

VISION

Autumn/Winter 2019

Centenary CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to the
Bangladesh Baptist
Church Fellowship



empowering communities to develop their
own distinctive ways of following Jesus



GLOBAL
INTERACTION

Letter from Bruce



Dear Friends,

2019 marks significant milestones for many of the communities Australian Baptists began serving in decades ago.

In January this year, the Rabha Baptist Convention, Assam, celebrated its Diamond Jubilee (60 years). Concurrently, the Rabha Baptist Convention Youth Association celebrated its Golden Jubilee (50 years).

In February, the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship celebrated the centenary of the founding of the Bangladesh Baptist Union in 1919. In the middle of this year, the Baptist Union of Papua New Guinea will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Australian Baptist cross-cultural workers who were sent in 1949 to share the Gospel through their words and actions.

These pioneering cross-cultural workers responded to God's call to serve in Assam, Bangladesh and Papua New Guinea, grounded in the belief that the local people should have the opportunity to hear the message of Jesus. They invested time in learning the local language as well as understanding the culture and what the community valued. Their heart was to share the love of Jesus, responding to the communities' physical and spiritual needs and encouraging those who became followers of Jesus to share their faith with their family and friends.

Many years have passed since the first cross-cultural workers began serving among these communities, yet the fruit of the seeds they sowed continues to grow. Once there were very few people who knew and followed Jesus... and now there are thousands upon thousands. This would not have happened without those who responded to the call of God and those who had partnered with them.

As we look back, we also look forward to the ministries of our current and future cross-cultural teams. We pray that we will see even more communities being empowered to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

Bruce Tudball

Interim General Director

May Mission Month is underway! All the resources are online and there is much to inspire, challenge and encourage you and your church's engagement with mission in May and beyond.

www.globalinteraction.org.au/MMM

Around the States

We invite you to connect with cross-cultural workers and candidates in your state, and get involved in events near you.



WA

Who's Around

- **Cam and Kath** – Home Assignment from Mozambique (commencing in July)
- **Scott and Bek** – Home Assignment from Mozambique (returning in May)

SA & NT

Who's Around

- **David and Susie** – Preparing to serve in Malawi

Events

Global Missions Team Prayer

Join with a regular group to hear stories, prayer and praise points.

2nd Tuesday of each month, 1:30pm | Unley

Unearthed

A great time for young adults, and the young at heart, to meet together and dig deeper. Unearthed events are planned for June and September. Contact the SA/NT State Office.

VIC & TAS

Who's Around

- **Adam and Natalie** – Preparing to serve in Malawi
- **Andy and Wanda** (currently based in VIC) – South East Asia (available in May)
- **Ando** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Andy and Cathie** – Preparing to serve in Cambodia
- **David and Eliza** – Home Assignment from the Silk Road Area (available in May)
- **Ian** (based in VIC) – Malawi
- **Phil** – Home Assignment from South Asia (commencing in September)

NSW & ACT

Who's Around

- **Ally** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Dave and Caz** – Home Assignment from South East Asia (commencing in June)
- **Gary and Shirley** – Preparing to serve in Malawi
- **Jit and Jan** – Home Assignment from Thailand (commencing in July)
- **Margaret** – Preparing to serve in Thailand
- **Mark** – Preparing to serve in Vietnam
- **Tobias and Heather** – Home Assignment from Mozambique (returning in June)

Events

Strategic Mission Week

Learn from experienced cross-cultural and local mission practitioners through an engaging five day course.

Monday 8 - Friday 12 July, 9:00am - 4:30pm | Epping

QLD

Who's Around

- **Ben and Petra** – Home Assignment from the Silk Road Area (commencing in August)
- **Luke and Belle** – Home Assignment from Thailand (returning in June)
- **Mike** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Morris** (based in QLD) – South Asia

Events

Discernment Weekend

An opportunity for people seriously considering cross-cultural mission to dedicate time to discerning God's leading. The next Discernment Weekend is planned for June. Contact the QLD State Office.

General Resonate

Hear stories and connect with cross-cultural workers.

The next General Resonate is planned for June. Contact the QLD State Office.

Centenary



Lola Henderson and Puoj, 1957

Congratulations to the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship on reaching their centenary. One hundred years (and counting) of dedicated service!

Experienced cross-cultural workers with big hearts for Bangladesh, Ros Gooden and Chris Barnden, offer an overview of Australian Baptist's long partnership with the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship (BBCF) and why this is such an important milestone to celebrate.

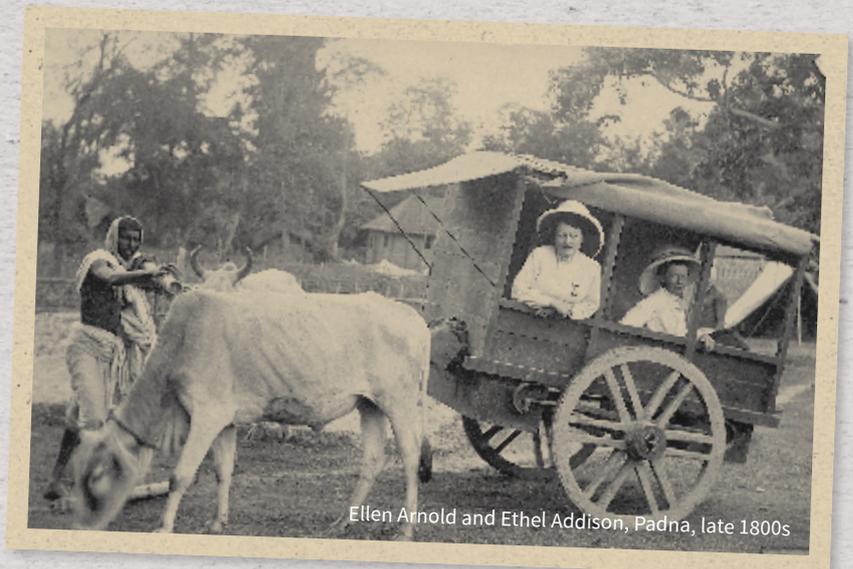
In 1882, the first Australian Baptists, Ellen Arnold and Marie Gilbert, were sent out to serve among the predominantly Hindu Bengali communities of East Bengal (now Bangladesh). However, this is not the start of the story of Australian Baptist's heart for Bangladesh. The story actually began eighteen years earlier in 1864, when Rev Silas Mead of Flinders Street Baptist Church inspired the congregation with stories from William Carey and Bengali

believers, which prompted the forming of a society to support local preachers. Therefore, we are actually sharing a 155 year partnership!

1880 brought a Bengali preacher to Adelaide to speak of the great need for Bengalis to hear the Good News of Jesus and the need for Australians to go and share this Good News. Ellen Arnold and Marie Gilbert

attended and his message was instrumental in their discernment and response of God's call on their life.

Many, many others followed faithfully in the footsteps of those early pioneers and made their own contribution to the life of the Bengali Baptist churches and the growing maturity of the believers. We give thanks for all of them.



Ellen Arnold and Ethel Addison, Padna, late 1800s

Celebrations



Bertha Tuck, teaching in a village home, 1937

The decades that followed saw Australian Baptist cross-cultural workers establish a hospital, several dispensaries, pastoral training programs and community development work which are now entirely run by Bangladeshi nationals.

A conference in 1919 for all Baptist Churches in East Bengal was held to discuss the possibility of establishing a Union, and the delegates voted in favour of this. And here, one hundred years later, with over 500 faith communities, we look back with wonder and praise.

Global Interaction has learnt much from the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship that has shaped our theology of mission. Decades ago in 1929, Ellen Arnold was convinced that the Bengali church needed to hold increased responsibility for the work without the

involvement of foreign cross-cultural workers. Her cry to the Australian Baptist mission was, “You have trusted me, now trust the Bengalis.”

This centenary marks a significant milestone for Global Interaction and Australian Baptists to celebrate. This was the first location where our cross-cultural workers were sent and it has formed a strong foundation for our ongoing ministry. **Our vision, to see growing, vibrant faith communities among the least-reached has come to fruition among this community however there are many other communities yet to be transformed by understanding the Gospel in their own cultural context and language. We praise God for His activity in this community... and pray for Him to do it again and again.**



Sarker (L) and Ian Hawley (R), Samernda

Over the decades, the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship has become increasingly self-sustaining and is completely locally led. Through the course of history more than 200 Australian Baptists have served in this location, and today Global Interaction's involvement continues through supporting and encouraging local leaders.

Here are reflections from some of those faithful workers.



Grace Brown crossing a bamboo bridge with others

“It is a thrill to hear that the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship will celebrate their centenary of the foundation of the Bengal Baptist Union in Mymensingh in 2019. We look to our time in Bangladesh with a number of great memories. We thank God that the Baptist Fellowship exists in a large populated country, where Christians are small in number compared to Muslims and Hindus. Yet, the faith communities and Fellowship continues by God's grace to grow. May God continue to bless the Baptist Fellowship as it is a beacon of light in Bangladesh.”

— Ian and Barbara Hawley, cross-cultural workers from 1968–1978



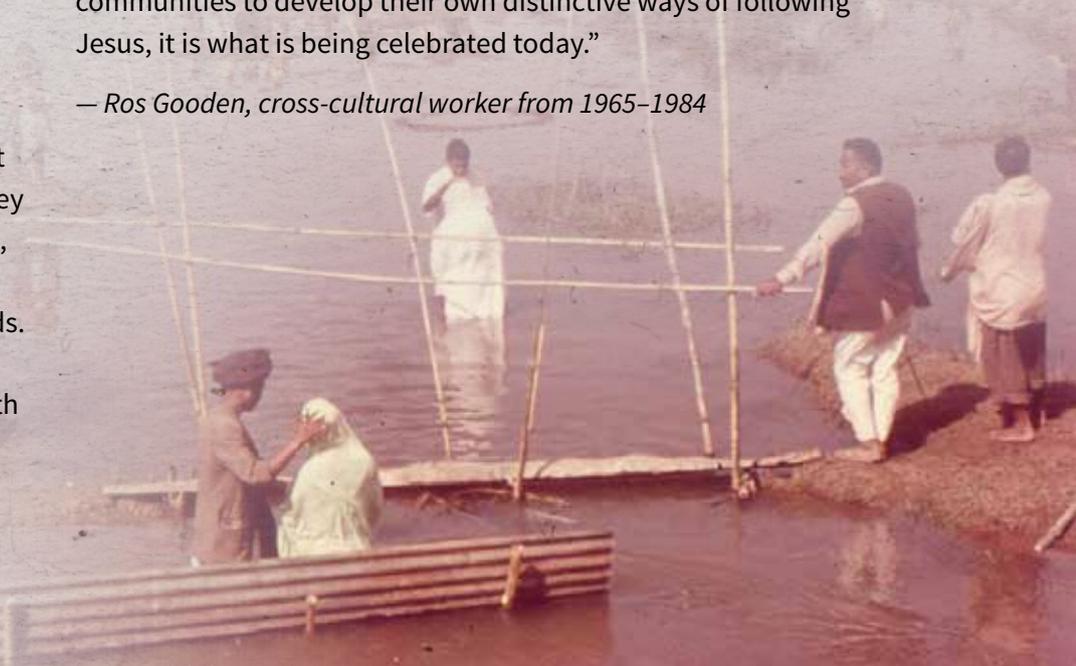
Australian Baptist cross-cultural workers, 1958

“In 1956 God gave me a specific call to a place called Mymensingh. I am deeply grateful for the local believers who warmly welcomed me, voluntarily assisted me with language learning and my first tentative steps in ministry. They were gracious in their support, generous in their hospitality and became my lifelong friends. I thank God for them. It has been a privilege to journey with them through many varying circumstances.”

— Grace Dodge, cross-cultural worker from 1959–1990

“If ever we had a story of what our vision is, of empowering communities to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus, it is what is being celebrated today.”

— Ros Gooden, cross-cultural worker from 1965–1984





John Peberdy, Global Interaction Board Chair, represented Australian Baptists at the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship centenary celebrations. Here, he reflects on his time at the celebrations.

Our tagline at Global Interaction is *empowering communities to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus*. When I talk with Morris who has been our Team Leader for many years, he always emphasises we are there to empower the local people. What I saw in Bangladesh was the result of empowerment way back in 1919 when BBCF was formed and the cross-cultural workers took a step back to allow the people to develop their own local church.

There are so many great leaders amongst the Baptist community in Bangladesh and they have provided strong leadership throughout the years. Rev Leor Sarkar is an inspirational leader for BBCF today. The peace of God is evident in this man who remained calm throughout the celebration and openly praised the teams of people that brought the occasion to life. He was at all times humble and took great care to ensure his guests were well looked after.

It was so encouraging to see so many young people actively involved in the celebration. They were encouraged to not think of themselves as the future of the church – they are an important part of the church today.

And lastly, BBCF has embraced the gifts women bring to the Church in a powerful way. Women are an important part of the leadership of BBCF and play an important role in the many programs offered. It was a privilege to represent Australian Baptists at the celebrations of this wonderful milestone.



Grace Dodge with local teachers



Prottasha sawmill project, Dhuldia, 2014

Around the Teams

A snapshot from our teams serving among least-reached people groups in Asia and Africa.

K PEOPLE OF THE SILK ROAD AREA

The team in the Silk Road Area was recently blessed with a short-term visitor. Melissa spent time with the team and at the English Teaching and Community Centre. She shared this brief reflection on her return, *“The Community Centre is bustling with kids, teens and adults all eager to learn English. I had the privilege to sit in on a few classes and see the passion of Ben as he taught English to equally passionate students. The conversations highlighted for me the cultural importance placed on relationships, the K people have such a warm and welcoming nature.*

I loved witnessing the relationships the team has built with so many people throughout the town, in the English Centre and at local stores and restaurants, and the meaningful conversations they were having in the local language.” Every day, Ben, Petra, David and Eliza are building relationships with K people, walking alongside them and seeking opportunities to share the message of Jesus in culturally understandable ways.

B PEOPLE OF SOUTH ASIA

We celebrate that a woman connected with our partner NGO in South Asia has chosen to follow Jesus. Her husband follows Jesus too; however, their daughter is strongly opposed. Our ministry among the B people of South Asia grows and we praise God that He continues to move even as believers face opposition. By the grace of God, and with the prayers of faithful people, hearts are opening to Jesus. We pray transformed lives become transformed families and communities, as individuals share the hope they have. Team leader Morris recently spent time with a small but vibrant faith community and was encouraged by their strength of faith and desire to grow more like Jesus.

YAWO OF MALAWI AND MOZAMBIQUE

Melanie shares the story of a Yawo friend. *“She sat in the group openly crying out to God, the same prayer she’d been praying for years. She has no money; she lives in a small mud hut, caring for her two young, small children. She is beautiful and her faith takes her into the waters of baptism. Her prayers are for her husband: he lives in South Africa and left her struggling with daily life. She wants him home.*

Two weeks after her open confession, we get a phone call. He’s back. He’s unwell, but she beams as she sits by his hospital bed. God has answered her prayers and she believes He will again; her husband will get better and begin the journey of understanding her faith in Jesus.” This is one story of many. Every day the team serving among the Yawo encounter the physical, emotional and spiritual challenges of their friends as they journey alongside them. Their upcoming team retreat will focus on equipping them with the tools to respond well and maintain their own mental, spiritual and relational wellbeing.

Photo taken in the Silk Road Area
by David and Eliza

ETHNIC THAI OF THAILAND

Muana and Villy share the story of an unexpected baptism of a believer. *“O, from one of the rural faith communities was eager to finally receive baptism after being a follower of Jesus for almost five years. He desired to be baptised, to commit his life whole-heartedly to Jesus and some of us were fortunate enough to witness this wonderful event.*

It was raining very heavily on that Sunday afternoon and he shared later that he said a prayer as they were approaching the waterfall that God would confirm his decision by stopping the rain and bad weather from ruining the occasion. It was truly amazing how the undesirable weather gave way for this significant ritual to occur in a beautiful natural setting. Later in the evening, the leaders of the faith communities joined together and held a beautiful traditional ceremony to welcome and bless one another with the love of God as His children. Pray that O will continue to be a good leader in his community.”

H PEOPLE OF CENTRAL ASIA

Pete and Nomes have now been living and serving in Central Asia for more than a year.

Reflecting on this milestone, they shared that through the ups and downs of the past year, they are so thankful for God’s provision and protection. Even as they experience increased surveillance and the political climate changes, they are assured they are there for a reason and that God will continue to work in and through them.

Paul’s words in Philippians 1:6 bring them encouragement and hope, “... he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Praise God that despite the challenges, Pete and Nomes are feeling settled and hopeful. They pray that God’s Spirit would enable them to establish deep roots in the community.

B.I AND S.I PEOPLE OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

Dave and Caz praise God for the ways He is drawing people to Himself in South East Asia. Two local believers, Mrs R and Mrs E, have experienced criticism from their community; however, have remained strong in their faith and continue to share the hope they have in Jesus with those close to them. Mrs R’s husband initially objected to her new faith, however, now he too has chosen to follow Jesus! We also celebrate that Mrs E’s sister and friend have found their hope in Jesus. New believers coming to faith, being baptised, receiving the Spirit of God, sharing their faith with family and friends and inviting them to meet Jesus... we praise God for each of these milestones and pray for many more in South East Asia to join His family.

KHMER OF CAMBODIA

Craig and Kim joined the team in Cambodia in May 2018 and are finding their way as cross-cultural workers among the Khmer. In contrast to the ‘busy’ culture in Australia, Kim has been struck by how slowly things move in Cambodia. She likened their experience to watching a snail slowly crossing a road.

The tropical climate means that the Khmer rest during the hottest part of the day and Kim reflects that through all of it, God is teaching them how to slow down. The team reiterates this and reminds them that settling into another community takes time, learning another culture and language takes time and building meaningful, trusting relationships where Jesus can be shared takes time. However, even in their early days, they can see God at work and know they can trust in His timing.

Love these stories?

New stories added weekly to www.globalinteraction.org.au/News



One believer comes to Christ

A small faith community begins to blossom

Others see and believe

Local faith leaders are nurtured and equipped

A life is transformed

A vibrant faith community begins to grow

Milestones in Mission

How many of us have rolled our eyes from time to time and cried out “Are we there yet?” A question often associated with the long journey to a certain destination.

Reflecting back to your earlier years, were you the kid in the back seat of the car asking, “Are we there yet?” Were you the kid that loved the Advent Calendar and the countdown to Christmas Day, and have you carried with you that anticipation and the promise of things to come?

Today we live in a fast-paced world, the faithful anticipation of things to come is easily usurped by an expectation that things will occur according to our timeline, or must be accomplished by the timeline imposed upon us. We are living in a result driven society, we expect measured outcomes, we want bang for our buck...

While our culture pushes us to tick boxes and meet deadlines, we work in the knowledge that it will be in God's timing and by His grace that communities are transformed through meeting Jesus. Journeying with a person of another faith and culture as they place their trust in Jesus

and seeing small, vibrant faith communities grow, does not happen in our timeline, it happens in God's. The progress can seem slow and we are often tempted to cry out, “Are we there yet?” Nevertheless, we know God is at work and we celebrate every milestone along the way!

GLOBAL INTERACTION'S MILESTONES

- One believer comes to Christ
- A life is transformed
- Others see and believe
- A small faith community begins to blossom
- Local faith leaders are nurtured and equipped

ARE WE THERE YET?

Our shared vision becomes a reality

- A vibrant faith community begins to grow
- Our shared vision becomes a reality

Comprehension of what it takes to build a faith community among a spiritually resistant people is important when considering cross-cultural ministry today. As we reflect on the *are we there yet* moments, we are reminded that to establish the Kingdom in the heart of new believers takes time. It takes a vision for the church today, intentional participation, and resilient followers of Jesus who will go, give and pray.

ARE WE THERE YET?

- Still today, **42%** of people in the world have never heard the message of Jesus in a way they understand. They have very little chance of hearing the Good News in a way that makes sense to them in their culture and context. Most will not know a follower of Jesus.

- **97%** of the world's cross-cultural workers are going to places where people do have access to the Good News, Bibles, faith communities and believers.

- **Just 3%** of the world's cross-cultural workers are going to least-reached people groups. These are the people who have little to no chance of hearing the message of Jesus in a culturally understandable way by someone they trust.

With a history spanning over 135 years, Global Interaction continues to respond to Jesus' commands to:

Go into the world and make disciples of all nations
(Matthew 28:19)

and

You will be my witness to the ends of the earth
(Acts 1:8)

Global Interaction believes that the greatest gift is a life-transforming relationship with Jesus. We have followed God's direction to work among least-reached people groups and we facilitate pathways for individuals and church communities to discern and fulfil their call. As our teams continue to faithfully serve within the communities God has placed them, and we see His Spirit at work, we celebrate every milestone.

ARE WE THERE YET?

We are on our way! How about you? Partner with Global Interaction in our vision for global mission. Contact your local State Office or visit our website: www.globalinteraction.org.au

— By Andrea Fleming
Partner Engagement and Communications Manager

Returning with songs of joy...

“While our various team members were from very different backgrounds and situations, as a group we enjoyed a wonderful sense of camaraderie, encouragement and support. We shared a common calling and heart desire for the Lord to see His work advanced in the lives of those to whom we had come to serve.”

— Rev. Bruce, cross-cultural worker, Central Asia (2003 – 2009)

There is a powerful sentiment in Bruce’s words that reflect the heart desire of all Global Interaction cross-cultural workers, “... for the Lord to see His work advanced...” So beautifully do these few words encapsulate the calling of all of God’s people.

When Global Interaction’s work first began in Central Asia in the late 1990’s, our team of cross-cultural workers were sent from churches in South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and Singapore. This team set the foundations for this ministry during a period of communist control, and their faithful service bears witness to God’s desire to reconcile people to Him regardless of the situation or challenges.

Almost 30 years later, our team is again experiencing an increasingly challenging political environment. We pray for God’s continued protection.

Kevin has recently returned to Australia following four years of faithful service among the H people. Pete and Nomes, with their children Ryan, Abigail and Jacob, are currently the only team members living and serving long-term in Central Asia and Team Leader Walt, based in USA, continues to support them. Relocating family and life to a new country poses various challenges, Kevin said, “They have met the challenge bravely and the Good News will continue to be shared in this place”.

Kevin returned to Australia with many encouraging stories to share.

He said, “I was approached by a student from a nearby academy to assist them with their English. They had a part-time job and had been given a beautifully leather-bound Bible by their employer, which included an English translation. One afternoon, the student read the story of a young slave-girl whose master had a hideous skin disease. God enabled this humble slave-girl to bring about her master’s spectacular healing.” **Kevin was able to share with the student that, through faith in Jesus, God often empowers ordinary people to do extraordinary things. To Kevin’s delight and to ours, this young student who had been exploring faith in Jesus, later that same week, gave their life to the Lord.**

For our readers who received the Global Interaction *Crunch the Numbers Donor Appeal* letter in November and January this year, you were updated on a remarkable story of God's hand at work in the life of a local authority seeking Jesus. In finalising the Sheep Loan Project, Kevin met with a local authority who enquired of Kevin why so many people in Australia would care for people in her country. Kevin shared with her "... we are followers of Jesus, and this is what he would have us do".

The conversation led to a faith sharing conversation. The woman had a copy of the Bible, and over the following months they met up to read and study passages together. The Sheep Loan Project provided a platform for many families to generate a sustainable revenue. Global Interaction projects often respond to a local need and for the H people, this project has set in motion a program for sustainable farming.

The H people are a minority group with most identifying as Muslim. We know that God is moving among the H community and He is working through our team. Our small team in Central Asia is even smaller now that Kevin has returned – is it possible that God is calling you? We believe that the harvest is plentiful and that the workers will come...

— By Andrea Fleming
Partner Engagement and
Communications Manager

• A RECENT REFLECTION FROM NOMES

• "Summer here is hot and dry and winter is cold. Pete spends each morning with a language tutor, intent on improving his language skills and is connecting with people through music and sport. I am learning language two days a week and working as the pre-school Team Leader at the bilingual international school where our two oldest kids attend. The kids are really enjoying school and are beginning to make new friends. We really value spending time with people here, dedicating time to developing relationships and friendship is important in this journey. Together we are exploring and getting to know this beautiful place and the people to whom God has called us.

• Having lived here for a year now, we are feeling really settled and are glad we can call this place home, seeking daily for doors to be opened for us to share our faith. For now we are trusting that our lives as a family bear witness to the love of Jesus. Currently, our team is small, but we hope that in time that will change. Please ask God to raise up more workers, or even consider whether He might be calling you to join Him in His work among the H people of Central Asia".



The Crunch the Numbers Appeal

It's not too late to give! To partner with Global Interaction's ministry and give towards the costs of running the organisation, go to www.globalinteraction.org.au/CrunchTheNumbers

We are so thankful for the almost \$50,000 we have received for this appeal so far. We would love to see this figure increased by another \$20,000. Your gift supports the administration and operations of our local team who is integral to the continuation of our cross-cultural ministry...

Above: H woman at a street stall. Photo taken by Colin Meadows.
Above left: Cityscape in Central Asia. Photo taken by Pete and Nomes.

In the Family

NEW CANDIDATES

We are excited to introduce our recently accepted candidates who are preparing for cross-cultural work. To hear more of their story, invite them to share at your church or small group and consider partnering with them prayerfully and financially.



Ando, VIC

Ando has a background in environmental engineering and language and is preparing to join the team serving among the S.I people of South East Asia.



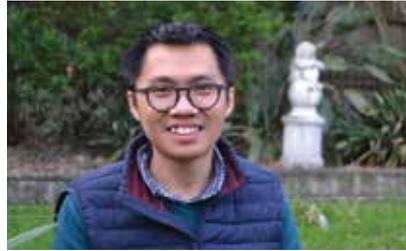
Adam and Natalie, VIC

Adam and Natalie are candidates preparing to serve among the Yawo of Malawi. They are both currently studying in preparation for their future ministry.



Andy and Cathie, VIC

Andy and Cathie, along with their three children, are preparing to serve among the Khmer of Cambodia. Until recently, they have both worked at the Global Interaction VIC/TAS State Office.



Mark, NSW

Mark is preparing to serve cross-culturally in Vietnam, seconded to International Ministries. As a Vietnamese national, he has previously spent five years working in Vietnam with Hoa, former Global Interaction worker, at the Company of Grace.



Margaret, NSW

Margaret is in the early days of her candidacy. She has discerned a call to join the team serving among the Ethnic Thai of Thailand.



Mike, QLD

Mike is preparing to serve in South East Asia. He has recently completed a Bachelor of Theology and is continuing postgraduate studies in English teaching (TESOL).

NEW STAFF



Andy

Interim Director of Mobilisation, Partnership and Development, National Office



Bruce Tudball

Interim General Director, National Office



Dan McGrechan

WA State Director



David Turnbull

SA/NT State Director



Sulari Nielsen

VIC/TAS Young Adults Consultant



CONGRATULATIONS

Bek and Scott Falconer

We celebrate with proud parents, Bek and Scott, the arrival of Isaac David Falconer on Sunday 9 December. Isaac is a younger brother to Levi, Josiah, Katelyn and Elliana.

COMPLETION OF SERVICE

Andrew and Rachel

South Australian candidates, Andrew and Rachel, withdrew from candidacy in October 2018 after becoming candidates for Malawi in July 2016. We are thankful for their support of Global Interaction and wish them well as they discern their future ministry.

Andy and Wanda

Andy and Wanda have returned to Australia following nine years serving with the team in South East Asia. Andy recently stepped into the role of Interim Director of Mobilisation, Partnership and Development at the National Office. Alongside this, they will remain involved in the Creation Care (Community Environmental Improvement) and Café projects in South East Asia.

Cathie Staunton

Cathie has concluded in the role of VIC/TAS Young Adults Consultant in order to focus on preparing to serve in Cambodia with Andy and their children. Cathie engaged wonderfully with many young adults and we give thanks for her whole-hearted devotion to the role over the past three years.

Chris Barnden

Chris has supported the Global Interaction team in 2018 as Interim General Director. His contribution

has been highly regarded during a time of transition in the organisation. Global Interaction extends its appreciation to Chris for his service and the Baptist Union of Victoria for supporting this appointment.

Colin Meadows

Colin Meadows began service with Global Interaction as the WA State Director in 2012. Through Colin's ministry, candidates responded to a call to cross-cultural service, and many others were challenged to think more deeply about discipleship. We wish him all the best for his next steps.

David and Eryl

In January this year, Dave and Edwina concluded as cross-cultural workers among the B.I people of South East Asia (2010 – 2019). They also served in Papua with Global Interaction from 1983 – 1998. We give thanks to God for all whom have been blessed by Dave and Edwina during their many years of service.

Jessie Chong

Jessie worked at the National Office for nearly three years and concluded at the start of March this year. Jessie has returned overseas to be with her family in Malaysia and Singapore. Jessie was a key member of the Corporate Services team. We wish Jessie well in whatever the future holds for her.

Kevin

Kevin began service with Global Interaction in August 2014 among the H people of Central Asia. Serving amongst the H people, Kevin showed great diligence in the learning of culture and language and building relationships. We give thanks to God for Kevin's faithful service and deep love for the H people.

Paul and Lydia

Victorian candidates for Cambodia, Paul and Lydia made the difficult decision to withdraw from candidacy in September 2018. Our prayers are with Paul and Lydia as they discern their future ministry.

Susan English

Since 2014, Susan has worked at the National Office in the Corporate Services department, most recently as the Payroll Officer. Susan's creativity and artistic gifts in illustration contributed greatly to, *We'll still be a Family* a children's book recently published by Global Interaction. Susan completed her service in August 2018.



**GLOBAL
INTERACTION**

Australian Baptists
together in global mission

Edited by Andrea Fleming and Teagan Dwyer-Riviere

Designed by Studio 164a, 164a.com

Printed by Classic Press, Bayswater

Global Interaction Inc

PO Box 3085

Auburn, VIC 3123

03 9819 4944

info@globalinteraction.org.au

www.globalinteraction.org.au

NSW/ACT: 02 9868 9250

QLD: 07 3354 5603

SA/NT: 08 8357 1755

VIC/TAS: 03 9880 6161

WA: 08 6313 6300

Front cover images (bottom to top):

- Bertha Harris (worker 1910 - 1941) with young women.
- Leor Sarkar, General Secretary, Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship. Photo taken by Paul Thompson/Banzaid.
- Man on Rickshaw. Photo taken by B&M Peel.
- Woman at the BBCF centenary celebrations, 2019. Photo accessed through Watermark MCL.
- Elfreda Hill (worker 1921 - 1947) with a Bengali staff nurse on her wedding day.