well. We made distributions to 200 families in June. Supplies included – clothes, sheets, blankets, kitchenware, tents, rice, noodles, and medications. The recipients reacted with unspeakable joy for the supplies, as it is the first of its kind they saw and benefited. Women, children and men of all ages benefited from the relief.

A team of seven pastors and church leaders volunteered to do the sorting and distribution of the relief. They left their families in the villages and stayed with us in Honiara. They served both during the day and night to speed up the distribution. These dedicated servants are members of our Christian Outreach Ministries (COM). Thank God for their dedication.

A 3-ton truck was used for distribution work in Honiara and outside the town. This is also a free service from a Christian brother. Thank God for this provision.

God provided a 20ft container free of charge to store the supplies after clearance from the 40ft container. It is safe. Thank you Jesus.”

Matthias Eddie also reported that more than 2000 people were homeless and hiding in the mountains and bushes. We hope and pray that the peace keeping force will have changed their circumstances for the better. He asked for prayer for the following needs:

- Complete return of peace and normality in the Solomon Islands.
- God's intervention on warring parties on Guadalcanal against satanic influence.
- Protection, encouragement, comfort, and healing for pastors, families, Christians, and church leaders who are homeless hiding up in the mountains.
- Relief team for covering, strength, good health, wisdom etc.
- Protection and covering for the container.

- Transport and funds for transport costs for further distributions to rural areas.

Fiji

From the Ministry of Regional Development we received information that the aid we sent was about to be distributed to cyclone victims in the north and eastern parts of the country.

“We thank you so much for thinking about us in times of great need and when our country was in a real state of despair.”

Future Containers

Philippines

This 40ft container is planned to be packed on **27 September**. Our past containers to the Philippines included much hospital and medical equipment and supplies and were very greatly appreciated. Lucy Longden of the Cebu Missionary Foundation has sent a list of needs including:

- Toys for 400 children
- Toiletries
- Household linen
- Filing cabinets
- Tents
- Baby equipment
- Baby milk formula

We will also be including hospital beds. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital has made sixty mattresses available to us.

Gabon – Africa

Jenny met a Christian parliamentarian from Gabon while in Israel in 2002. This small African nation straddles the equator between Cameroon and the Congo and is among the poorest in the world. Mission World Aid has committed to send a 20ft container on **25 October**. The request includes roofing iron to provide shelter. We are seeking donations from various firms.

India

Many of you know Pastor Paul Pillai of India Inland Mission, whom we support with finance from time to time. The Bible College has 680 students training for full time ministry but attacks on Christian workers have increased. Last March, 260 students graduated and are now in ministry. The children’s home has 1500 children. They need prayer and financial support. (Mission World Aid is supporting them through The Mission Shop.)

He has been involved with a group of Christians from Iraq. Pastor Pillai writes:

“A team of Christians from Iraq were with us for about one month to encourage us to send teams to Iraq to use the open doors there. The Islamic fundamentalists are planning to take over the country. God’s people must pray much that the Allied Forces will stay in the land till a free society will be established with democratic government. We believe that this is God’s plan in Iraq and the body of Christ should do our best to reach Iraq for Christ at this time. We are sending a team of seven people to Baghdad to explore the possibilities. We are praying for 1000 missionaries to go to Iraq.

Even though things are a little bit different from Afghanistan we are convinced that this land from where Abraham was called by God to worship the true God will come to know Christ. This land is an inheritance of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. We trust that thousands of Bibles will be given there in the coming few months. Extensive plans are in the making. The evangelical Christians left in Iraq are willing to distribute 200,000 Bibles before next Christmas.

One million salvation tracts are to be printed and distributed there. Young people are eager to take God's Word in thousands in schools and colleges.

Definitely Iraq and Afghanistan are two Islamic fundamentalist countries wide open for the gospel today."

If you would like to send a love offering to India Inland Mission send it to us marked for this purpose and we will send it on.

Appeal for a Doctor

Mission World Aid has received an email from Bishop Evans Chibesakunda of Grace Ministries in Zambia asking if a retired doctor would be willing to come and work in their medical clinic in Lusaka. They are looking for a doctor who would be self sponsored or sponsored by a group for up to a year. Work permit, entry papers etc. would be arranged by Grace Ministries. Bishop Chibesakunda emphasised that the need is very urgent so if you know of anyone who might be interested please pass this request on to them. Enquiries should be directed to Jenny Hagger.

Other News

Adelaide Hills Grant

We were unsuccessful in our application for a \$1000 grant from the Adelaide Hills Council to assist us to send the container to East Timor. Although it had been indicated that the application would be looked at favourably, the council decided it did not fall within the guidelines. We understand that this is because the project was assisting an overseas community, not the local community, even though many people from the council area were involved.

Similarly we have found that most of the philanthropic organisations in Australia which give money for worthwhile projects are parochially focused almost solely on Australia rather than helping the less well off overseas.

Commonwealth Volunteer Small Equipment Grants

Not to be deterred by the rejection by the Adelaide Hills Council, we have subsequently applied to the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services for a grant under the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants scheme.

We submitted two applications, one for Mission World Aid and the other for the House of Prayer. We sought the funds to buy for Mission World Aid a small forklift, a pallet truck, and three hand trolleys. For House of Prayer we applied for a computer and printer.

We included in the applications letters from Alexander Downer, the Local Member and Minister for Foreign Affairs, supporting our applications. Mr Downer has visited our premises and is familiar with our work. He wrote in part: *"From my direct observation of their activities and my knowledge of the issues surrounding overseas aid, I strongly commend this application for your consideration."*

Please join us in prayer for this financial assistance.

Andrew Lothian

Editor

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NOTICES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of House of Prayer For All Nations—Adelaide and Mission World Aid will be held on **Saturday 20 September at 2pm** in the prayer room at House of Prayer, **54 Strathalbyn Road, Aldgate**.

We would love to see you there!!

THE BAKERS ARE COMING!

Rolland and Heidi Baker from Iris Ministries in Mozambique will be in Adelaide 21-25 January 2004 for the **Immeasurably More Conference** at **Morphett Vale Baptist Church**. They are powerfully anointed speakers. Ring the church on **8381 3788** for brochures or email: immeasurablymore@mvbc.com.au.

Mission World Aid was blessed to send Iris Ministries a container of aid three years ago for their orphanage.

STOP PRESS!!!

The Israel container has arrived at the Joseph Storehouse and been unpacked. We received a fax excitedly reporting what a blessing the shipment is to them.

Praise the Lord!

BOOLEREEOO CENTRE

Over the years we have had tremendous support from the people at Booleroo Centre, and they have supplied us with a lot of needy items and finance. On July 30th Trevor and Gweneth McCallum arrived at the shed with a packed ute and trailer containing hospital beds and a humidi crib from Booleroo Centre District Hospital, as well as boxes of much needed supplies. They even brought goodies for our garage sale!

So thanks Gweneth and Trevor, Janice and Bob Moulton and all the Booleroo Centre folk! God bless you!