

inMission

the magazine of cms ireland

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impact
when mission
makes its mark



Credit: Woodsey

making our mark

I have just returned from my local Polling Station (a Church of Ireland hall, as it happens), having exercised my democratic right with an 'X' in the appropriate box. It's General Election time in the UK and it seems as if, one way or another, change is afoot.

Regardless of who 'wins' in my constituency and who forms the new government, it's unlikely to make a significant difference to daily life. But for those countries in Africa and South Asia still recovering from genocide, civil war and political strife, the outworking of the democratic process is of huge importance. It can make the difference between ongoing stability and a return to violence, between hope and despair and in some cases, between life and death. The elections and referenda taking place this year in Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Kenya really do matter; every vote cast is a symbol of freedom and marks a step towards a brighter future.

The UK charity 'Care', which seeks to bring Christian insight into matters of public policy, have been providing resources and analysis during the Election campaign. They've been using the slogan: *Make the Cross Count*. Corny? Maybe. But it's struck a chord with me as I've considered our own situation, as well as the elections in Africa.

My vote, my decision, is an important one. It reflects something of my priorities, my

aspirations and, to some extent, my allegiances. And yet, the mark I made on the ballot paper today is but a shadow compared to the life-changing magnitude of my choice to follow Christ and to align myself with his values and promises. Even for our Global Partners, whose elections really do mean so much, their prime allegiance is to the God of compassion and hope, who offers life in abundance.

As members of Christ's body, we're called to make the cross count. We're expected to make a difference in our world: to have an impact. This is the task for every one of us, despite our flaws and fears. And it happens when we reach out in love, when we put into practice the command to Love God and Love Others.

At our Celebration event, *Impact*, and in the recent Roadshows, we have shared stories of the impact that God is having as people engage in mission. In this edition of *inMission*, we want to continue telling these 'impact stories'. We hear about spiritual renewal in Nepal and Rwanda and transforming service in Kenya and Sudan. There's a chance to explore the impact of CMS Ireland teams and to meet our new Mission Partners, as they prepare to make their mark in other places.

As we share these stories together, may we each be encouraged and inspired to play our part, and make our mark in mission.

Roger Cooke



Toyota Land Cruiser at work in Yei Diocese, Southern Sudan

vehicles for change

Regional Mission Partner, Niall Manogue, shares news of some recent donations to CMS Ireland and considers the impact that these things might have on the work of our Global Partners.

One of my most vivid memories from my time in Uganda is of an old Toyota Land Cruiser that was based at Kiwoko Hospital. This hulk of a vehicle, though structurally and mechanically sound, was a little worn around the edges – it bore the scars of battle from Ugandan roads and terrain.

And yet, despite its ragged appearance, this vehicle was invaluable to the work of the hospital. In my short time at Kiwoko, I saw it used as an ambulance, a drug delivery vehicle, a taxi and a tour vehicle for visitors.

Like many of our Global Partners, Kiwoko can testify to the value and potential of such a multi-purpose vehicle that helps bring hope and healing.

Earlier this year, we were fortunate enough to receive a donation of four TATA off-road vehicles from Donnelly Brothers, a car dealership company based in Northern Ireland. Raymond and Terence Donnelly, who own the company, had been challenged by a friend, who had provided a generator to the Roman Catholic Church working in Kenya. They had been astounded by the impact that was felt in Kenya

by the provision of something that seemed so mundane. Having heard their friend's story, the Donnelly brothers wanted to try to do something to help the Church in Africa bring good news to poor communities. Given their own experience and expertise, the focus of their project seemed obvious: Vehicles for Africa.

In all, 50 vehicles have been offered to agencies representing the four main Churches in Ireland. CMS Ireland has been able to send four of these TATAs to our partners in Sudan, Burundi and Kenya. Once there, they will see the same variety of service as our vehicle in Uganda. They will transport supplies, they will facilitate pastors visiting remote congregations, they will help to support community development projects.

As the church is empowered to reach out with a message of transformation, these vehicles have the potential to help spread that message. They will be vehicles for change.

As I reflect on that idea – something ordinary and everyday like a vehicle, being used by our extraordinary God to bring transformation – I am challenged to live out that reality in my own life. How can God use me in my ordinariness to have an impact, wherever I am? How can I, how can you, be a vehicle for change?

Niall Manogue



A house fellowship in Kathmandu

church service

stories of healing and renewal in nepal

CMS Ireland partners with a Nepali church, based in Kathmandu. It is a church for the marginalised, led by the marginalised and it is a church that is very much alive in worship and service.

The political situation in Nepal is currently tense and uncertain and many Christian communities have been under scrutiny. In this story, our Global Partner is simply referred to as 'SD Church'. We also refrain from using the names of the church leaders, who provide the following insight into the huge impacts that God is making in Nepal.

SD Church was started 17 years ago by three disabled people who met together every week. Today, around 200 people attend the main church in Kathmandu, there are nine daughter churches and more than 30 house fellowships in different parts of the country, and church-planting is taking place in 14 different districts. God is transforming lives in Nepal and is blessing the work of SD church. He has impacted the life of the Pastor, his family and the members of our church. And through these

people, God is helping to bring new life to many, many people.

One of the main reasons for the dramatic growth seen by SD Church is the way in which God has blessed the work of our Non-Government Organisation, *Friends' Service*, which includes a Patient Navigator project. Through this project, we help patients through the complicated and sometimes corrupt health system. We provide patient advocacy, transportation, assistance at the medical facilities, safe and clean accommodation, quality care and nutritious food both in hospital and in our church compound.

Through this Patient Navigator Project, we receive patients from different remote parts of Nepal as they come for medical treatment in Kathmandu. We try our best to reflect God through our life, our work and our care for them, so that they can know the love of God. As a result, God is changing lives - around 50% of these patients have decided to follow Jesus and around 30% have been baptised while they stay with us.

One couple came to Kathmandu on referral from a remote rural hospital for the treatment of the wife's uterine cancer problem – both husband and wife were less than 20-years old. The wife went through several chemotherapy treatments and was cared for by the *Friends' Service* team for almost one year, during which time she received prayer, care, love and encouragement from the team and from the SD community. As a result of this experience, both she and her husband were baptised.

The doctor advised the lady not to have a baby for another 3 years, but this was very painful for her and her husband – in Nepal, family is very important and couples generally have children at a young age. They requested that the church pray for them to have a baby and were assured that if it was God's will, the baby would be fine. She became pregnant shortly afterwards and much to the doctor's surprise, the baby developed well and was safely delivered just before Christmas last year. The couple brought their son to church on Christmas Day and shared their story of God's Christmas Gift. God has impacted this couple's lives and when they returned to their village a few weeks ago, they shared their new faith with their families and neighbours.

"As God touches people's lives, they are sharing this impact with others and whole communities are being transformed".

Another story involves a man from the Far Western Region of Nepal, who came to Kathmandu with his 11-year old daughter, so she could have heart surgery. On their first visit, they stayed with us at our compound for just over one month, during which the father heard about Jesus Christ for the first time. After three months, they returned to Kathmandu for the second time – the father decided to become a Christian and was baptised. On his third visit, he received regular, informal, in-house bible training from our pastor, church leaders and

members. As a result, he asked for several Bibles, tracks and Christian books to help him share the Good News with his family, friends and villagers. We sent him back home with all the things he asked for and some extras that he may need in future. We got a phone call from the man a few weeks ago saying that he had started a small house church in his home, with five families attending. As God touches people's lives, they are sharing this impact with others and whole communities are being transformed.

As a church, we've been involved in running a few outreach events in other parts of Nepal. In March of this year, a team of fifteen from SD ran a two-day open-air event in the home village of one our church leaders. There were no Christians living in this village, so we wanted to share the Good News of Jesus. 180 people attended the programme on the first day, with more than 550 people coming on the second day, to hear the presentation and be part of the programme. 20 people became Christians on that day and we were asked back to follow-up on the event. We know that our friends in Ireland and across the world were praying for us during this event and we thank God for answering these prayers.

God is at work in Nepal, opening hearts, bringing healing, changing lives. Please continue to pray for our partners there, as they seek to Love God and Love Others.



Many in rural Nepal have never heard the Christian message of hope



Credit: Paul Morley

ripples and reflections

impact: annual celebration 2010

"I believe that when people do something little in the name of the Lord, the Lord will bless it and the impact will be there."

These are the words of Bishop Jeremiah Taama of Kajiado Diocese, Kenya speaking (via skype) to those attending **impact**, CMS Ireland's Annual Celebration, which took place on 24th April at the Emmaus Centre, Swords.

Bishop Taama was just one of a number of voices on the evening, sharing stories of the impact that God is having on lives and communities, as churches and individuals reach out in mission.

Ken Rue from Whitechurch, Dublin shared something about the parish's link with Shyogwe Diocese in Rwanda and the transforming impact that this relationship is having on both partners. Stories were shared by Rev Jim Carson and members of St Paul's, Lisburn, who have recently taken part in a two-way exchange with Kajiado Diocese – a growing partnership that is bringing about widespread change.

Individuals such as Sarah Hutchinson (STEP volunteer to Nepal), Charles Sherwin (Sudan

META) and Christopher Orr (St Paul's Kenya META) shared their own impact stories of how their experiences have shaped, and continue to shape their lives.

We also heard from a number of our Global Partners who sent news of how God is working through them to touch and change lives. They each wanted to thank CMS Ireland and the Link Parishes for the many ways in which they offer support.

The evening, which was attended by around 50 of the Society's members and supporters, involved: 'Looking Up'..in worship, 'Looking Back'...over a year of blessing and 'Looking Forward'...to what God has in store for us in the coming year.

For those of us who work on the CMS Ireland staff team, it's easy to get caught up in the everyday challenges and lose sight of the countless stories we hear of God's impact on people's lives. The **impact** event was a chance for us all, as staff, Trustees and supporters, to celebrate these stories and to give thanks to God for his provision and love over the past year. It's an event we hope to repeat annually, perhaps in a different location each year. We

trust that it will grow and develop into a key focal point for the Society, as together we seek to Love God and Love Others.

As Bishop Taama remarked, even in the little things, the small seeds, God is at work and will use our efforts to make an impact in His name and for His purposes. So a maize seed can transform a community; a motorbike

can transform a ministry; an encounter with someone from a different culture can change a life.

By taking time each year to Look Up, Look Back and Look Forward together, we hope that we can encourage and inspire others to play their part, however small, and to share their own story of how God is impacting lives through mission.

reflections on **impact**

*"This year has been one full of challenges and opportunities for the Society...In the weeks and months ahead, the stories shared at **impact** will encourage and enthuse us... as we seek to do our part in God's mission."* **Brian Lavery, Acting Director of Mission**

"What I enjoyed the most was listening to how God has changed people's lives through the experience of going on a META." **Warnock Edmunds, member**

"The programme was excellent. Meeting the newly selected Mission Partners on screen and hearing them tell their stories was memorable." **Audrey Smith, member**

*"The **impact** evening was encouraging and uplifting. It gave a real sense of being part of something bigger than ourselves... impacting our relationship with God."* **Anne Buckley, Staff**

*"It is so exciting to see the impact on people who step out in service and how it propels them forward in their faith journey. **impact** was a blessing to all of us who were privileged to hear, first hand, some of their stories and to see them shine in a new light."* **Clifford McSpadden, Chairman of Board of Trustees**

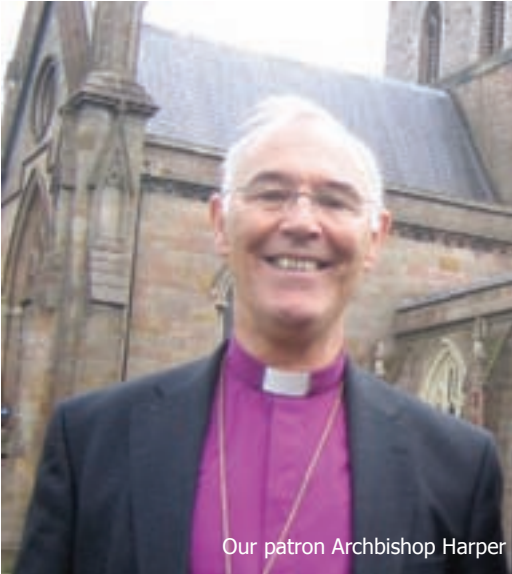
Praying in June

Dublin Office - Tue 1st June, 7:30pm
Belfast Office - Mon 7th June, 7:30pm

Two special prayer meetings as we look back with thanks and look forward with anticipation.
Please note - there will be no prayer gatherings in July or August.

mission in its place

a vision for the Church



Our patron Archbishop Harper

As most of you will be aware, CMS Ireland is still without a permanent Mission Director, despite a significant investment of time and prayer in a thorough and positive recruitment process.

Some might perceive this as a cause for concern, but for those on the Board and Staff, this has been a time of hope and peace. In recent months, there has been a profound awareness of God's presence and of His blessing on our work. There has also been an eagerness to listen to what God might be saying to us in the midst of this experience and as we look to the future.

Within this context of pausing to listen and learn, we've been hugely encouraged by the support and wise counsel offered by a number of trusted friends, not least our Patron, Archbishop Harper, Primate of all Ireland and Metropolitan.

As we've sought to discern God's voice and guidance, Archbishop Alan has listened with us, has helped focus our thinking and has offered warm words of affirmation. But more than that,

he has enthused us with a vision of mission that resonates with much of our own thinking and emphases. He has shared with us his desire to put mission in its place – right at the centre of the Church of Ireland.

This passion for a truly 'mission-shaped Church' was evident in the Archbishop's Presidential Address at the recent General Synod in Dublin. In a talk entitled 'The Priority of Mission in the Church of God', he outlined his vision for mission being at the very heart of parish life in Ireland. Referring to recent deliberations of the Church of Ireland Council for Mission, the Archbishop remarked:

"The Council for Mission has rightly identified the need for the People of God, especially as represented in the institutional church, to recognise the absolute priority of mission as the hallmark of the life of the Christian and the Christian Church...Simply relying upon doing what we have always done and being inward looking is not adequate as society changes. Therefore we need a broader and deeper understanding of contemporary mission."

This is a clear call to action, a compelling invitation to ensure that mission becomes an everyday reality that shapes our faith and service. And for CMS Ireland, this comes at an ideal time.

This Autumn sees the launch of an ambitious, exciting and much-anticipated resource, **Discover**, which we've designed to help parishes and small groups deepen their understanding of, and engagement in, mission. Our hope is that **Discover** will provide a fresh opportunity for the Church to think about, talk about and actively involve themselves in God's work of transformation.

The Church is called to engage in God's mission. CMS Ireland is called to help. Surely this is a vision worth signing up to.

DiSCoVeR_

mission _ connection _ identity

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did so. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”

Mark Twain

A dynamic new resource to help churches engage in mission.

_DVD

_Leader’s Guide

_Study Guide

_Website



**Available
September 2010**

www.discovermission.org



Credit: Sally Scott

little people, big trees

a biblical reflection from Rwanda

[Luke 19:1-9]

This story shows how Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus and know who Jesus was, but this man Zacchaeus had hindrances, things that made it difficult. Being a short man in stature and because of the size of the crowd, Zacchaeus could not achieve his goal of seeing Jesus.

We can learn two simple lessons from Zacchaeus. Firstly, he was determined: in spite of being a wealthy man, he ran ahead of the crowd - he was not ashamed. Secondly, Zacchaeus humbled himself: he climbed a sycamore tree, so that he could maybe see Jesus.

Jesus realised that Zacchaeus was thirsty and hungry to know him and so he called Zacchaeus to hurry down from the tree, so that he might open his house to Jesus.

In our work and ministry in Shyogwe Diocese, these lessons from Zacchaeus are very familiar. Many people are in need to meet Jesus so that they can accept him as their Lord and personal saviour, but they are faced with many things, which hinder them from seeing Jesus. Some are

still suffering from the trauma of the genocide 16 years ago. Many are living with HIV/AIDS. Others have been left widowed and orphaned as a result of such tragedies. Poverty and poor education are also still 'shortening' people to welcome Jesus in their hearts - they continue to look for hope but remained helplessly lost. All these people are longing to be free. They need comfort, hope and healing.

God is the source of true life and freedom. He has done things to reach us and give us hope, and he came into the world Himself in the person of Jesus Christ to seek for those who are lost.

As Christians, we serve the One who alone can meet humanity's deepest needs. Our purpose, as the Church, is to help people find the answer to their problems, to serve those both within and outside the community.

In Shyogwe Diocese, we compare some of our activities to the sycamore tree, which people can climb to see God's goodness, to see who Jesus is and to receive spiritual healing. I'd like to share some examples of our activities.

There have been changes and impacts within our young people, who were known as youth at risk but now, are becoming youth with hope. One lady, named Mutuyamana Corotlide, completed her training with sewing machines, and she now has a her own workshop. She is also training other young people which provides an extra source of income. This has become a big testimony in that area; she is now a new and important person in the community. She is no longer a person 'at risk', but instead she offers a miraculous story of hope.

For those living with HIV/AIDS, we help them to meet in cooperatives, where they work together in a way that helps their families. We teach them how they can fight the increase and the impacts of the disease. We share with them the word of God, which helps them to recognize His love upon them. They are now able to share their testimony with others, of how they were changed and got hope of new life, not only earthly life but also eternal life.

"God is the source of true life and freedom. He has done things to reach us and give us hope... to seek for those who are lost."

One example is of Ntambara Celestin from Ntenyo Parish, who was in a critical condition and facing stigma in his village. He remained at home, without taking medicine, awaiting death. But through the work of the anti-AIDS club of Ntenyo Parish, the man was offered hope and began to take medicine. He came to the church, where he gave his life to Jesus and then invited his entire family to church. He even got married with his wife in the church. Today, he is a church warden. His neighbours are asking if he is really the same person that they knew before. We thank God for changing his life.

We also try to respond to ignorance that has arisen from a lack of education. We provide training for people, so that they help bring hope and life to their own communities. We help provide secondary schools, where people receive knowledge and vocational schools where

people get skills. In a Bible and Development school, we train the catechists and lay readers in biblical and practical matters. Then, when they are back in their community, they will help themselves and also their community - we call this 'training the trainers.'

One of our former students, Denys Serukabuza is not only a lay reader, but an exemplary farmer in his village - people are coming to learn from him, because of what he is doing. After the Sunday service, Denys visits at least one home of the members of the congregation, to see if they have imitated what they saw from his garden.

In evangelism, we started the cell groups where ten homes meet and share the word of God. We have four pillars in cell group teachings: sharing the word of God in the families; fighting against poverty; unity and reconciliation; supporting the church through our talents, spiritual gifts and our property. As a result of these groups, people are making new friendships, some who were enemies are becoming friends.

Zacchaeus became an important person in the community when salvation had come to his house. In Shyogwe, we hope that those who are transformed by God will also be useful within and outside the church. Please keep praying for us so that we achieve this goal in God's ministry.

**Rev Canon Emmanuel Gasana.
Shyogwe Diocese, Rwanda.**

A prayer

Jesus - Saviour, Healer,
Friend of the outcast -
Thank you that you see us,
that you know, that you care.

Help us to love those who are forgotten.
Through our words and our actions,
May we help them see you.

Amen



Credit: Jill Battaglia

good to go

introducing our new mission partners

Over the years, CMS Ireland has sent and supported many individuals and families to work alongside our Global Partners, as they engage in mission. We thank God for all these Mission Partners and we ask for your continued prayers for those who are currently serving in Nepal, Kenya, Uganda and Burundi. We're delighted to announce that we've added to their number!

In March, Paul and Tania Baker, from Bangor, along with Lucy Burden, from Lisburn, were selected to serve as CMS Ireland Mission Partners. Lucy hopes to head to Nepal in early 2011, to work in the PE Department of the Kathmandu International Study Centre (KISC). In the Autumn edition of inMission, we'll introduce Lucy and share a little bit of her story. But in this edition, we want to turn the spotlight on the Bakers and hear something of their journey so far.

Paul and Tania Baker live in Bangor, where they attend Hamilton Road Baptist Church. They've been married for eight years and have recently been accepted as Mission Partners, to serve as part of the team at Kiwoko Hospital, Uganda. Tania works for Abaana, a Christian charity which aims to show young people in

Ireland how they can support needy children in Africa. Paul is a Medical Engineer, installing, maintaining and repairing medical equipment (such as X-ray machines).

inMission - What led you to apply for Mission Partner service with CMS Ireland?

Paul - For three or four years Tania and I have been taking teams to Uganda with 'Abaana'. This has opened our eyes to the many needs in that part of the world and has shown us how we might be able to meet some of those needs. For a couple of years we've felt a desire to go into full-time ministry there but never saw an opportunity. Then we stumbled across a notice for a 'Site Engineer' at Kiwoko Hospital. Given my background and training, I felt I had to apply!

iM - How have you found the process of application/selection?

Tania - We have found the process incredibly challenging and very worthwhile. It involved endless soul-searching and a lot of prayer. We didn't see it as a job application, more a process of discovering God's will for our lives.



New Mission Partners Paul and Tania Baker will be working at Kiwoko Hospital in Uganda

To have a group of experienced Christians guide us through determining God's plan for us and confirming 'the call' has been invaluable. The CMS Ireland staff have given us tremendous support and we really appreciate how thorough they've been.

iM - What will be your main roles, as Mission Partners in Uganda?

Paul – My role will be Site Engineer at Kiwoko Hospital. I look forward to working with the Ugandan staff and putting maintenance programmes in place. Hopefully my experience as a Medical Systems Engineer will be of benefit. I would also like to get involved in the Sports Ministry program the hospital are running in the area.

Tania – My primary focus is likely to be the Women's Resource centre – training local women in skills like sewing and crafts, so that they can make an income to support themselves and their families. There may also be the potential to help with the hospitality required at Kiwoko, with many visiting medical students.

iM - What are you most looking forward to about being Mission Partners in Uganda?

Tania - We're both really looking forward to seeing and being part of God's love in

action and witnessing lives being changed. We believe that we'll have a lot to learn from the experience and from the Ugandans about complete dependence on God. The nice weather will be a bonus too!

iM - You still have quite a bit of preparation and training before you go to Uganda. What would you like people to pray for in the next few months?

Paul - As we leave the stability of our current jobs and prepare to enroll in Bible College this September, we would appreciate your thoughts and prayers. As we move closer to a New Year departure, leaving family and friends will be difficult and we would appreciate your prayers for this.

We are looking for churches and individuals to 'adopt' Paul and Tania, and some to do likewise for Lucy, and to support them through prayer, friendship and finance. Please contact the staff for more information.

Mission Partner Update

Mark and Ali Gill have now settled into their new home and new roles in Dadeldhura Hospital, in the Far Western Region of Nepal. Mark's role involves overseeing a major extension and hospital development project, as well as providing some input to the management of the hospital. Ali will be providing support to midwives and to expectant and new mothers.

Alison Gill will be returning to the UK for a period of home assignment in June and will be taking part in the Mid-Africa Focus night in Belfast on 29th June. Please pray for Alison as she catches up with family, friends and supporters.

You can catch up on all the latest news and views from our Mission Partners via their blogs: www.cmsireland.org/blogs



Diocesan staff and Mission Partner Ronnie Briggs explain where the support to buy seeds and goats has come from.

when money counts

the positive impacts of financial support

When we, as CMS Ireland staff members, speak about 'supporting the Global Church in mission', we try to challenge the notion that it's primarily about money and the funding of projects. But within the context of healthy relationships, money does make a real difference to the work of our Global Partners and it's important to tell those stories.

In recent months, Kajiado Diocese in Kenya and a number of Global Partners in Southern Sudan have witnessed the positive impact that money can have.

Kajiado: Emergency Appeal 2009/10 Ronnie Briggs

The Diocese of Kajiado promotes a 'holistic' gospel. What that really means for us is that every activity has both a physical and a spiritual aspect to it. The Diocese sees physical development programmes as helping to support the spiritual outreach of all the parishes. That is why we became involved in a Diocesan-wide food relief effort late last year and into 2010.

The whole Diocese was affected by drought and famine, but one of the worst-hit areas was that of Loitokitok, where people had missed four harvesting seasons in a row. The suffering and hardship that this brought was distressing to see and a number of people – especially the old and the ill – eventually died due to malnutrition.

We wanted to respond to the crisis and we asked CMS Ireland to help. An Emergency Appeal was launched in October, which raised over £10,000 from parishes and individuals in Ireland.

Thanks to this support, we managed to reach about 420 households, across 7 parishes – about 2,520 people in all. The impact on these people was literally the difference between life and death.

Rev Naftaly Lemooke is the acting Archdeacon for Loitokitok Archdeaconry. He headed up the relief effort and has this to say about the initiative:

"This support came at just the right time. A family in Loitokitok had come to the very end of their own resources and had no seeds left as the

planting season approached. They were looking at a bleak future and were not sure what to do. Then they were offered seeds through the Church and their joy knew no bounds as they began immediately to prepare their fields for planting. Another family of lifelong herders lost virtually all their animals. They were offered some seeds and so they decided to try something completely new for them and plant out a crop of maize. They are now looking forward to their first harvest ever.”

The start of this year has brought very heavy rains; many more people will have their first harvest for a long time. As the year goes on we will continue to support those who are in need with planting seeds for the next rains so that some semblance of ‘normality’ can be restored into people’s lives.

Southern Sudan: international funding & parish support

In last summer’s *inMission*, we told the story of CMS Ireland’s support of the Church in Southern Sudan. Two sizeable funding programmes had been secured from international donors and were beginning to have an effect on the ground in the Dioceses of Yei, Rokon, Kajokeji and Lainya – four of our Global Partners in the region.

One year on, the money from these funds, along with ongoing support from parishes in Ireland, is having a huge impact on the lives of individuals and communities. What began for Church leaders in Southern Sudan as dreams, aspirations and ‘paper proposals’ are being witnessed as tangible signs of compassion, service and love. No more so than in the areas of education and health.

Some years ago, Bishop Hilary Adeba of Yei Diocese identified a vision for primary education, with a new school building for every archdeaconry. Bishop Hilary is thrilled that this dream has become a reality three years ahead of target, thanks to the international funding, as well as the ongoing support from churches such as Delgany and Kill in Dublin. In a moving email entitled “Great Dream Come True” the Bishop remarks:

“We would not have been able to achieve our goal without our partners. It is here that people should see the good thing working with partners, enabling things to get done. We are extremely thankful.”

There have been significant investments in Primary Health Care services in Yei, Lainya and the surrounding areas, which have seen around 7,000 patients treated each month. 30 health staff have completed or are undergoing health training – a clear investment in a sustainable future. A commitment to providing clean water and good sanitation also constitutes an attempt at preventing, not just treating disease. The drilling of 9 boreholes and the creation of 76 pit latrines are already having an impact on schools and communities.

As the Diocese of Kajido and the Church of Southern Sudan seek to respond to deep and diverse needs, CMS Ireland, with parishes and donors, are committed to supporting them. As an important part of this support, money counts.

A big thank you to all those who provide financial support CMS Ireland and our Global Partners. And a special thanks to the Women’s Committee in Dublin, whose Spring Sale recently raised €2523 to support the work of our partners in India.



The official opening of Panyana Primary School, Yei



The 2009 Ekisa META to Kiwoko Hospital, Uganda working with a Ugandan team to run children's programmes

the META journey

more than simply 'A to B'

As CMS Ireland seeks to develop healthy, dynamic relationships between the Church in Ireland and the Church in other parts of the world, Mission Experience Teams Abroad (METAs) play a major role.

This summer, CMS Ireland is sending METAs to Rwanda, Uganda and Sudan. But as Youth and Children's Coordinator Julie Currie explains, a CMS Ireland META involves much more than simply a trip from 'here' to 'there' – it's a much longer and deeper journey than that.

You may have heard people talking about having been, or preparing to go, on a 'META' with CMS Ireland. But what are METAs all about?

METAs are short-term teams for those who want a hands-on experience of mission but don't want to commit to anything long-term... quite yet!

CMS Ireland METAs go to work alongside our Global Partners, to experience life and work there and to get a taste of a different culture. They are life-changing opportunities for people who want to grow in their faith and be part of

the World Church, to be transformed by the experience and bring it back to the Church in Ireland.

We see these teams as a real encouragement to our Global Partners. It is a privilege to see individuals develop and deepen in their own faith through the experiences they have and through meeting and worshipping with God's Global family.

But when and how does the META journey begin and what's involved?

We place great emphasis on each stage of the selection and preparation process for METAs, taking each individual on a journey, from the initial application, to the interview, to training days and preparation, to being *in situ* and to debriefing and follow up on their return to Ireland.

Julie Green, Assistant Team Leader, offers an insider's look at the experiences of this year's Rwanda META so far:

"On a cold and wet Monday night in February, fourteen rather nervous team members and leaders met for the first time as the 'Rwanda

team'. It was great to laugh about the initial 'interviews' and feel relieved that that part was over. We all admitted to having felt nervous beforehand, but everyone agreed that it was a more pleasant experience than we had envisaged! It had been great to spend time chatting through why we wanted to go on the team and to share something about our faith. After the initial stage of shyness of meeting new people (which lasted for all of three minutes) we were a team full of laughter and oneness with the same vision to serve God and to get the most from the experience.

"Our team meetings are once a month until we go. We have spent a residential together, which taught us lots about ourselves, team building, cultural awareness and even a wee bit of language prep - although we may need a lot of help with our Kinyarwanda! Our team is called AMEQ - the 'Alpha and Omega Team', where God is at the beginning and the end and we are in the middle surrounded by Gods love, support and protection."

By spending time together in training and preparation, META members get to know one another and develop close relationships long before they board the plane. Not only does this enhance the experience and improve the effectiveness of the visit – it also means that from an early stage, there are opportunities for lives to be challenged and transformed through

friendship and sharing. And as Julie explains, the process of planning a programme is also an important aspect of the META experience.

"We are heading out to run a youth camp and are in the process of putting together the programme with simple sketches, dramas, songs and games to teach and learn. We will be joining with the Rwandan youth team, running the camp together and working alongside the youth of the diocese as they do some social action – building two houses for two returnee refugee families".

The impact of a META visit is often dramatic and it's common for people to return to Ireland feeling that they've been changed. Part of the META approach is to follow-up with the team, to help people process and share their experience and explore what it might mean for their lives in the near and not-so-near future. So we provide debriefing for team members and we arrange reunions. Such things are designed to maximise the potential of each META and to ensure that it's more than just a three week experience.

People often say that once you have been on a team, the journey is just beginning. Where might METAs take you?

Julie Currie

The AMEQ team have started a blog on the CMS Ireland website where you can keep up to date with all their news.



The Rwanda META will be seeing the impact of the 2009 Annual Project on the lives of local farmers.

Photo Credit: Philip Briggs

momentum

reflect...share...keep moving

An evening of thanksgiving for METAs and short-term placements

An opportunity to remember your experience and move forward

Friday 17th September, 8pm
CMS Ireland Offices, Belfast

global village

Baby news!



CMS Ireland is delighted to announce the arrival of the newest addition to our Mission Partner family. Gideon Mugisha Wilson was born on Sunday 18th April at 7.40pm in Kiwoko Hospital, weighing in at a healthy 3.8kg. Rory and Denise are well and are enjoying the new adventure

of parenthood! Please continue to remember the Wilsons, particularly as they visit family and friends in Ireland and then return to Uganda.

Please also remember the den Breejen family, working in Arua in Madi West Nile, Uganda, who are expecting their fourth child in June.

Giving thanks for long-term supporters



CMS Ireland relies on the faithful and dedicated support of many members. We want to give thanks for the Parish Reps who have recently stepped down from this role, including: Muriel

Abernethy, Ken Baker, Muriel Brown, Muriel Cregan, Kay Elliot, Olga Fleming, John Logan, Jean Lynas, Maisie Meenagh, Richard Noris, Janette Weir and Mrs S Worthington.

In particular we would like to pay tribute to Dinah Curran and Sheilagh Jebb for their many years of service and support of CMS Ireland.

We also want to thank God for the life, faith and support of Ms Alison Hall who sadly passed away at the beginning of May, having reached the age of 100.

Communications Updates



Thank you to all who returned the Communications Update slips included in the last *inMission* – this means that we can make sure you are receive the information you want from CMS Ireland, in the way you want to receive it. Thank you to also all those who gave us feedback about *inMission* and also those who contributed to the costs of producing and posting this magazine. All of this is a great help in ensuring that we are as efficient and cost effective as possible in sharing news from the Society, our Global Partners and Mission Partners.

If you would like to update your preferences or let us know what you think of *inMission* or any of our other publications, please contact Stella (Dublin) or Rachel (Belfast) by telephone or email.

Mid Africa Partnership Focus Evening



On **Tuesday 29th June**, CMS Ireland will host a Mid Africa Partnership Focus Evening. The evening will start at 7.30pm in our Belfast Offices. CMS Ireland is delighted to welcome Bishop Jered Kalimba from Shyogwe Diocese, Rwanda

and CMS Ireland Mission Partner Alison Gill, who is based in Burundi, as the main speakers for this event.

All with a heart for the Mid Africa Region are most welcome. Please contact our offices to reserve your place, or for more information.

If you are interested in Mid Africa – don't forget the Mid Africa Conference. See back page for details.

Summer Madness 2010: Dare to Share

2nd - 6th July King's Hall, Belfast.
CMS Ireland will be in the CIYD venue.

Sunday Schools get "Hands On!"

This year, 75 parishes across Ireland have got involved in the Hands On! Kiwoko Annual Project – a fantastic response! As part of the project, Sunday Schools were invited to send us their ideas for a mural for the wall of the Children's Ward of Kiwoko Hospital.

Thank you to all who sent in their ideas – they were super and you will be receiving a certificate in the post! All of the entries can be seen at www.cmsireland.org.

After some very tough decisions, the winners in the each of the three age categories are:



Ewan Cruickshank
Desertcreat Parish



Ellen Bates
Woodschapel Sunday School



Rebecca Kelly
St Mark's, Dundela

Congratulations!

Partnerships in Mission

Mission Partnerships:

Burundi

Dioceses of Gitega and Matana

DR Congo

Dioceses of Bukavu, Kindu and North Kivu

Egypt and Ethiopia

Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

India

Christine Matthews Health and Development Society

Kenya

Diocese of Kajiado, Urban Development Programme, All Saints Cathedral - Nairobi

Nepal

Human Development and Community Services (HDCS), SD Church

Romania

Brashov and Bucharest

Rwanda

Dioceses of Kibungo, Shyogwe and Gahini

Sudan

Province of ECS, Bishop Allison Theological College, Dioceses of Maridi, Yei, Lainya, Kajokeji, Rokon and Ibba

Uganda

Dioceses of Luwero, Ruwenzori, North Kigezi, Madi West Nile, Chilli Children and Uganda Christian University

Zambia

Diocese of Northern Zambia

Mission Personnel:

Mission Partners

- Aart and Geesje den Breejen with Anne-Fleur, Ruben and Jan Lucas, Diocese of Madi West Nile
- Ronnie and Maggie Briggs, Diocese of Kajiado
- Alison Gill, Province of Burundi
- Mark and Ali Gill, HDCS, Nepal
- Ken and Judith Finch, Diocese of Luwero
- Rory and Denise Wilson, Diocese of Luwero.

Mission Associates

- Isabelle Prondzynski, All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi
- Canon John and Lillian Kanyikwa, Diocese of Yei

- Deidre and Mark Zimmerman with Zachary and Benjamin Nick Simons Institute, Nepal

- Simon and Lizzie Guillebaud with Zac and Grace, Burundi

- John and Poppy Spens, Diocese of Yei, Sudan

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Roger Cooke

Youth and Children's Coordinator

Julie Currie

Regional Personnel Coordinator

Gillian Maganda



Mid-Africa Conference 2010

This year's Mid-Africa Partnership Conference will be held in Glenada Conference Centre in Newcastle, Co. Down.

It will take place on **10th – 12th September**. The wide-ranging programme will include a Bible study series and updates from CMS Ireland Global Partners and Mission Partners at work in this region.

Please join us as we explore the unfolding story of God's Mission.

For more information contact our Dublin or Belfast offices.

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