

Mission World Aid

Mission World Aid is the mercy ministry of Australian House of Prayer for All Nations Inc.

NEWSLETTER

April 2009 Edition



MWA is a member of the Australian Council for International Development

Dear Friends,

One of my favourite Bible translations is The New Testament in Modern English by J B Phillips, which was given to me many years ago by my great uncle on the occasion of my marriage.

Recently I was reading the letter to the Christians at Philippi (otherwise known as Philippians) and came across these words in chapter 3:18.

"Your generosity is like a lovely fragrance, a sacrifice that pleases the very heart of God. My God will supply all that you need from his glorious resources in Christ Jesus. And may glory be to our God and our Father for ever and ever, amen!"

Those of you who send finance for the work of Mission World Aid know the wonderful work Ruth Magarey voluntarily does as our Financial Administrator. This is a very responsible position and Ruth cheerfully spends long hours at her desk. Each year our audited reports are submitted to the Australian Council for International Development as part of our responsibility as members.

One of Ruth's tasks is to email the leadership each week outlining our current financial position. The question is always "Has enough finance come in to send the containers that are lined up at the Mission Shed waiting to go?"

As Gael Harrison explains in her report to you, the current exchange rate has increased the cost of buying and sending our containers. There have even been times when we have wondered if we should close the work down because of the financial struggle, but to us this would be heartbreaking. We know that God's heart is for the poor.

However, there are very few people who give to Mission World Aid on a regular basis.

Sometimes an unexpected cheque for a generous amount will arrive and there are tears of relief and thanksgiving. However, we are never able to set a

budget because from month to month we do not know our income and this increases the pressure that we face.

Some of the people who give regularly have themselves served as missionaries or visited the third world countries to which we send. They have seen first hand the depth of poverty and this is possibly a motivating influence in their generosity.

To those of you who are regular givers, I want to say how much your donations strengthen us. You have tapped into God's 'glorious resources in Christ Jesus' to help the poorest of the poor.

Many of you are generous in sending items to us, but I need to say that without the sacrificial financial giving of others your items would never reach their destination.

Please could you seriously consider contacting Ruth at our office and nominating a monthly amount, however large or small, to assist the work. I ask not for ourselves, but on behalf of those so bound by poverty and disease that they have no voice to speak.

Tribute

We pay tribute to our friend and colleague Bev Armson who died in Brisbane on December 25 after a long illness. Bev was the Chairperson of the Yeshua Network International and her aim was to always "help us to help others". She was a wonderful networker among aid organizations and over the years she helped us in sourcing supplies and connecting us with suitable agents. She was known by missions around the world as someone who quietly, but with determination, got the job done. Gael and I will miss her cheerful and encouraging phone calls, but we rejoice that she is now with her Lord for all eternity.

In Christ's love,

Jenny Hagger AM
Director

Dear Friends,

We have surely entered into a new season! Last year we were driven by the volume of aid to new heights of productivity, in the same way a farmer is driven by his harvest. The Lord, through your faithful giving, enabled us to send out 13 containers, re-direct one, and send a crate of computers. Of course, the exchange rate was in our favour and only the Lord knew about the coming global financial crisis.

How different it all is now! The exchange rate has added up to 40% to our freight costs, as well as to the cost of containers, and thus has slowed down our operations. However, we rest in the assurance that this is His work from beginning to end and so we wait to see how He will overcome these problems for us.

Zambia

The container sent to Dianne Bostock in Kitwe arrived and was unpacked before Christmas. Dianne's daughter, Sue Wysoke, together with Sue's two daughters, helped us to pack the container. Later, Sue went to Kitwe to visit her Mum and helped unpack it. Here is her report:

"The container has made a huge difference to many very needy individuals. The hospital room is now almost complete including an ablution facility with tiled walls, toilets, hot showers and a bath, all sourced from the container. The ward is being equipped with the hospital beds and mattresses. Seven churches have been assisted and eight disability groups. Also a remote school has received desks and chairs, books and stationery. There is still a lot left to distribute."

We have nearly completed a container for Mission in Action, a new partner in Zambia and this too will take its place in the queue waiting for dispatch. It contains 16 hospital beds, 36 bales of clothing, sewing machines and computers.

Uganda

The container sent to Pastor Fred Mukasa in Uganda, which he himself helped pack, has arrived and negotiated Customs in Kampala and is now being distributed. Pastor Fred sent us this report:

"We are doing well and since the container arrived I have been busy sorting the stuff and we have started the distribution exercise. We have to go round the villages and some goods I invited the Pastors to come and pick them from the container. People are very excited to receive all the donation and I hope we shall be able to apply for another container this year since the government is now

happy to help us with the taxes. The MP is also very helpful and, unlike the first container, we never got much trouble with the customs because the MP was there to help us with the Ministry of Finance.....

The people are so happy with the shoes and clothes as we give them out and the local leaders are so thankful for all what you are doing to help our people in the community.

Please continue to pray for us as we finish the distribution exercise.

May God bless you for your generosity."

Our final container sent last year was for Bushfire Children's Home near Jinja, Uganda. It has arrived and has been delivered to the children's home which is run by Sam and Eva Kitalya. We received the following feedback:

"The container arrived last night and you should have been here to hear the shouts of joy that woke up some who were already gone to sleep in the neighbourhood. It wasn't about Bushfire family only, but the village around us that saw huge trucks snake into Bushfire ground.

Thank you for the great stuff you packed for us. The Customs officer will arrive tomorrow at Bushfire ground to assess the contents and verify it. We still battle with taxes on such items, but trust the Lord will one day see us through.

Samuel Kitalya"

This is the second one we have sent to Bushfire Children's Home and those who benefited from the first one still expressed gratitude over a year later.

We also packed a high cube container with forty hospital beds and mattresses and other hospital equipment along with an ambulance which had been donated by St John in Western Australia. It was delivered to us last year. We are waiting for sufficient funds to send the container to Frank and Michelle Heyward in Kampala, Uganda, for a hospital they are establishing there.



Volunteers get ready to push the ambulance into position.

As soon as we can send these three containers, we have plans to pack for another new contact in Uganda which particularly targets the grandmothers who raise so many AIDS orphans in remote areas.

The following are some excerpts from a letter of gratitude sent in response to receiving a container in mid 2008:

"To The Chairman,

On behalf of Atiret Community Recovery Initiative (ACORI) we do appreciate the support you extended to the people of Uganda in Katakwi district. We did receive all the assorted items that you sent to the needy people of our community. We do acknowledge with gratitude the support you accorded to us. We made sure that the intended beneficiaries received the items that you sent and they were very happy for your support indeed.

We do thank you for your delegation that was led by Dr Joseph Odeke from Australia to confirm whether or not the container had reached to Uganda, Katakwi district, of which they confirmed and witnessed the distribution exercise in September 2008.

Great thanks from ACORI project..

*Fr Fabian B Ajuret
Chairperson
Atiret Community Recovery Initiative*

Vietnam/Kenya

The container we sent to Vietnam last July, and which was refused entry for reasons beyond our control, has now arrived in Nairobi, Kenya. It is being distributed with great joy by Bishop John Ambundo among people still struggling to recover from the disastrous riots there last year. Bishop John recently sent us this thank you message:

"Beloved of God,

On behalf of the people of Kenya I want to thank you for your donation of which we received on Friday, 5pm and was off loaded yesterday. I will be sending you the full report after two weeks on its distribution.

May the blessing hand of God bless you a lot."

Papua New Guinea

The container sent to Manus Island containing a sawmill and coconut presses among other humanitarian aid, was detained in Lae for several months due to delays in obtaining tax exemption, but this has at last been received and the cargo is

expected to arrive in Lorengau in the next couple of weeks. Manus Island experienced disastrous flooding late last year.

Burundi

This year we have completed a forty foot container for Bishop Telesphore in Bujumbura, Burundi, which left Adelaide on April 2. This will be the third one we have sent to him to distribute among the returning refugees.

A four wheel drive vehicle has also been donated to Bishop Telesphore to help him with distribution of the aid and this has been sent off separately. It should arrive in Dar es Salaam by the time the container has been cleared.

Israel

In our last newsletter I shared about the work of The Joseph Project in Israel. The following is a copy of a recent email we have received showing how much they value and appreciate the aid we send:

"The containers you are sending are precious – filled with wonderful things for the immigrants and struggling families and needy institutions. It is a great honour to receive them and distribute them.

As a Purim gift, Habad, an ultra-orthodox orphanage in central Israel, received a truckload of items for its orphanage for 300 children and youth. The children are boys that come from a variety of dismal situations: some are orphans or abandoned; others have been removed from their non-functioning families in which many suffered from neglect, physical abuse, and/or emotional or economic problems; others face various levels of disabilities. The orphanage takes children even when the allotment of partial government subsidy is met, so even when there are no finances for them, this orphanage does not turn any boys away. And it is their desire to start a section for girls. Fifty per cent of the children at the orphanage do not receive any funding from any governmental agency. They received a truckload of furniture sent to us from Mission World Aid and this included chairs, tables, a china cabinet, all different types of cupboards, desks, two filing cabinets and so forth."

At present, Mission World Aid has enough furniture and other aid to fill another container for Israel, but first we need to send the completed containers in order to make more room for a new one.

Southern Sudan

We have been asked to send a hospital container to Juba in Southern Sudan where all infrastructure was destroyed during the twenty year war which recently

ended. Some of the returning refugees have known no other life but that of living in a refugee camp and need to be taught basic living and farming techniques.

Victorian Bushfire Appeal

Mission World Aid sent nearly ten tonnes of clean and sorted household linen and blankets, much of it packed in suitcases, to the bushfire appeal. It was loaded into five 4WD vehicles and trailers and delivered to the Wayville Showground where it was immediately packed into the transport trucks and taken over to Victoria for dispatch, under police escort, to the aid collection centres.

Shed Site

We had a working bee on February 28 to reorganize storage and clean up the shed site. Our thanks go to all who helped us. Lack of space will be a serious problem until we can send some containers away and pack others.

What a comfort it is to know that the Lord hears the cries of the widows and orphans and that He will enable this work to go forward.

May He richly bless you all.

**Gael Harrison
Deputy Director**



Volunteers loading the vehicles with aid for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.



Unloading at Wayville Showgrounds

DONATIONS

You are invited to support the work of Mission World Aid by:

* Sending a cheque made out to Mission World Aid Inc. to
PO Box 1110, Stirling, South Australia 5152

* Visa Card - see enclosed slip or use Visa Card through PAYPAL on our website at

www.missionworldaid.org

A tax deductible receipt will be issued.

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Office Address54 Strathalbyn Road, Aldgate, SA, 5154
Postal Address PO Box 1110, Stirling, SA, 5152
Telephone (08) 8370 1256
Facsimile (08) 8370 1262
Email prayaid@picknowl.com.au
The Mission Shed98 Old Mount Barker Road, Stirling East
The Mission ShopAldgate Shopping Centre
Website www.missionworldaid.org