



GLOBAL | INTERACTION

GRAEME AND CORAL

Based in Brisbane, serving projects in South Asia

What would Graeme know about fish-farming? Or health care? Or what it is like to be a rickshaw wallah? Or a small stall holder gaining barely enough to feed his family? Or vegetable farming? Graeme wouldn't claim vast knowledge about any of these things, yet without his administrative and financial oversight, a diverse range of projects that bring life and hope to many people would not be possible.

Graeme and Coral lived in Bangladesh, 1986–1994, where Graeme was team treasurer and trained people in administration. Coral, a doctor, did part-time medical work and took primary responsibility for care of their three boys: Rowan, Nathan and Matthew. Since they returned to Australia, Graeme has continued to assist with Global Interaction's work. In recent years, he has been providing vital financial and administrative support needed to initiate and develop a whole range of projects in South Asia.

He visits the area three times a year, and enjoys his interaction with project leaders and others. He is encouraged to see large numbers of people gaining amazing whole-of-life benefit from the work done by him and the many other workers in the projects. And, yes, he is learning a little about fish-farming and some other areas of life from the people who are engaged in income-generating activities related to some of the projects with which he assists.

Graeme is seconded to Service Fellowship International for this work with humanitarian projects. Gifts directed to SFI Overseas Aid Fund for his support are tax deductible.

Projects aimed to bring life and hope

- literacy and other educational programs;
- increased justice, especially for women;
- fish farming to enhance nutrition and health, improve local fish-farming practices and increase employment opportunities;
- regular visits by specialists such as dentists, eye surgeons, doctors;
- educating the children of a group of prostitutes to save the children from the plight their parents endure;
- empowering oppressed people through increased knowledge of their rights;
- helping people set up their own small businesses to aid family survival;
- providing permanent homes for people whose homes on sandy river islands are washed away each year;
- improving access to clean water;
- nurturing and training leaders;
- showing in practical ways that God loves people, and demonstrating what it means to be his people.

“There is an opportunity to share something of my talents and abilities with people, to assist in empowering them. If I can be part of work that brings God-derived change in the people of South Asia, then there is a real sense of satisfaction.” Motivated by his own experience of God's love, Graeme wants others, especially the underprivileged and disadvantaged, to experience the fullness of life that God graciously gives. Graeme has the full support of Coral and their three boys. This support in his work is vital for Graeme to fulfil his calling.

