inTouch

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE LEPROSY MISSION NEW ZEALAND ISSUE 431 SEPTEMBER 2012

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Leprosy MISSION NZ
100 years of families helping families

SEPTEMBER
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Dipnarayan with his family and their new pedal rickshaw, bought with a loan he received from Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital. Read more about our projects in the centre pull-out section.

From the Director

Celebrating 100 years in New Zealand {1912 - 2012}

2012 is a special year in the life of the Leprosy Mission – this year we celebrate 100 years in New Zealand.

So much has been achieved during the past century, but our journey continues towards a world without leprosy.

135 years ago Wellesley Bailey travelled to India. There, the future course of his life was cemented; he saw the appalling living conditions and the social isolation of people with leprosy. Bailey said "If there was ever a Christ-like work in the world it was to go amongst these poor sufferers and bring them the consolation of the gospel." His compassion and action birthed the Leprosy Mission. Five million leprosy-affected families around the world still desperately need our support, and we cannot truly celebrate until leprosy is completely eliminated from the face of the earth.

In March Ross Dillon finished his term as Board Chair. I would like to thank Ross for his wonderful service to the Leprosy Mission over many years. I would also like to welcome our new Board Chair, Anne Ratliff. Anne has served on the board as Deputy Chair for several years.

I trust that you enjoy this copy of *in Touch*. Thank you once again for your tremendous generosity and support.

With God's blessing,

Brent J. Morgan

Brent Morgan
Executive Director

Brent Morgan's family: Back: Courtney, Curtis, Hayley Front: Tracy, Brent

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Leprosy Mission New Zealand, relying on the grace of God and motivated by Jesus Christ, exists to join in mutual partnership with individuals, families, communities and organisations to share resources, experiences and learning in order to eradicate the causes and consequences of leprosy, and actively supports the right to a life of dignity for all people. *in Touch* is published twice a year by the Leprosy Mission New Zealand.

Mr Wang Pei Ying's grandchildren were not allowed to go to school because Wang had contracted leprosy over 40 years ago. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Loyal Supporters and God's Grace Have Sustained LMNZ for 100 Years

"For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light." Psalm 36:9

Brent Morgan, Leprosy Mission New Zealand's Executive Director, shares the remarkable progress Leprosy Mission New Zealand (LMNZ) has made in the past 100 years.

How far have we have come in the past 100 years?
We have come a long way in the past 100 years and in particular in the past 30 years. Since Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) became available in 1982, 15 million people have been cured of leprosy. However, there is still work to be done in leprosy-affected countries, where 5 million people are still living with leprosy, its disabilities and consequences. We are on a mission to eliminate leprosy from the face of the earth. It is entirely possible to achieve this within our lifetime.

Where do you see LMNZ going in the next 10-15 years?
We will continue to be an active partner in the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship working to eradicate the causes and consequences of leprosy. LMNZ will be working more in countries closer to home, in places like Papua New Guinea (PNG). You can read more about our projects in PNG on pages 6-7.

What do you consider to be the three major achievements over the life of LMNZ?
Firstly, we have moved our focus from leprosy being purely a medical condition to the social implications leprosy-affected people face. I have not come across a group of people anywhere who are more marginalised and stigmatised. A lot of what we do is focused on helping leprosy-affected families to be fully integrated and engaged in their communities. Secondly, we work very closely with members of the wider Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship. I am proud of the way we collaborate together in order to serve leprosy-affected families around the globe. Thirdly, over the past 100 years we have built strong relationships with New Zealanders who have supported us for many decades. We would not have made as much progress today if it weren't for our loyal and dedicated supporters to whom I am truly thankful.

What are the immediate / urgent challenges for LMNZ in the next 1-3 years?
We have come so far in the past 100 years but there is still plenty of need in the six countries in which we work. I am concerned that some countries where leprosy is prevalent are no longer considering it a health problem – places like India, where there are still significant numbers of people contracting the disease of leprosy. Another challenge is to ensure that we can raise sufficient funds to support the great work that our field workers do.

You have had an opportunity to visit many countries and LM projects – is there one story / person that has especially touched your heart that encapsulates the impact LMNZ has on those we serve?
During my visit to China in November last year, I met a grandfather (Wang) who contracted leprosy 40 years ago (Wang and his family are pictured above). Despite the fact he was long cured of the leprosy bacteria, his grandchildren could not attend local schools - even though they were perfectly healthy. This is the first time I have seen the stigma of leprosy or any disease for that matter having an effect two generations later! The anguish and grief that Wang demonstrated when he shared this story will stay with me for a long time.

What is the key message you would like our supporters to think and pray about in this centenary year?
I would like to thank all of our loyal and committed supporters for their faithfulness and generosity over the past 100 years. I know that for many of them supporting the Leprosy Mission is a key part of their Christian walk and I honour them for this. Leprosy is a curable disease and the end is in sight. Leprosy can be cured in our lifetime.

ABOVE: Some staff from Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital showed our Youth Advocates and staff members, Brent Morgan (Executive Director) and Gillian Whitley (Donor Development Manager) their volleyball skills during a friendly game. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ. INSET: Miriam, Jo and Stefan during their Kathmandu Valley trek with the Himalayas in the background. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Engaging with Local Communities in NZ

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand's Youth Advocate Scholarships enable young adults with a passion for mission to witness our work in Nepal, learn about the causes and consequences of leprosy and raise awareness and funding for Leprosy Mission projects.

Since the Youth Advocates returned from Nepal they have been finding opportunities within their local communities to raise awareness of the work of the Leprosy Mission. While visiting the Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital they were challenged by the need for a 4WD to navigate the rough roads of Kathmandu Valley, and took it upon themselves to raise $15,000 to fund the vehicle.

They have enjoyed making presentations to a variety of community groups, reflecting on their own experiences and sharing images that capture the essence of Leprosy Mission work in Nepal. Miriam Whitton, who has spoken at a number of churches and groups including her own church, Hillsborough Baptist, has received very positive feedback. “People enjoyed seeing photos from our trip, and hearing stories about the patients we met at Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital” says Miriam.

Several of the Youth Advocates have also been invited to speak at their old schools or at youth conferences. Carinnya Feaunati, an architecture student at Victoria University, was pleased with the support from her school. “I spoke at my old college, Sacred Heart Girls’ College in New Plymouth,” she shared, “and at their upcoming school mufti-day the proceeds will be going towards our Bowl-a-thon fundraising event” (read about the Bowl-a-thon event on page 5). Nathanael Lucas, a passionate medical student, had an opportunity to lead a workshop at the Xtend Baptist Youth Leadership conference and discuss the work of the Mission through the Christian Medical Fellowship.

Advocacy also takes place closer to home. Sam Illing, originally from Hamilton, stays at the Eden Christian Hostel during University semesters and has taken the opportunity to share his experience with other students at the hostel. Stefan van Woerden, currently studying engineering, has also been encouraging students to get involved with the work of Leprosy Mission on campus at Massey University Albany, during their Volunteering Week expo.

Jo Burnett, a nursing student at Auckland University who attends Riverhead Family Church, has enjoyed sharing her experience with various church congregations, youth groups and Sunday Schools and has found that people are often surprised to hear that leprosy still exists. “They have also been amazed to realise that the cure is as simple as a course of antibiotics” says Jo.

Youth, local communities and church congregations have enjoyed learning more about leprosy. “People are genuinely interested to learn what leprosy is, how it affects people and what the Leprosy Mission is doing to help and impact lives” says Miriam. “People have also wondered why it still is such a widespread disease. In particular they have been interested in the social aspects and consequences of the curable disease,” adds Carinnya.

In the rural outskirts of Kathmandu Valley, our Youth Advocates met up with a teenage girl and her younger sister whose parents belong to a Self-Help Group. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

ABOVE: Tamati Coffey from TV One's Breakfast Programme with the Bowl-a-thon team at the Mt Eden Bowling Club in Auckland. Breakfast presented their weather reports live from the Bowl-a-thon. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ. INSET: Connor getting involved in the Bowl-a-thon event on Friday morning. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

24 Hour Bowl-a-thon

While the advocates were visiting Anandaban Hospital in Nepal they were challenged by hearing about the need for a 4WD and took it upon themselves to raise the $15,000 needed to go towards the vehicle.

“The 4WD is essential to provide transport for staff and patients at Anandaban Hospital which is located in a mountainous region of Nepal, and is surrounded by rough dirt roads. In order to be able to run clinics, education sessions, visit community support groups and continue the incredible work of the Leprosy Mission throughout the year, a 4WD vehicle is urgently needed” says Miriam Whitton. The Youth Advocates didn't have an easy task in raising the $15,000 needed to meet their commitment, but they were up for the challenge. They came up with the idea of a 24 hour lawn Bowl-a-thon, to focus their fundraising efforts.

The Bowl-a-thon event was held at the Mt Eden Bowling Club on Friday 3rd August. TV One ‘Breakfast’ programme weather reports by Tamati Coffey were broadcast live from the event, on the Friday morning.

Although one of the Youth Advocates, Nathanael, is a member of the Bowling Club, for most of the others this was the first time they had participated in any lawn bowls. Luckily they had 24 hours to hone their skills. Stefan, who is also a staunch supporter of our *Running 4 Rights* initiative, was really keen to get involved: “I'm quite sporty and a bit competitive so it is a great event to be involved in and an enjoyable way of getting the word out there about the Youth Advocate Scholarship.”

The Youth Advocates were joined by their families and friends, Mt Eden club members, Leprosy Mission supporters and the general public. Young and old, experienced and novice bowlers were all keen to have a go and support this fun event.

The group of Youth Advocates and their friends sustained their enthusiasm and bowled right through the night until 7am on Saturday morning. “The event was a great way to raise awareness of the Mission's work, and get the public involved. Tamati had forecast showers on and off all day, we were grateful that they held off until about midnight, at which point we had to bowl with umbrellas for a while. It was also great the support we got from a couple of our friends (Jethro Brunton and Jonathan Freeman) who stayed with us all night and helped keep us going. We were getting a bit tired around 4am but we were constantly reminding each other how far we had already come and why we were here. All in all it was a great event and I am glad we did it” explains Sam.

We are pleased to announce, our 2012 Youth Advocates have exceeded their target and successfully raised a total of $15,600 to go towards the 4WD for Anandaban Leprosy Hospital. “We are really thrilled with what our Youth Advocates have achieved through the Bowl-a-thon - they are a fantastic group of young people," explains Brent Morgan, Executive Director of Leprosy Mission New Zealand. "I would like to thank them for their tremendous fundraising effort and to thank everyone who supported them. The 4WD is going to make a huge difference to our ministry at Anandaban Hospital."

“We would like to thank Pro Vista West Auckland, who sponsored our event from the start and gave us the confidence to kick-start this initiative” says Jo.

Our 2012 Youth Advocates have exceeded their fundraising target of $15,000. All six Youth Advocates would like to thank their friends, family and the general public for getting behind their unique fundraising initiative.

Applications Close Soon. Don't Miss Out!

We are currently seeking applicants who are available to travel to Nepal in February 2013. Check out our website www.leprosymission.org.nz and click on our Youth Advocate Scholarship page to find out more. Applications are closing soon so don't miss out – email gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz for more information.

The Village Health Volunteer ceremony in the local church in Tinputz District. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Training Local Villagers on Community Health

Leprosy Mission New Zealand (LMNZ) has been working in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea (PNG) since 2001, when the civil war ceased. Leprosy rates were very high due to the lack of available health care during the conflict. During this time, Leprosy Mission New Zealand partnered with the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) and worked with them to diagnose, treat and reduce leprosy rates. In 2005, after a significant reduction in leprosy rates, the ABG requested that LMNZ continue working in Bougainville, and the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme (BHCP) was born.

The BHCP project was designed to develop a community-based health system covering all of Bougainville's villages. The programme has so far been established in seven of Bougainville's thirteen districts. The results to date have impressed the ABG. The process of integrating the programme into the Bougainville health system has begun and it continues to expand into the other districts.

During July this year, Matt Halsey, our LMNZ Programmes Manager for PNG, visited Bougainville. Matt monitors the BHCP project and spent time working with Ruby Mirinka (Bougainville Programme Manager) and Alois Pukienei (Director of Public Health), who are based in Bougainville and manage the day to day operations of BHCP. Matt, Ruby and Alois work together to ensure the project achieves its objective of improving community health and well-being. Participating in a special ceremony to celebrate 150 new volunteers was also part of Matt's agenda.

Last year, BHCP's district facilitators and trainers travelled to remote villages in Bougainville's Tinputz and Wakunai districts and trained Village Health Volunteers. In total 311 volunteers, 1 female and 1 male from each village, underwent two weeks of training on basic public health awareness and 143 Village Chiefs also received one week's training. Since 2006, 1,172 volunteers and 469 Chiefs have been trained about common disease diagnoses including malaria, TB and leprosy. Training also covers how to refer people for treatment at government health clinics and best practice around hygiene and sanitation, to prevent typhoid, cholera and other common waterborne diseases. The aim is for Village Health Volunteers and Chiefs to help villagers to take responsibility for their own communities' health and well-being and make the most of the available health clinics.

The ability to prevent illness and disease within the village ultimately takes the pressure off the health facilities so they can concentrate on providing better quality care. If villagers do become unwell the trained volunteers have the knowledge to make a preliminary diagnosis and refer villagers to the local health facility where they can get the appropriate treatment.

In July a formal ceremony was held to recognise the completion of Village Health Volunteers' and Village Chiefs' training and emphasise the importance of the work they do in their respective villages. Local Chiefs, leaders and some BHCP projects team members attended the ceremony where each trained Village Health Volunteer and Chief received a certificate for their commitment to improving the health in their own communities.

Moving forward

We are pleased to announce that we have received more funding for our work in PNG to strengthen leprosy control services. The New Zealand government has agreed to contribute funding for a new three-year project. The new project will work with the PNG Department of Health to improve its leprosy programme across the country and will specifically target areas with the highest prevalence of new cases of leprosy. Our successful work in Bougainville over the past seven years, and the experience of our partners TLM PNG and TLM Australia means we will hit the ground running once the project starts and will allow us to strengthen our on-going working relationship with the PNG government and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

We couldn't be more delighted! Keep an eye out for an update in next year's March *inTouch* magazine on this exciting new project.

New bikes for Bougainville

In September 2010 Leprosy Mission New Zealand provided funding for mountain bikes for three of BHCP's district facilitators based in Bougainville, which Programme Manager Matt Halsey delivered in person in 2011. On his next visit, in September, Matt will deliver three more bikes for the expanding team of district facilitators. Bougainville now has 12 district facilitators who travel to remote villages so they can monitor and support development of the Village Health Volunteers and village health activities.

Bougainville is a small island about two hours flying east from PNG's capital city, Port Moresby. Bougainville has many active and dormant volcanoes, and is made up of mountainous terrain with dense forests, valleys and rivers. Roads are virtually nonexistent in most areas and public transport is very limited, so district facilitators spend large amounts of their day walking from village to village.

However, the mountain bikes mean BHCP district facilitators are now able to travel easily between villages. "The district facilitators are always overjoyed to receive these good quality bikes. See my photo of Paul receiving his new bike in 2011. A bike makes a huge difference to the amount of work they are able to do in a day. We have clearly seen a huge increase in their productivity" says Matt.

To read more about our Papua New Guinea Project check out our website www.leprosymission.org.nz/papua-new-guinea.aspx

TOP RIGHT: A Village Health Volunteer receiving their certificate. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ. BOTTOM RIGHT: Some of the new Village Health Volunteers put on a traditional dance to entertain the audience at the award ceremony. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ. LEFT: Paul, one of our district facilitators, was excited to receive his new bike. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Heather met these four young women who are learning tailoring at an Indian Vocational Training Centre. © 2012 Heather Heron-Speirs

Healing from Leprosy Stigma

Heather Heron-Spiers, from Levin, joined the Leprosy Mission Australia Supporter Tour to India and Nepal earlier this year. Heather shares her experience with us below:

“I spent a month touring Leprosy Mission hospitals, Vocational Training Centres and economic rehabilitation projects in India and Nepal earlier this year with The Leprosy Mission Australia Tour. I was impressed with the quality of the work I saw – the approach was smart, the medicine was state of the art, and the personnel were dedicated. A frustration they all wrestled with, however, was the barrier posed by the combined effect of stigma, ignorance and poverty against the early treatment – and, ultimately, elimination – of the disease. Of these, stigma makes the least sense and causes the most psycho-social harm. As a health psychology researcher, this caught my attention.

Social stigma against leprosy is rooted in Hindu faith which, similarly to ancient Biblical belief, considers the disease a consequence of evil behaviour. It also arises out of the socially offensive manifestation of the disease if left untreated. The Nepali name for leprosy translates as 'disease of rotting flesh', which is a reference to the large and stinking ulcers which develop from commonly suffered injuries and burns to numbed leprosy-affected feet and hands. The degree to which a leprosy-affected person might be mistreated because of stigma varies greatly and depends partially on how obvious their symptoms are to others.

The families of some are amenable to explanation by a Leprosy Mission counsellor that the disease is effectively treated by the antibiotics (Multi-Drug Therapy) provided and is not contagious. At the other extreme, leprosy sufferers can be driven out of their families and villages by exclusion and beatings. Leprosy Mission addresses community-level stigma with street dramas, but in the worst cases a leprosy-affected person may have no choice but to move to a leprosy colony.

The local driving school in Champa is run by the Leprosy Mission hospital and gives leprosy-affected individuals their independence back. © 2012 Heather Heron-Speirs

At an Indian Vocational Training Centre, members of our team met with a number of young people who had been cured of leprosy and were training in various trades. One young woman told us how she had been shunned to the corner of her family's house, and how she starved as she struggled to eat when her hands clawed with leprosy and no-one would help her. She burst into tears as she told us how she felt loved by the counsellor at the Vocational Training Centre. For her, the worst impact of leprosy by far was rejection by her family. This rejection and loss of personhood in the eyes of others is what Jesus addressed first when he reached out his hand and touched the leprosy-affected person whose healing is recorded in Mark's gospel. Because of the social implications of the disease, that healing was more akin to a whole-of-life resurrection than the restoration of a body part to fitness. For those worst affected by leprosy stigma today, the work of the Leprosy Mission can bring about the same result.”

If you are interested in our 2013 Supporter Tours contact Gillian Whitley on 0800 862 873 or email her at gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz

Families 4 Families

We all have the right to a life of dignity.

Leprosy MISSION NZ
100 years of families helping families

Dipnarayan with his family and their new pedal rickshaw, bought with a loan he received from Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Thank you *Families 4 Families* supporters!

Over the past six months, generous *Families 4 Families* regular supporters have been making a life-changing difference in five countries affected by leprosy – China, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Ethiopia. Your selfless regular donations have restored the lives of hundreds of leprosy-affected individuals and their families. From the bottom of their hearts and ours – thank you. We'd like to share with you, in the following pages, several inspiring stories about the lives you have changed.

What is *Families 4 Families*?

In five countries worldwide *Families 4 Families* regular supporters enable us to provide leprosy-affected individuals and their families hope for the future.

Leprosy Mission New Zealand's teams work hard to eradicate leprosy. You can join us in this daily fight by becoming a part of a special group of supporters. Your regular, monthly donation will give the Leprosy Mission New Zealand the support we need to make our mission a reality. Please join us today in showing leprosy-affected families that they are not alone.

If you would like sign up to our *Families 4 Families* programme please contact our *Families 4 Families* Programme Coordinator, Heather Warne on Freephone **0800 862 873** or email **heather.warne@leprosymission.org.nz**

Abdul and his wife Nurzahan are our *Families 4 Families* ambassador family from Bangladesh. © 2010 Michael Bradley

Yuan and his family are our *Families 4 Families* ambassador family from China. © 2010 Michael Bradley

Geeta and her family are our *Families 4 Families* ambassador family from India. © 2010 Michael Bradley

INDIA

Dipnarayan's story

Dipnarayan, originally from Muzaffarpur, lives with his wife, son and three daughters in a small settlement called Baikatpur. Twelve years ago, around the birth of his second child, he noticed he had lost sensation in his right foot. As time went on his right foot become so weak that the only way he could get around was to drag it along the ground, which eventually forced him to give up his job. ***"The disease made me weak,"*** he says, ***"I couldn't pedal the rickshaw anymore and earn my living, so I travelled back home to Muzaffarpur."***

Dipnarayan visited Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital and was able to promptly receive Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) to cure him of leprosy and prevent any further disabilities. He was admitted for a few weeks and underwent reconstructive foot surgery. Dipnarayan made a fast recovery from the surgery and also underwent intensive post-operative physiotherapy ensuring he regained full use of his right foot.

Dipnarayan can now support his family by riding a cycle rickshaw. He was able to buy it with a low interest loan which he received from Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital. ***"Before, I was riding other people's rickshaws, but now I can spend all the money I earn on my family. I have four children so I can now look after them. It feels nice having my own rickshaw"*** says Dipnarayan.

Because of you, Dipnarayan's life has been changed forever. Thank you for providing Dipnarayan with the opportunity to receive treatment and a loan which has enabled him to earn a sustainable income.

Dipnarayan with his new pedal rickshaw, bought with a loan he received from Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

BANGLADESH

Jahanara's story

When Jahanara was 10 years old her family moved to Chittagong City to pursue better opportunities. Her father became a rickshaw puller and her mother worked as a house maid. Shortly after arriving, Jahanara started to develop white patches on her arms, the first signs of leprosy. Her mother Hazera acted quickly by contacting Leprosy Mission staff in the area who confirmed she had leprosy and sent her to Chandraghona Christian Hospital (about 40km from Chittagong City) for Multi-Drug Therapy treatment.

Jahanara returned home after a few weeks in hospital and received counselling from Leprosy Mission staff based in Chittagong City. Counselling is an important part of Leprosy Mission's holistic approach. It targets the myths surrounding leprosy and assists in restoring self-confidence and self-esteem for people affected by leprosy, who often feel the disease defines who they are. It also provides training on prevention of disability, to protect their future.

Jahanara also joined a Self-Help Group, facilitated by Leprosy Mission staff. In the group she received training on self-care, disability rights and savings as well as starting up income generating activities. Most importantly it has provided Jahanara with support and engagement with other leprosy-affected individuals. She enjoys being part of the group and attends meetings regularly.

Jahanara took her first loan of 5000 Taka (NZ$80) from her Self-Help Group and gave it to her mother, Hazera, so she could start selling cloth traditionally worn by women. Hazera earned 80-100 Taka per day from the trade which enabled her to repay the loan. Jahanara has just taken her second loan of 15,000 Taka (NZ$240) to buy back their small piece of mortgaged family land nearby to build a house on.

Participation in the Self-Help Group has assisted Jahanara to get back on her feet and become a more active member of her community. Jahanara is very grateful to the Self-Help Group because she is now able to help her family support themselves. ***"This has been possible for me with the help of the Leprosy Mission"*** says Jahanara.

Thank you for providing Jahanara with support and care and for restoring her self-esteem. We could not have done it without you.

Jahanara's independence has been restored and so has her self-esteem. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

ETHIOPIA

Bashizi's story

Bashizi is a 55 year old widower who had leprosy. When Bashizi contracted leprosy, his community cast him and his family out due to their fear. After the death of his wife, he was left to fend for himself and his four children. Life was hard for Bashizi.

In 2010 ENAPAL (Ethiopian National Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy), a Leprosy Mission partner, formed a community group to provide practical help and support to build up the self-esteem and dignity of leprosy-affected individuals. When Bashizi joined the Self-Help Group he felt cared for and was able to develop strong friendships with other group members.

The group also provides members the opportunity to learn to take responsibility for their own health, learn about financial management, receive advice about jobs and livelihoods, plus other general knowledge that builds confidence and helps them to make informed decisions.

After 6 months, Bashizi was armed with the right knowledge about animals and the market to be able to access a loan to help him generate a sustainable income. ***"I was given $100 to start breeding animals. I started with goats and a pig. Now I have repaid the loan and have three pigs, three goats and a cow. This is a great blessing to my family. It has changed our condition of life; life is so much better than before"*** Bashizi explains.

"Our family is most grateful to the leprosy team and the village committee for helping to return our family to a normal situation and for the consideration and esteem shown to me" says Bashizi.

Thank you for providing Bashizi the opportunity to receive an income-generation loan; he can now sustain his family's livelihood.

Bashizi with one of his three pigs which provide him with a sustainable income. © 2011 Georgina Cranston

CHINA

Cuihua's story

Cuihua is 48 years old and contracted leprosy at the age of 7 without knowing what it was. Cuihua's sister took her to the doctor shortly after white patches, an early sign of leprosy, started to appear on her torso. Cuihua was given herbal medicine from the doctor and took it eagerly, but it didn't cure her. Cuihua's sister then arranged for their cousin to buy some Dapsone (one of the components of Multi-Drug Therapy) and vitamins which helped in the short-term, but she eventually ran out. Cuihua's hands and feet showed no signs of leprosy at this stage and she still had full use of her limbs.

Times were hard for Cuihua – not only could she not get more Dapsone but the stigma associated with leprosy started to cause division in her family. Eventually, her family isolated her; she had to eat alone and was not allowed to play with her friends. Thankfully our field partner, HANDA, found Cuihua on a village visit and ensured she received the full Multi-Drug Therapy treatment course. Sadly, in the time between running out of Dapsone and receiving full MDT treatment, Cuihua's condition worsened, leaving her with severely clawed hands and feet that had gradually become so deformed that she was unable to walk.

Part of the holistic approach HANDA offers is counselling to leprosy-affected individuals and their families. The counselling includes training on how to live with their disabilities and ensure they do not further injure the parts of their bodies they have lost feeling in. Cuihua attended several one-on-one counselling sessions which helped her restore her self-esteem.

"I went from a very dark place and now I realise the world is not all dark after all" she says. Due to her severe leprosy disabilities Cuihua cannot do manual work, so instead she counsels other leprosy-affected individuals and has become an ambassador for people affected by leprosy, offering encouragement where she can. She is very happy to help others. Cuihua's life has been turned around by the work of HANDA staff, work which they could not have done without your support. Thank you.

Cuihua (on the right) telling her story to one of HANDA's workers earlier this year. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

"Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless, maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed" Psalm 82:3

NEPAL

Kumar's story

Kumar is 33 years of age and originally from Bhutan. When Kumar was 11 years old he was diagnosed with leprosy and was admitted to Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital in Kathmandu. Kumar had to leave his family behind so they wouldn't lose their jobs and income. Unfortunately, over time Kumar has lost contact with his family and doesn't know where they are now.

Tragically, Kumar's leprosy wasn't detected early enough, and he now has severe disabilities including lost toes on both of his feet and permanent damage to his fingers on both hands. Kumar is also frequently admitted to Anandaban Hospital because of severe foot ulcers. During his time in Kathmandu he has mastered painting and makes an income from selling his greeting cards and artwork through market stalls and to visitors to the hospital.

From the income he is more able to look after himself and has been able to buy himself a bicycle. Kumar enjoys riding his bike often and finds it easier to get around as it takes the pressure off his damaged feet. While riding, he also gains inspiration from the mountainous hills surrounding Kathmandu to use in his paintings. Recently, Kumar has asked for the Pastoral Care team to visit him so he can hear more about God's love.

Your support has given Kumar the freedom to explore God's love on a deeper level, and greater independence. Thank you.

Kumar's passion for painting was discovered during his stay at Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

If you would like to increase your regular gift or sign up to our *Families 4 Families* programme please contact our *Families 4 Families* Programme Coordinator, Heather Warne on Freephone 0800 862 873 or email heather.warne@leprosymission.org.nz

"Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless, maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed" Psalm 82:3

PO Box 10-227 Dominion Rd, Auckland 1446, NZ
Ph 09 630 2818 | Call Free 0800 862 873
Email enquiries@leprosymission.org.nz
Charity Number CC37638

100 years of families helping families

for a world without leprosy

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand is a Christian development organisation which is supported by New Zealanders. Leprosy Mission New Zealand works in partnership with individuals, families, communities and organisations to eradicate the causes and consequences of leprosy.

LEFT: A McKean Centre villager displaying his large catch. © 2012 Heather Smith. RIGHT: The local lake near the McKean Centre is now a popular spot to fish. © 2012 Heather Smith

Fishing for People

When it comes to fishing, it's usually the people who are doing the fishing and the fish that are being caught. But at the McKean Centre in Thailand, it was once the other way around. Diana Noonan, a supporter of Leprosy Mission New Zealand who visited the McKean Centre, explains below:

A very unusual hospital

The McKean Centre, in the north of Thailand, is a hospital that once cared for hundreds of people who others were too afraid to go near. The patients at the hospital suffered from leprosy, a once-dreaded disease that everyone else thought they might easily catch. In fact people were so afraid of catching leprosy that if anyone from their family or village showed signs of having it, they were sent away with instructions never to come back.

Staff at the McKean Centre knew that leprosy wasn't easy to catch and that those who did have the disease needed to be accepted by the people around them and to keep living in their community. But how could they make people believe them? One solution they came up with was to hold a fishing competition, but the aim was to catch people, not fish!

Fishing for people

The McKean Centre already had fish ponds, used to teach leprosy patients how to raise fish so they could support themselves. Knowing that the local townsfolk loved to fish, the staff invited them to fish in the ponds. They even organised a competition with prizes for the best catch. Would anyone enter the competition or would they be too afraid to come near the leprosy hospital?

The townsfolk loved fishing so much, they couldn't resist the invitation. Slowly, one by one, they began to arrive with their fishing rods. Some were so nervous about catching leprosy that they even asked the staff to wash their faces with the water from the pond or to eat the fish there to show them they were safe!

By talking with staff while they fished, people began to realise that there was nothing to fear from leprosy. It was good news for the patients who wanted to return to their villages and families. And it helped teach people more about leprosy so that, if they did catch it, they would ask for help instead of hiding themselves away where no one could see them. The townsfolk caught their fish and the McKean Centre staff caught the people they needed to educate!

On the hunt

Today, McKean Centre staff don't just fish for people, they also go out "hunting" for them. For some, disease and disability are still very frightening, and even shameful. If someone has a problem, their family may hide them away where they can't be seen. Through projects organised by the McKean Centre, staff specially trained to look and listen for clues, along with local health workers, visit communities looking for those who need help.

God works in many special ways, but who could ever guess that he would lead hospital staff to fish and hunt!

May Appeal Update

In May this year we wrote to our supporters about a new funding opportunity in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. The New Zealand government is also providing funding for this project over the next four years. We had an astonishing response, and your generous donations will help restore the lives of hundreds of leprosy-affected individuals and their families living in Chittagong Hill Tracts. We raised almost $200,000, and we have also received some very generous bequests recently.

We are therefore very pleased to report that we will be able to provide our match target of $315,000 to go with the $1.6 million committed by the NZ government over the next four years. We are now able to plan with confidence activities that will reduce poverty and improve the health, economic and social conditions of leprosy-affected people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region.

Thank you once again for your on-going support and commitment to our mission to eradicate leprosy from the face of the earth.

To read more about our two Bangladesh projects, check out our website: www.leprosymission.org.nz/bangladesh.aspx

Bringing Light Into the Darkest Places

"God opposes the proud but shows favour to the humble." James 4:6

Dr Julie Lincoln was called to bring light into the darkest places. Originally from Tauranga, Julie has been based in Nepal for the past seven years, touching and restoring the lives of leprosy-affected people and others who need medical care. It all started by reading Dr Paul Brand's books at the age of 17.

While Julie Lincoln was in New Zealand in July this year, she visited the Leprosy Mission New Zealand office to update the team on her work. Julie works for Serving In Mission (SIM) and is based in Pokhara, about 200km west of Kathmandu, Nepal. SIM empowers missionaries to make a difference by serving around the world in Africa, Asia and South America. LMNZ provides financial support for Julie's work with leprosy-affected people in Nepal.

Julie shared with us a touching story about a woman she met called Belmati:

“Can you imagine sending your 70 year old grandmother to live in a one room shack in the jungle? That's what happened to Belmati who for years had lived peacefully with her married daughter's family in a remote mountain village. Thirteen years ago she noticed numbness in her hands and feet. Later she developed wounds and ulcers on her hands, but because she was poor and they didn't hurt she didn't get any treatment and slowly her fingers shortened until her right hand became a fingerless stump. The fingers on her left hand bent into a claw shape. She couldn't lift her feet to walk properly and then developed problems with closing her eyes and seeing properly.

Belmati's neighbours spread the word that she had leprosy, and before long the whole family was ostracised and no one would speak to or visit them. The neighbours put pressure on Belmati's family to remove her from the home. As a result, her son-in-law sent her to a shack in the jungle and made her live there alone. Grandchildren left food outside the shack for her 6 times a week, but nobody talked to her. She became malnourished, her weight dropping to just 24 kilos. The shack leaked and was overrun by rats inside, while wild animals prowled around outside. Because of her deformity she couldn't care for herself properly and only managed to wash herself about once a year. She dragged herself into the jungle to go to the toilet. Belmati felt rejected and despised and often wished she would die.

Our project found out about her from a newspaper story and sent our social worker to find her. Her shack was 90 minutes walk to the nearest road. Our social worker couldn't carry her that far by himself and no one from her village was willing to help. He persuaded a man from a nearby village to help him carry Belmati – and had to pay the equivalent of three weeks' salary for the 90 minute trip before he would agree. From there he brought her by bus to our leprosy centre.

When she arrived she had a towel over her face and wouldn't let anyone take it away as she was too ashamed to be seen. After a few hours she was willing for us to see her face. Our staff were able to wash and feed her and provide her with clean clothes. I examined her and treated her leprosy, multiple other infections and malnutrition. Once these were under control, I referred her to the big hospital in Pokhara for surgery for her uterine prolapse and eye problems.

While she was in Pokhara, our staff visited her village several times talking with her family and neighbours about leprosy, what caused it, that she was getting treatment and was not infectious or a danger to anyone. The neighbours agreed to let her back into the village. Her family agreed to add a room onto their house for her to live in and our project helped them build a toilet she could easily use. Belmati's life has been transformed and she now has hope for the future.

Unfortunately, even today, Belmati's story is not unusual. In rural Nepal people affected by leprosy are often treated as outcasts from society. People believe their disease is due to a curse, the anger of the gods or simply a result of their bad actions in a previous life. Either way, people avoid them and even government health staff hesitate to treat them. Leprosy sufferers are still abandoned and cast out by their parents, spouses or children. Some children affected by leprosy are not allowed to attend school; adults often lose their marriages or their jobs.”

OPPOSITE PAGE: After being treated by Dr Julie and her team, Belmati felt comfortable revealing her face. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Laundry for Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital

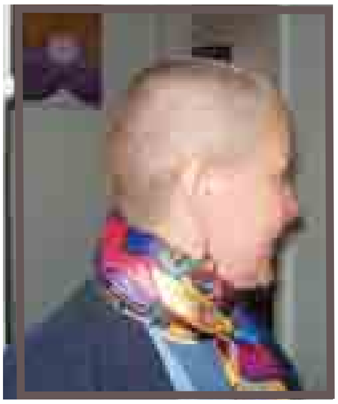
In 2011 Leprosy Mission New Zealand supporters helped fund a much needed laundry facility for Anandaban Hospital in Nepal.

The new laundry has given Anandaban Hospital staff access to an updated laundry system which has increased efficiency and most importantly of all, kept up a high level of hygiene needed for the patients.

Thank you.

LEFT: The new laundry facility at Anandaban Leprosy Mission Hospital. © 2012 Leprosy Mission Nepal

Caring For the Marginalised – Shave-a-thon



TOP LEFT: Elizabeth just after her hair had been shaved off. Elizabeth's hair has gone to the Waikato Hair Replacement Centre. © 2012 Elizabeth Peters. TOP RIGHT: Elizabeth fundraising on the streets of Hastings with a great presentation board displaying Leprosy Mission project work. © 2012 Elizabeth Peters

A dedicated supporter had a close shave to raise funds for a cause close to her heart.

To mark her 50th birthday earlier this year, Elizabeth Peters from Hastings went all out and organised a Shave-a-thon in support of Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital in India.

The Shave-a-thon event was two years in the planning and well worth the effort, raising $1,000 in total. Elizabeth takes us on her journey:

"While reading an article on India in September *in Touch* two years ago, I felt a gentle nudge from God to reach out to leprosy-affected families. I was going to be 50 in two years so I set myself the challenge to raise funds for Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital for my 50th birthday. Fundraising outside the local supermarket and shops in Hastings was an experience in itself, I met a lady who had served as a missionary in Nigeria for 20 years and worked with leprosy-affected people. Even though the weather was unpredictable at times I carried on as leprosy-affected people needed the money more than I needed my comfort; Jesus endured more trials and tribulations than anyone. The lessons I have learnt from this experience are truly priceless, I was worried sometimes about what I would look like with my hair shaved off, but God does work in mysterious ways."

Our thanks go to Elizabeth and everyone who supported her in the Hastings area. The funds raised will benefit people affected by leprosy receiving essential medical care at Muzaffarpur Leprosy Mission Hospital.

India is home to around 55% of the world's leprosy-affected individuals and their families, so the funds will provide essential medical care for leprosy-affected individuals and care for their families. The Leprosy Mission has had a presence in India since 1874 and approximately 50% of the Leprosy Mission International's resources are channelled in to India.

Follow Elizabeth's lead and celebrate an important event in your life with a fundraising activity to benefit individuals and families affected by leprosy. Anything from a morning tea to a movie night – head-shaving is optional.

Contact Gillian for more information on holding a fundraising event on: 0800 862 873 or email gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz

A Reflection From India

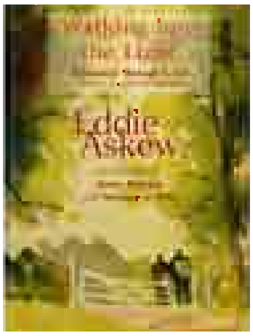
The Leprosy Mission India shared with us this beautiful 'alphabet reflections' poem.

A lthough things are not perfect
B ecause of trial or pain
C ontinue in thanksgiving
D o not begin to blame
E ven when the times are hard
F ierce winds are bound to blow
G od is forever able
H old on to what you know
I magine life without His love
J oy would cease to be
K eep thanking Him for all the things
L ove imparts to thee
M ove out of 'Camp Complaining'
N o weapon that is known
O n earth can yield the power
P raise can do alone
Q uit looking at the future
R edeem the time at hand
S tart every day with worship
T o 'thank' is a command
U ntil we see Him coming
V ictorious in the sky
We'll run the race with gratitude
X alting God most high
Y es, there'll be good times and
yes some will be bad, but...
Z ion waits in glory... where none are ever sad!

Eddie Askew Books

You may be familiar with the late Eddie and Barbara Askew, two of our unsung heroes. They were both extremely empathetic towards people affected by leprosy and were committed to the Leprosy Mission for over 50 years. We have a wide selection of Eddie's books for sale which showcase some of his marvellous water colour paintings and thought-provoking meditations and prayers.

Partner with us in our centenary year by purchasing an Eddie Askew book and help us continue their legacy by eradicating leprosy from the face of the earth.

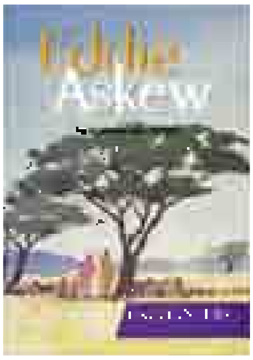


Walking into the light

When Eddie lost his wife, he had to face grief in a way he had never experienced before. He really struggled. This book offers encouragement when someone loses a loved one to cope with God's help and grace.

Price: $20

+ postage and handling

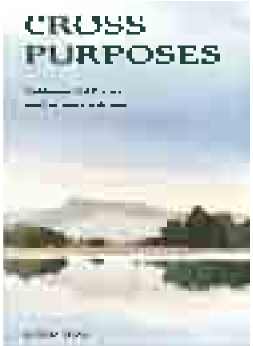


Encounters

Five characters encounter Jesus face to face and their lives are wonderfully transformed. Eddie brings fresh insights to familiar Bible stories as he encourages us to stand alongside each character and witness their special meeting with Jesus.

Price: $10

+ postage and handling



Cross Purposes

Eddie focuses on six scenes from the Gospels where Jesus is interacting with his friends and followers over a meal.

Price: $10

+ postage and handling

All our books are available online and from our Auckland office. Call us on 0800 862 873, or email enquiries@leprosymission.org.nz to order your books today.

Prayer & Praise

We would love for you to join us in regular prayer support. Our Prayer & Praise diary is available by post or email. If you are interested please email ngaira.lynch@leprosymission.org.nz or call Freephone: 0800 862 873.

Feedback From Our Supporters

We would like to thank all of our supporters for filling out the Supporter Feedback Forms in April this year. We received some wonderful feedback from all over the country; here are a few of the inspiring comments we received telling us why people support Leprosy Mission New Zealand.

AUCKLAND
"I am just SO thankful to God for the degree of health that I do have and count it a joy and a privilege to be blessed enough by Him to be able to share in the wonderful work that the Leprosy Mission performs around the world – bringing hope and a new life to so many."

CHRISTCHURCH
"We are blessed to bless others. Leprosy Mission offers one way to reach into needy areas. As a child I remember hearing Paul Brand's story – it has stayed with me."

TE PUKE
"It is an organisation that helps people who cannot help themselves."

FEILDING
"I am impressed with the way you tackle a very thorny subject. I feel a deep compassion for the folk you deal with and am proud to be able to help you in all your endeavours."

MOUNT MAUNGANUI
"My mother used to have a moneybox. I give to the Leprosy Mission because I can't think of a worse condition to be in. I like to help others."

CARTERTON
"As Christians we feel that you are doing His work in the world and therefore we support you."

PALMERSTON NORTH
"We believe it is an important Christian ministry. Our parents also supported what was then 'Mission to Lepers'. People like Dr Paul Brand & Dr Mary Vergesse are an inspiration. Knowing that Hansen's disease (leprosy) is treatable is so encouraging."

COROMANDEL
"I hope (know) my support – no matter how small – will help someone either suffering or recovering from leprosy."

WAKEFIELD
"My mother used to give, so I carried on the tradition after she passed away."

WELLINGTON
"I have given to Leprosy Mission from when I started working some 60 or so years ago. I like to use the Prayer & Praise notes and to read your magazine. It will be a great day when leprosy is eradicated."

A collection of photos from the Multicultural 'Cure One' concert, LEFT TO RIGHT Karate performance, Mandarin pop music, violin solo, keyboard and vocal solo, harp and saxophone and an Asian fusion dance performance. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

'Cure One’ Concert

The ‘Cure One’ multicultural concert was organised to raise funds and awareness for the work of Leprosy Mission NZ (LMNZ) and was a celebration of the beautiful diverse ethnic cultures and communities in Auckland. The concert was organised by Lucy Xia, a member of LMNZ's dedicated Ethnic Communities Volunteer team managed by Ethnic Communities Ambassador Mike Sheppard.

Held at Howick Little Theatre in Auckland’s eastern suburb Howick, the concert was opened by an Indian/Chinese dance fusion group from the Monisha School of Dance. The following performances included a very unique harp and saxophone duet; a group of energetic karate kids, led by Yida Zou, who gave an enthusiastic performance demonstrating karate moves and holds; and a young violinist, George Wang. After light refreshments the audience were back to see George Yen sing 'Mine Mine', a Taiwanese song by Jay Chow. James Roberson, a music student at the University of Auckland, followed George with the beautiful and melodious ‘O Sole Mio’. In the final segment was Brian Lee on classical guitar and lastly, Heather Warne and her brother Craig Warne finished the evening off with a mix of jazz, Japanese pop and the classic 'Hymne à l'Amour' by Edith Piaf.

With a full theatre, the concert raised over $1,000 towards the cure and care of leprosy-affected people in China. “The ‘Cure One’ concert was a multicultural event which showcased the diverse culture in New Zealand. Thank you to everybody who supported our event, attended and most importantly, thank you to all of our very talented performers” says Brent Morgan, LMNZ Executive Director.

If you would like to get involved in any of our future events, contact Gillian Whitley, Donor Development Manager on 0800 862 873 or gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz

Reaching Out to Southern China

Over the past two years, Leprosy Mission New Zealand’s voluntary Ethnic Communities Ambassador, Mike Sheppard, has been steadily growing the Leprosy Mission’s Ethnic Communities volunteer team. Mostly based in Auckland, the team have been actively learning about the work of the Mission and then raising awareness within New Zealand ethnic communities. One initiative from the team’s Lucy Xia, has been the development of a Chinese language moneybox for distribution in retail shops. The Chinese moneybox was designed by another volunteer, Lillian Xu, who is a third year graphic design student at Auckland University of Technology. The funds raised from the new Chinese moneybox will support the projects in leprosy-affected communities in Southern China.

Lucy has already distributed some moneyboxes close to the Mission’s office in Dominion Road, Auckland where there is a concentration of Asian retailers. This initiative has successfully raised over $300 in just a few short months. Lucy will now coordinate the Ethnic Communities volunteer team to distribute moneyboxes in other areas of Auckland that have a similar cultural mix. Lucy is encouraged by the success to date and the backing from a special Leprosy Mission New Zealand supporter. "My thanks go to one kind supporter in Auckland, who primarily funded the printing of 1,000 Chinese moneyboxes. It is great to be part of such a committed passionate team of volunteers and we cannot wait to get these moneyboxes out in the community to raise awareness and funds for the Leprosy Mission's work in China," she says.

If you would like to help us distribute the Chinese moneyboxes around New Zealand please contact Mike Sheppard today: Freephone: 0800 862 873 or mike.sheppard@leprosymission.org.nz

Raising Awareness in NZ

Over the past few months, two local Members of Parliament have visited the Leprosy Mission. We take these opportunities to share what we do both locally and overseas. It’s also a great way to develop the MPs awareness of the essential work LMNZ does.

TOP: Leprosy Mission NZ staff with the National MP, Simon O'Connor. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ. BOTTOM: Leprosy Mission NZ staff with National List MP, Jackie Blue. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Small Amounts Add Up

BACK ROW FROM LEFT: Deirdre Randall, Helen O'Connor, Lorraine Mansell, Annette Fraser, Tillani Van Aswegen. FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: Susie Wall, Elizabeth Vaughan-Bragg, Kaye Davie, Joy Scott, Lyn Nixon. ABSENT: Trish Naden. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Giving circles are emerging as a popular, simple way to give. All it takes is a group of dedicated people to get together and fundraise for a good cause. One such group are The Women's Church Home Group from Gisborne Baptist Church who chose to support people affected by leprosy.

The Women's Group decided on fundraising for a Grain Mill after looking through our *Really Good Gift* catalogue in December last year. Taking just over six months, they fundraised $1,500, to go towards a life-changing grain mill for Ethiopia. The grain mill project is an income generation opportunity for leprosy-affected individuals and themselves so they can support their families.

It just goes to show small amounts do add up. Look out for our upcoming *Really Good Gift* catalogue coming out in early November and create a giving circle to help leprosy-affected individuals and their families.

RUNNING4RIGHTS

ABOVE: Barry Magee with his Olympic bronze medal and Carolyn Currie, Moneybox Coordinator for the Leprosy Mission New Zealand. © 2012 Leprosy Mission NZ

Every year a team of runners and walkers, known as the Running 4 Rights (R4R) team, participates in the Auckland Marathon to raise awareness and project funding for people affected by leprosy.

Our Running 4 Rights team this year is drawing inspiration from Barry Magee, one of our Moneybox Collectors in Auckland. Barry competed in two Olympic Games, and at the 1960 Rome Olympics, won the bronze medal in the Marathon. Barry was trained by athletics legend Arthur Lydiard and raced with Peter Snell, Murray Halberg and Alan McKnight on his side. To read more about Barry and his Olympic success, read the full article on our website www.leprosymission.org.nz/latest-news/running-4-rights-2012.aspx

Barry has been a proud supporter of Leprosy Mission NZ for many years, and is a Moneybox Collector for his local church in Lynfield, Auckland. "I support the great work of the Leprosy Mission because of what Christ has done for me, and they are doing His work. He has poured His love out to me consistently so I like to give His love back through the Mission. When much is given much is required" explains Barry.

The Leprosy Mission is encouraging *inTouch* readers to get a group of friends to join them in a local fun walk/run event and help raise awareness in their community. We had over 30 people join our Running 4 Rights team last year and we raised over $13,000 for leprosy-affected people. This year we are expecting a larger group of runners and we hope to raise over $15,000.

Alternatively, readers can support our Running 4 Rights campaign by donating on Executive Director Brent Morgan's fundraising page www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/BrentMorganR4R12

Bequests

We are extremely grateful to the following supporters who so thoughtfully remembered us in their Will.

Mrs Lenora Mildred Anderson – Wanganui
Mrs Vera Adelaide Parkinson – Raumati
Mrs Thora Henrietta Thomson – Wellington
Mrs Verna Doris Cederman – Christchurch
Ms Majorie Jackson – Warkworth
Miss Phyllis Olive Mills – Auckland
Mrs Gladys Cecilia Edith Hubbard – Auckland
Mr Gilbert Alexander Mills – Auckland
Janet Jackson Greaves – Gisborne
Miss Jean Naismith Hendry – Dunedin
Mrs Zaida May Coad – Auckland
Miss Nancy Sophia Zeinert – Palmerston North
Mr Eric Sides – Christchurch
Mr Bryan Bruce – Blenheim
Mr Alexander Roger Speden – Gore
Miss Elizabeth Mary Browne – Invercargill
Miss Hope Thomas – Christchurch
Miss Sylvia Marie Richardson – Kumeu
Miss Eunice Porteous Brown – Oamuru
Mrs Phyllis Isobel – Auckland
Miss Annie Elizabeth Nedd – Dunedin
Mrs Alexandrina Thomson – Auckland
Mrs Edna Alice Peachey – Hastings
Miss Deirdre Nestor – Upper Hutt
Mrs Audrey Irene Cassells – Porirua

A Lasting Gift for a World Without Leprosy

If you are thinking of leaving a bequest in your Will to the Mission please contact our Donor Development Manager Gillian Whitley for a friendly and confidential chat on 0800 862 873 or you can email her at gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz

Donations Received in Memory of

(Mar 12 - July 12)

Zilla Clement – Auckland
Lawrence Dore – Christchurch
Hannah Peek – Palmerston North

"I am willing"

Use your Will to do God's will

After receiving much needed medical care, Belmati is now happier.

A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, *"Lord, if you are willing, make me clean."* Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. *"I am willing,"* he said. (Matthew 8:2-3)

During your lifetime the number of people affected by leprosy has fallen tremendously. Yet many remain. God cares for them deeply and we know you do too.

Use your Will to make sure there will be hope, light and life for those still affected by leprosy after your lifetime.

Your bequest costs nothing now, but in the future will have great power to transform the lives of the most wounded, rejected and poverty-stricken.

Call Gillian about your bequest

Gillian Whitley would love to answer your bequest questions, either on the phone or even better, over a friendly cup of tea.

Gillian will also send you a really fascinating leaflet about bequests. It tells a beautiful story of how a lasting gift like yours can restore hope and family to those affected by leprosy. The easy process of including the Leprosy Mission New Zealand in your Will is also explained.

Call Gillian now on 09 631 1806 or
email: gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz

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