



AFRICA INLAND MISSION
INTERNATIONAL / ASIA-PACIFIC

AFRICA *news*

"Christ-centred churches among all African peoples"

www.aimint.org

JUN-SEPT 2015



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Young farmers in Lesotho are being trained to lead like Jesus. Australian short-term workers with Africa Inland Mission, Ken and Julie James from Sydney, are training young Christian famers like Kuenelo and

Nondumiso (pictured) to be influential leaders who will live out the Gospel in their own communities. Ken and Julie are praying that some of the Basotho farmers will catch the vision to take the Gospel to other parts of Africa.

This would repeat what their Basotho ancestors did more than 100 years ago, when they took the Gospel to the Barotse people along the Zambezi River.
Full story on page 6-7.

PAST AIM WORKERS REMEMBERED



Tribute to Ken York

Veteran Africa Inland Mission worker Ken York died on 22 January in Western Australia, having served with AIM from 1974 to 2004.

Ken first left Australia for Kenya in 1974 with his wife Barbara and two young children,

Andrew and Suzanne. Ken initiated evangelistic safaris with pastors from different villages, as part of his ministry at Kapsowar among the Maraquet people. Sleeping on the floor of a mud hut, packed in like sardines with the pastors was enjoyable in the early years

of service, especially as new Churches were formed. Teaching scripture and geography at the girl's mission school and preaching, was challenging and satisfying.

A short time at Eldama Ravine was followed by more than 20 years at Moffat Bible College at Kijabe. He loved teaching different subjects and his sense of humour endeared him to the students and carried him through some difficult situations. Ken also served at times as Dean of Admissions, Outreach Dean for the students' practical ministries and the soccer coach.

During the past three years of retirement he developed heart failure which greatly limited his physical activities. He was always aware of his weakness and his need of God's help so Psalm 121: 1-2 was special to him "I lift

up my eyes to the hills-where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth."

Bernice Dalziel Remembered

Bernice Dalziel passed away on 2 March, aged 94. Retired Africa Inland Mission worker, Alan Checkley remembers Bernice as AIM's first Western Australia committee secretary, who did a wonderful job.

"Her mother, Bessie Stephenson, travelled to Kenya with Stuart and Elise Bryson in 1919 to marry Ernest Dalziel, who was in Kenya with another mission. Ernest joined AIM on the field.

Bernice was a very competent secretary to the Governor in Kenya up to the time of independence. They then retired to Cottesloe, Perth."



Have you ever wondered about making friends with Muslims?



AFRICA INLAND MISSION
INTERNATIONAL | ASIA-PACIFIC

AND

crescent project

HOPE WORTH SHARING

Present special events on

Christian's sharing the Hope with Muslims

Hear International Guest Speaker, Author and President of the Crescent Project, *Fouad Masri* speak about effective communication with Muslim people

Sydney 22 August

Brisbane 25 August

Adelaide 27 August

Melbourne 29 August

For information and to Register: AfricaInlandMission.org/au or 02 4322 4777



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INTRODUCING NEW WORKERS WITH AIM



Jeremy and Felicity Aitken, with Orlando and Caspian,

have recently been approved as new full-term workers with Africa Inland Mission.

The Aitken family currently live in Adelaide where Jeremy is completing study at the Adelaide College of Ministries. They attend Clovercrest Baptist Church. The family initially

came from Melbourne where they attended Mooroolbark Baptist Church. Both Jeremy and Felicity are trained nurses, with Jeremy specialising in theatre nursing and Felicity in midwifery. Jeremy has also worked as a wildlife officer. They previously joined an AIM medi-quest team in East Africa in 2010.

Jeremy and Felicity share a passion to reach and disciple the unreached peoples of Africa. They are currently considering joining a Focus Team among the Laarim people of South Sudan, starting mid-2016.

Both Jeremy and Felicity are completing some Bible-knowledge requirements. They will also be completing AIM's Australian-based orientation program including the new Equip training (equip.

aimint.org) and building a team of prayer and financial supporters prior to departure to Africa.

David McGowen,

joined the Australian office team as Finance Assistant in March. David will work two days a week, and his main roles will be receipting income for AIM and replying to donors.

David is an accountant and is member of EV Church in Gosford. David is originally from Orange in NSW. He has a keen interest in mission and is eager to serve the Lord. David provides welcomed assistance for Robbyn Lesleighter in the Finance office.



AIM EVENTS FOCUS ON SHARING THE HOPE WITH MUSLIMS

Africa Inland Mission in Australia is holding events in August to help Christians share the Hope with Muslims. These begin with the AIM Australia annual conference in Sydney on 22 August, followed by evening seminars in Brisbane, and Adelaide, and an all-day seminar in Melbourne.

Guest speaker is Fouad Masri, founder and president of the Crescent Project in the United States. Fouad is an author and lecturer and was born and raised in the war zone of Beirut, Lebanon. As a third generation pastor, he has a passion for sharing the love of Christ with Muslims and has spent most of his life doing just that.

In 1993, Fouad founded Crescent Project to nurture transformational relationships between Christians and Muslims and overcome misconceptions about Islam and Christianity.

Fouad is an ordained minister and

has been ministering to Muslims since 1979. He has trained more than 18,000 Christian to sensitively and purposefully share their faith with Muslims. He has served as a guest instructor at several universities and Christian ministries and has been featured in media publications, including Christianity Today, Newsweek, Mission Network News, and on CBN, TBN, the Janet Parshall Show, and Prime Time America.

He is the producer and teacher in the DVD study, "Bridges: Christians Connecting with Muslims." In Bridges, he further exposes Christians to the urgent need for understanding about Islam and Muslims. In 2014, this course was offered by AIM to churches in Sydney. A number of churches have already participated.

Fouad is author of "Is the Injeel Corrupted?" and "Ambassadors to Muslims". Fouad holds a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication and an

M.A. from Fuller Theological Seminary in Islamic Studies.

Fouad lives in Indianapolis, Indiana, with his wife Lisa and their two children.

These special events will also highlight some of AIM's ministry to unreached African people groups, including Muslims. Events are in Sydney, at the Collaroy Center on 22 August; in Brisbane at Beenleigh Baptist Church on 25 August; in Adelaide at Tabor College on 27 August and in Melbourne at the Melbourne School of Theology on 29 August.

For more information or to register for these events, contact AIM 02 4322 4777 or register online via AfricaInlandMission.org/au. Early bird registrations close 30 June.





Esther, Verna and Bennett Williams, 1934.
Source: Verna Bush (nee Williams),
Tauranga, NZ.

FIRST KIWI MISSIONARY WITH AIM IN BELGIUM CONGO

Bennett Williams became Africa Inland Mission's first New Zealand missionary when he and his American-born wife, Esther landed in Kenya. They hiked into the Belgium Congo with a pioneer group to open up a new field for service in 1927.

Shortly following the birth of their daughter Verna Ruth, in 1929, illness

forced them home to New Zealand. Bennett and Esther are pictured in 1934, with Verna, about to return to the Congo in good health and heart. They lovingly served the Lord, on many different Stations in the Congo, until their final evacuation due to severe wars in 1964.

Bennett was a true Kiwi farmer and loved sharing his many skills with those in need but most of all he was a loving Preacher-man with a special love for the deep forest nomadic "Pygmies". This came alive when his special local friend Mubuti was critically wounded while out hunting.

Mubuti was brought in to the station hospital and under the very capable care of Doctor Carl Becker he was operated on but urgently needed a blood transfusion. There were no blood banks out there in those days, and there was a reluctance to share blood between people groups. Bennett, whose blood was compatible, shared his blood with his friend.

Mubuti later came back looking very sad and worried. Why? He was still not white and still not tall! From there God's love was shared and a special work was begun and carried on way out in the forest.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN AIM WORKER CALLED TO SHINE LIKE A DEW DROP

Albert Barnett grew up in country New South Wales and was saved in a small Methodist Church.

As recalled in the book "From Death to Life — the birth of the Africa Inland Church" by Richard J Gehman, Albert travelled to the United States. Here he felt the call to be a missionary. He attended Moody Bible Institute for two years of preparation.

Albert's future wife, Elma Nicher was born in Sweden and attended a DL Moody Bible school in New England. Both were recruited by Africa Inland Mission. It was travelling to Africa these two missionaries met. They were required by the mission to wait one year before marrying. During this time they were given assignments at different

mission stations.

In 1908, Albert and Elma were assigned to work among the Maasai at Rurumuti. In 1913 moved to Eldama Ravine with many of the Maasai. Ministry was extremely slow. Many of the pots and things they had brought from the US "disappeared". Albert became extremely discouraged.

One Sunday morning, Albert rose early and decided it was time to have it out with God. He asked God why He had ever led him into a place like this!

"Suddenly it was though a million lights began to shine around him. He was startled and looked up and wondered what this was. He became aware that the sun was just beginning to come up over the horizon and was shining on him and all

the millions of little dew drops that were around him were beginning to sparkle and shine as the sun caught them in its rays."

It was there God spoke to him and told him he wasn't called to be an apostle Paul, a Moody, Billy Sunday or Sankey. God asked him to be like the little dew drops, reflecting His glory. God was going to shine His light through Albert and reflect God's glory.

Within 10 days they saw the first Maasai convert. Albert was instrumental in leading the second President of Kenya, Arap Moi to the Lord.

The book "From Death to Life- the birth of the Africa Inland Church in Kenya, 1895-1945" by Dr Richard J Gehman was first published in 2013 and is printed by CM Books, Michigan.

TRAINING NATIONAL MISSIONARIES IN MADAGASCAR TO REACH THE UNREACHED

by Daniel Zagami,
AIM Unit Leader, Madagascar

Africa Inland Mission in Madagascar has long had a vision for mobilising and equipping Malagasy missionaries for cross-cultural church planting mission to unreached people groups in Madagascar and beyond. This vision is about to be realised.

The Malagasy people trace their roots in the lands across the sea to the distant east. They claim their heritage in the islands of Polynesia. Indeed, the Malagasy language and culture bears striking evidence to this background.

While there are several unreached people groups in Madagascar, there are also thousands of evangelical churches throughout the island and some strong church denominations. Generally though, churches in Madagascar have yet to catch a vision for reaching the lost in other nations, but the potential is there.

The Tana missionary training team is seeking to accomplish the vision of training Malagasy workers.

On 27 April 2015, seven people began a six-month formal training in church planting and cross-cultural communication.

At the completion of the formal training, the trainees will have an opportunity to travel to another country for a month-long practical outreach.

Following this, they will return to Madagascar and be placed in an unreached Malagasy village for two years of church planting ministry together.

AIM will provide a follow-up training every three months while they are in the village.

After the church plant, the trainees will then be available to go abroad – hopefully bringing the gospel message back to their roots in Indonesia.

The training team will be led by Sam Adem, a CAPRO missionary joined to AIM by a partnership agreement, and several AIM and non-AIM workers. Please pray for Sam and the trainers, and for the trainees — Mady, Aurelie, Melias,

Haja, Emahafetse, Petera, and Paulette.

*There is opportunity for you to be involved in the financial support of this project. If you would like to be involved and give to this **Malagasy Missionary Training** initiative, please use the response slip on page seven or give online on www.AfricaInlandMission.org/au/give Please use the project name: Malagasy Missionary Training or quote SR-Mad-128-u. Thank you for your support.*



TRAINING AFRICAN LEADERS IN LESOTHO TO BE LIKE JESUS

Helping African leaders practice servant leadership as modelled by Jesus, is the goal of Australian short-term workers Ken and Julie James. Ken and Julie have had several trips to Lesotho and report on their ministry:

Among the Basotho who call themselves Christian, there are many whose faith is strong and their commitment unwavering. We seek, by God's grace, to grow this number, strengthen their resolve and widen their vision. We want them to be equipped to be more influential in transforming their community, church and nation.

We pray many will catch the vision to carry the Gospel elsewhere in Africa, just as some Basotho did more than 100 years ago. These Basotho ancestors took the Gospel to the Barotse people along the Zambesi River.

In December 2012, at the invitation of Africa Inland Mission worker, August Basson, we visited Growing Nations which is situated at the Bethesda Mission in the Maphutseng valley in the south-west of Lesotho. We had both recently retired from professional employment in Sydney. Julie had been a primary school teacher and Ken had been an engineer and manager in an oil company.

Our purpose of visiting was to see first-hand the work of the mission and to test the calling we believed we had been given by God to serve there in some capacity.

The principal activity of the mission in this project is to train Basotho farmers in "Farming God's Way".

This is a form of agriculture that is built on the model of God's own management of soils and plants as seen in His creation.

The training at Growing Nations is underpinned by Biblical transformational-development teaching. This aims to ensure the work of the mission is not just to make the Basotho better farmers. It is also to help them come to understand that both we and the land are God's, part of his creation, and that he has called us to witness to his Lordship and saving grace. We are to live in joyful and trusting obedience to Him and be careful stewards of his creation.

We came away from that visit with a clear vision of how we could support

that work and were back in Lesotho a few months later. Our service is now taking the form of multiple short-term visits of four to six weeks every three to five months.

There are two core components to our service, both of which are about developing leaders and pastors. Godly and competent servant leadership is a key need in all countries but especially in countries like Lesotho where there are many social and economic issues to urgently address.

The challenge is to help local leaders develop in a way that does not impose western-style management on Africans, but rather allow them to develop their own style shaped by that form of servant leadership modeled by our Lord Jesus in the gospels.

For the agricultural students studying Farming Gods Way and living at the mission, we have prepared and teach a 12-lesson leadership course called "Leading God's Way".

In much of this course the students engage directly with the gospels to learn how Jesus leads and equips his disciples, particularly Peter, to be leaders.

They then have the opportunity to reflect on that learning and practise it through role plays relating to relevant situations requiring leadership.

Our other significant ministry is mentoring and encouraging pastors working in other areas of Lesotho.

These pastors are usually on their own without a great deal of support and are facing significant challenges in their communities from traditional ancestor beliefs and a high level of nominalism in their congregations. For us this ministry is a great joy, as we see God at work answering prayers.





Julie, teaching Leading God's Way.



Ken and students on a farm inspection.



PRAYER TEAM MEETS UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS IN UGANDA

In January, a prayer team visited unreached people group locations in Uganda. This team was part of Africa Inland Mission's short-term program. It included Nita Finger, and David and Heather Love from Australia, and Bruce and Christine Turner from New Zealand. Leaders were AIM workers Kryss and John Cassels. The team encouraged workers and prayed for the Ik, Nubian and the Karamojong. Nita Finger introduces us to these people groups to help us pray.

Nubians

We visited the Nubian Cultural Information Centre in Bombo and met women selling crafts to earn a living. Besides living in Bombo, Nubians live in Kampiswahili in Moroto, Gulu, and other parts of Uganda, as well as in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique. The Nubians of Uganda descend from soldiers recruited from Sudan. They married local women. They settled near military bases and in areas where they have been granted land. They were trained as soldiers or taken as slaves by Arabs. They learnt to follow Islam and developed their own language which is an Arabic Creole. They now have their own culture and consider that to be Nubian is to be Muslim. They were named Nubians after the Nubians who once ruled Egypt.

Pray

- Nubians will be reached with the gospel. Pray Christians who know Nubians will share their faith with them.
- Nubians consider themselves to be Muslims, and that if you decide to stop following Islam, you are no longer Nubian. Pray as Nubians respond to the gospel, they will identify with Christ, but will be able to retain relationships in their community.

Karamojong

The Karamojong live in north-east Uganda in the sub-region of Karamoja. There are five clans of the Karamojong — the Matheniko, Pian, Bokora, Jie and Dodoth. Their culture revolves around

their cattle. Cattle are revered and indicate a person's wealth. Karamojong are proud warriors who steal cattle from neighbouring tribes. The Karamojong generally resist the gospel. Prayer and the Holy Spirit are needed for them to be open to the gospel. An AIM Focus Team is planned for the manyattas or rural housing compounds outside of Moroto.

Pray:

- For people to join the Focus team planned for the manyattas of Moroto,
- Hard and stubborn hearts will be softened by the gospel and love of Christ.
- Pray people will be liberated from excessive alcohol consumption.

Ik

We spent two days visiting the ridge where the Ik people live. The Ik are caught between the raiding of the Karamojong and Turkana peoples. They have retreated to the hills. They no longer own animals, but now are hunters and gathers. This lifestyle is threatened by deforestation for firewood and building. AIM is planning a TIMO or Training in Ministry Outreach team along the ridge. At the site of the team leaders' house, we prayed for the team to come. Team leaders, Heidi and Christoph, will arrive mid-2015 to prepare for the team. Housing has to be built for the team. They will also begin to learn the language and understand the culture.

Pray

- For people to join the AIM TIMO team to the IK starting mid-2016. Pray for leaders Heidi and Christoph and African members, Steve and Regina, from Arua in north-western Uganda.
- For the choice of location, and building the houses and latrines for the team.
- A lack of desire for the scriptures has stopped translation of the Bible into Iktod. Pray for the Ik to hunger for the Scriptures in their own language and for local people to help with translation.



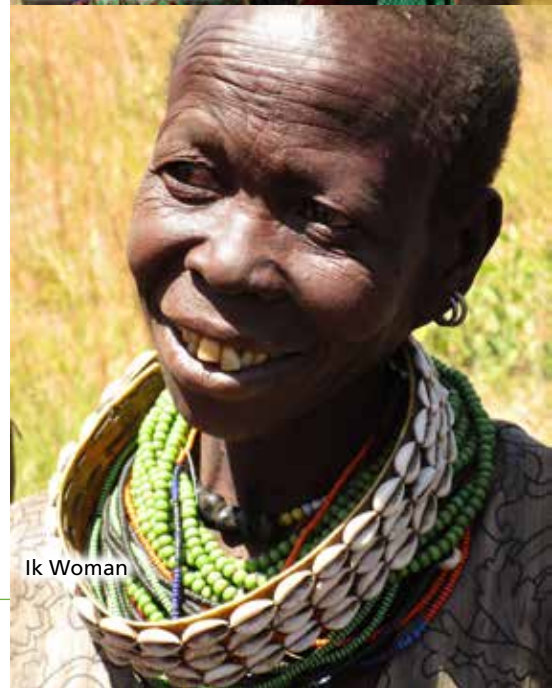
Prayer team, (L-R,) David Love, Kryss Cassels, Heather Love, Nita Finger, Bruce and Christine Turner.



Nubian Woman Basket Weaving



Karamojong Youth



Ik Woman

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PO Box 13457 Onehunga 1643

Australia:

PO Box 328 Gosford NSW 2250



AIM CHAIRMAN'S APPEAL 2015

Staff Support — New Zealand and Australia

by Rae Price, Chairman
AIM Australia / Asia-Pacific Mobilising Council

Thank you so much for your support of my 2014 appeal.

This has contributed to the financial support or salaries of home workers in Australia and New Zealand.

In 2015, I am again inviting you to continue and help us specifically support the staffing of our home offices in Australia and New Zealand.

We currently have one salaried staff, Pamela, in New Zealand. In Australia we have three supported workers in Len, Robbyn and Nita, and a recent addition of a part-time salaried worker, David.

As God blesses the work of AIM in this region, with more workers for Africa, this home staff needs to grow. Therefore, we are now facing a need for increased funds to support staff.

Would you stand with me and help support our home-based workers and home-office operations!

May God bless you for your support.

Gifts to the *Chairman's Appeal* can be made using the response slip over leaf.

Donate on-line

www.AfricaInlandMission.org/au/give or

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givedesignating "Chairman's Appeal"

Advanced Training in Africa

Africa Inland Mission's Advanced Training Fund, offers partial scholarships for post graduate degrees to African leaders working with AIM's partner churches. Currently there is an urgent need for funds to help train the future leaders of the African Church. If you would like to be part of this ongoing initiative please donate online or by using the response form overleaf. Thank you.

