

VISION

Spring/Summer 2020

Mission in a Pandemic

Unprecedented times
open new opportunities
in South East Asia.

empowering communities to develop their
own distinctive ways of following Jesus



GLOBAL
INTERACTION



Hello from *Scott*

In our personal lives and ministries it is good to pause and celebrate milestones; to affirm key marker points and thank God for His faithfulness.

2020 will always be remembered for a global pandemic and as you're well aware, COVID has had a significant impact on our mission community. And yet in the midst of this, despite many challenges, we have not stood still and it has been exciting to celebrate our ongoing participation in God's mission across the world.

Further we have recently celebrated our Board's enthusiastic endorsement of our 2021-2025 Strategic Roadmap. This is a key milestone for Global Interaction as we look to God's preferred future. The Roadmap will shape key strategic directions and priorities and Susan Campbell shares more about this in her article on pages 5 – 6.

As we developed the Roadmap this year I was greatly encouraged by the passionate contribution of so many people across our movement. I have become very mindful, since commencing in my role, of the wonderful ownership our partners share in our vision and certainly in a year like this one, we're so thankful for our partners sticking with us.

Against the backdrop of the pandemic and challenging economic times, we have also celebrated the milestone of exceeding our May Mission Month target in 2020. Thank you to every church and supporter who generously made this possible.

This support enables our ministry to continue, such as the wonderful, life-transforming work in South East Asia, which is featured on pages 3 – 4. Read on to find out more about the community engagement initiatives the team established in the COVID context. In this edition, there's also an update from Milard and Joyce about their ministry in Lebanon shared in pages 11 – 12.

Yes, 2020 has been a year none of us will forget. We will look back in time to come, as we have so many other times in our organisation's history, and be reminded of God's goodness, leading and faithfulness and the privilege we have of being a part of this mission community's wonderful story.

Serving Jesus Together

Scott

**WE CAN'T SAY IT ENOUGH...
THANK YOU!**

May Mission Month

May Mission Month 2020 came at a stretching time as we collectively found ourselves grappling for clarity and forced to adapt and re-adapt to ever changing circumstances. And yet in the midst of this, you kept May Mission Month in your calendar! We are blown away by your faithfulness in partnership. In May Mission Month 2020, more than 1000 different donors representing 250 different churches across Australia faithfully gave and raised \$710,000... exceeding our target! We are partners in this mission. **Thank you.**

Around the States

Keen to explore mission or be inspired by stories of God at work around the world? Connect with intercultural workers and candidates in your state, and get involved in events near you.

QLD

Who's Around

- **Ben and Petra** – Home Assignment from the Silk Road Area
- **Mike** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Morris (based in QLD)** – South Asia
- **Lisa (based in QLD)** – South Asia
- **Tristan and Megan** – Home Assignment from Cambodia

Events

Discernment Weekend

Seek God's leading as you explore your part in His mission.
5 – 7 Feb | Brookfield

WA

Who's Around

- **Ben and Sam** – Home Assignment from Mozambique
- **Sarah and Gunther** – Preparing to serve in Malawi

Events

Friends of Global Interaction

Connect with others as you hear ministry stories and updates.
Sat 7 Nov & 6 March | Shelley

SA & NT

Who's Around

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

Events

Global Inspire

Be encouraged by ministry stories and updates.
Sat 27 Feb | Location TBC

Unearthed

Join with other young adults to explore mission and the big issues.
Mon 15 March | Location TBC

NSW & ACT

Who's Around

- **Ally** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Gary and Shirley (based in NSW)** – Malawi
- **Jit and Jan** – Home Assignment from Thailand
- **Margaret** – Preparing to serve in Thailand
- **Mel** – Preparing to serve in the Silk Road Area
- **Milard and Joyce** – Home Assignment from Lebanon
- **Pete and Nomes** – Home Assignment from Central Asia
- **Pat and Joy** – Home Assignment from South East Asia
- **Petina** – Home Assignment from Thailand
- **Vivian (based in NSW)** – Outback Australia

Events

Bringing Global Mission Home

Rich conversation, inspiring stories and thought-provoking discussion.
Thu 11 March | Newcastle, Wed 17 March | Sydney

VIC & TAS

Who's Around

- **Ando** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Craig and Kim** – Home Assignment from Cambodia
- **Kate** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Phil** – Home Assignment from South Asia
- **Ryan and Suzie** – Preparing to serve in South Asia

Events

Unearthed Feasts

Enjoy good food and engaging conversation with other young adults.
Thu 26 Nov & Wed 20 Jan | Location TBC

For more details on events, visit

www.globalinteraction.org.au/Events

or contact info@globalinteraction.org.au

Mission in a Pandemic

The impact of the virus is opening new opportunities for the team in South East Asia to engage with their community and share Jesus' love. Team Leader Dave shares how the team's innovative response is bearing fruit.

Like the rest of the world, the country in which we live and serve has been greatly impacted by the COVID pandemic. Official cases continue rise by around 3,000 per day but the true number is probably four to five times the official count because of the lack of testing. **There is no JobKeeper program here and though there is some minimal government assistance, tens of millions of people are being impacted economically as jobs have disappeared.**

The various platforms in which the team serves have had to adjust and be creative as we have faced the new challenges. The Education Foundation which employs over 40 local staff had to go online in the middle of March. The Creation Care initiative, in which the team serves with six local staff,

has continued to be engaged in various community development activities, including assisting disadvantaged scavenger communities. The café which the team runs with around 15 local staff had to close for a few weeks due to government regulations related to lockdown restrictions but is now operating again with extra precautions. We are grateful that we have been able to keep all the local staff working in these platforms employed during this challenging time.

These three platforms have also partnered to engage in various humanitarian initiatives. Local staff and Global Interaction team members set up a special working group to assist people in need. Funds have been donated by local staff, Global Interaction team members and supporters. Along with partners we have supplied several thousand PPE suits to

medical workers in remote locations who would otherwise have gone without. We have included notes of hope and prayer with these suits.

Packages of food staples have been supplied to people affected by the economic downturn. Help has been provided to scavenger communities, aged care and orphanage facilities, impoverished rural communities and to day labourer communities. We have carried out 24 different projects in 13 provinces, assisting around 5,000 people.

Photo taken of a family in South East Asia by Hayley-Jayne Bernhardt.



Stories of Hope

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:2)

Through all this work, our team seeks to build authentic relationships and share the Good News in culturally understandable ways. People's lives are being transformed through meeting Jesus. And they can't keep it to themselves! Here are three stories of many.

ALICE'S STORY

Alice came to faith and was the first employee of the Education Foundation. She later brought two of her friends from university to interview and subsequently work there too. Over time, both of those women came to know Jesus, were baptised and are influencing others to come to faith. They both now hold leadership roles in the Education Foundation.

All three of these women grew up in Muslim families and all three were the first believers in their extended families and villages. They are now passing on the Good News to others in their communities.

BERNIE'S STORY

Bernie is the head of our Creation Care work. He is meeting weekly with six men from Muslim backgrounds who are now followers of Jesus. These men are from different parts of the city here and Bernie is training them in outreach and establishing new home groups.

There have been ten people who have come to faith over the past few months through this ministry and there are several more families eager to hear the Good News.

SEENANA'S STORY

Team member Caz has been discipling Widya, a local staff member and now a Global Interaction candidate. Widya led Nur to faith and is discipling her. Nur has been sharing with Seeana, who is a young lady from the majority faith background who works as a teacher at the Education Foundation.

A western family she teaches recently sent a food package to her house using a motorbike taxi. The delivery man couldn't find Seeana's home despite getting directions from her via her phone. Seeana called her supervisor, Nur, who is a new believer to ask her advice. Nur suggested they pray together in the name of Jesus. After praying they both felt Seeana should just offer the food to the delivery man. When Seeana called the man to tell him this he broke down crying. He explained that he has a wife and three small children and no food in the house. Seeana subsequently sent them money to buy more food. And the family sent another food package to Seeana... that arrived with no trouble.

Seanna comes from an extremely orthodox Muslim family with no known believers. She continues to learn more about Jesus from Nur and is now praying in His name. Pray she would trust Him fully.

These kinds of stories have been repeated over and over here among the local staff in the past few months. Praise God for the movement of His Spirit and pray for more people here to find freedom in Jesus.





Strategic Roadmap: *Learning to Listen*

Susan Campbell, Organisational Development Director, reflects on the journey of developing the 2021 – 2025 Strategic Roadmap and how it became a lesson in listening.

A decade ago, when I took part in a group formation program for Spiritual Directors, I learnt to listen. I studied how to create safe and hospitable one-on-one listening environments, ask open-ended questions, utilise active listening strategies, hold silence, manage projections and navigate the confusing and wonderful art of discernment.

I wrote an essay about the quote, “To listen another’s soul into a condition of disclosure and discovery may be almost the greatest service that any human being ever performs for another.” – Steere. With a whole lot of mistakes and practice, I very slowly grew into my skin of becoming a more generous listener.

Over the last year I’ve been part of a small team tasked with the goal of writing a new organisational strategic plan for Global Interaction.

As we began, I imagined the task before me: workshops, sticky notes, words, whiteboards, charts, tables, presentations, talking, talking and more talking. However, I very soon realised that my attitude towards the task was to radically shift.

My role was to invite individuals and groups from within Global Interaction and the broader Baptist movement to think and speak, adopting the posture of a spiritual director, *so I could listen.*

Listen carefully.

Listen deeply.

Listen for the question beneath the statements.



Listen for the hope amidst the groans.

Listen for the innovative idea buried in the mountain of words.

Listen for the possibility for the future in the narrative of the past.

Listen for the movement of the Spirit, discerning God’s leading and guiding for the next season of our rich story.

Photo of an Ethnic Thai believer being baptised taken by Ron Coleman. Our vision is to see more communities following Jesus in their own distinctive ways.

Covey writes, “Most people don’t listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply.” The gift offered to us in the dozens of consultation sessions was that **there was no pressure to defend, justify or solve. Instead, we asked questions to seek to understand.** Of course, there was time spent consolidating ideas, crafting words and creating tables, but the real work of this process has been the listening.

The result of our listening has been the creation of our 2021 - 2025 Strategic Roadmap – our vision, mission, values, priorities, desired outcomes and timelines. Vision readers will become familiar with this over time as we unpack the elements, tell stories about implementation, reflect on mistakes made and lessons learned and celebrate the realisation of some of our ideas. **Below you can see a defining part of the Strategic Roadmap in our key vision statements.**

Paul Tillich wrote, ‘The first duty of love is to listen’. As an expression of my love for our journey together in God’s mission, I hope I have listened well.

HOW WE LISTENED:

- 12+ months
- 30+ meetings
- 50+ hours on Zoom
- 100+ pages of notes
- 20+ drafts

With input from: intercultural workers, candidates, board members, pastors, theological college missiologists, young adults, partners and staff.

What we see:

Vibrant faith communities following Jesus in their own distinctive ways

Why:

Because nothing matters more than sharing God’s love for the world

How:

Through Spirit-led people, humbly contextualising the Good News in every place



Around the Teams

Praise God that He is actively drawing people to Himself and using our teams for His good purpose. Be encouraged by these stories of God at work across the world.

MOZAMBIQUE

We came back from Australia in January with plans to keep meeting with friends who had decided to follow Jesus - continuing the journey of discipleship, encouraging them to share the Good News and hoping to start new groups. But 2020 didn't play out how we had imagined! Restrictions on gatherings and caution around visiting threw a spanner in our works. However, the One who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine had even better plans. Recently, our friend Dawudi, a chief and new follower of Jesus, told us that he had been sharing the Good News in a neighbouring village. A small group want to gather to hear the word of God!

— Kath

SOUTH EAST ASIA

There is anxiety and worry for cart-pullers, pedi-cab drivers, small-scale family based business as their daily income has drastically reduced due to the impact of COVID. We decided to give these workers meals as we could. It was so wonderful to see their faces so filled with joy as they received it and reached out for a handshake to thank us. More people would line up to receive our gift of a meal wrapped in brown paper. What we give is not something big, but our love and the love of our Father is wrapped inside the package and we pray that those who received it will experience the love of God poured out to us.

— Max and Ezzie

SILK ROAD AREA

Alice's life has been tough since childhood. Her father died when she was very young and her mother has worked hard to provide for Alice and her four step-siblings. Her step-father isn't a fan of working hard so money is often tight. Her mother's solid faith in Jesus, however, has been a loud and clear voice in Alice's life for a long time. And now that she's left her family home to live with her grandparents and to go to college, the time has come to take ownership of her faith. She has asked her mother about getting baptised. She believes in Jesus and wants to declare it out loud. Please lift up this precious teenage girl in prayer.

— Eliza

INDOCHINA

Ngoc and I met Mr. T at an English club. He was a lovely young man but was quiet and shy. We did not have any real conversations at first with him and so we were surprised when Mr. T sent us a message wanting to meet. We enjoyed meeting and talking to him. He shared that he wanted us to help him with his English. Since then, he's been to our apartment every week. He's even cooked us a yummy lunch. I've been meeting him, teaching him English and getting to know him. He has opened up and shared some of the things with which he struggles. God is definitely working in his heart and many others with whom we've had relationships.

— Mark

CENTRAL ASIA

Despite the frustration of being unable to return to Central Asia, we are grateful that over the past few months we have still been able to maintain contact with our H friends via messages and video calls. Through this period, we've had regular language lessons with our two closest H friends, Mike and Andrew. This has not only allowed us to keep growing in our understanding of H language and culture, but more importantly, it has meant that we are able to continue investing in our friend's lives. As a reflection of God's love for us, we want to show our friends that despite our present physical separation, we continue to value and love them and long to return.

— *Pete and Nomes*

CAMBODIA

A year ago, Luke and I started to get to know a family down our street after they opened a small shop at the front of their home. Luke started to buy drinks from them and soon invited himself to sit and chat! As the relationship grew, he had opportunity to begin teaching their daughter some English, and after lessons he is often invited to spend some time with the men of her extended family. Soon I started to visit the family when walking the dog and our friendship is growing. God has given us opportunities to meet and grow in relationship with one another. Please be praying for Luke and I as we continue to grow in relationship with them, seeking to engage deeper in conversations of life and faith.

— *Rachel*

THAILAND

Carolyn recalls how her language nurturer, Po, recently asked her "What is the meaning of life?" Po, in her early 20's, had been pondering this question since childhood. However, Carolyn's attempts to incorporate the Bible into language lessons were rebuffed as Po bluntly stated that life exists as a natural phenomenon rather than having any relation to religion and she did not want to study the Bible.

Carolyn did not press the issue further. However, she began to faithfully pray for Po and that an opportunity would arise soon to discuss faith. Trust continued to grow between them and in one conversation Po opened up about her struggle with self-confidence and social skills which started from a young age. Carolyn told Po that she is, "Loved and blessed with great skill and one day this struggle that she will overcome will bless others". Po was deeply moved and cried, and Carolyn assured her she is praying for her. Carolyn is confident God will continue to reveal Himself to her.

SOUTH ASIA

Over the last few months as the COVID pandemic has spread and prevented in person visits to South Asia, it has been great to meet with people electronically for studies of the Scripture. Though it is no substitute for in person presence and interaction, I have been holding regular studies with groups of people. There is not only the encouragement of the Scripture but also that people are able to communicate with others from outside. The anxiety in many parts of the world is huge but being able to share together around the Scriptures in the language of the local people is very important.

— *Morris*

Photo taken in Thailand by Christoph Ziegenhardt.

The Power of God's Word

Again and again the team in Mozambique and Malawi are witnessing Yawo men and women being transformed by God's Word. Here, team members Bek and Scott share of the growth they are experiencing after years of sowing seeds.

It was after dinner one night when the phone rang. Mussa, a man on the path of following of Jesus, wanted to talk. "Baba" he said "I've been reading this story about Elisha in the Word of God and I've got some questions. I know we're meeting tomorrow but I can't wait, can we talk about it now?"

The Global Interaction team in Mozambique and Malawi has spent many years faithfully growing into the communities in which they live, establishing relationships and sowing seeds of the Gospel. We are encouraged to see our efforts begin to bear more fruit.

Across the different locations where they are based, intercultural workers are

well regarded and have been accepted into villages, marketplaces and family groups. Many people are interested in talking of spiritual things, a number of groups are gathering to hear the Word of God, some people are seeking to follow the path of Jesus and a few are even inviting others to join them on the journey.

Mussa has seen God's power at work in his life and is now seeking greater understanding. He's grappling with how a disciple of Jesus should live and has invited others to sit with him, read the Scriptures and discover for themselves what God wants for them.

His story is just one of many.

For many months a group of men employed on a building project gathered daily to read God's Word together with Scott.

Team members Sally and Kath with a Yawo friend.





They discovered for themselves what it said and discussed the relevance and application to their lives. **When their work contracts finished, the men were eager to continue meeting each week to read the Bible.**

In a nearby village, another group gather each week to hear God's story. They're men of influence who have known the Global Interaction team for many years, deciding this year they wanted to hear for themselves the stories of God from creation to Jesus.

Just down the road, a group of women who have been listening to stories for many years continue to deepen their understanding of Jesus.

Over the past few years, one village chief listened to over forty stories through the Bible, at the end of which he said that he wanted Jesus to come into his life. Since then he has invited many others to join him in listening to the Word of God and following Jesus. This year he asked Global Interaction workers to go with him to two villages near his home; waiting there were new groups of people wanting to hear God's story.

One man sees that an intercultural worker was sent by God to teach him. His sister-in-law, a spiritual authority in the village, is interested in who the Bible says that Jesus was and is.

In this season of opportunities and invitations to sit with people and share spiritual truths, it is evident that there is a

great need among the Yawo of Mozambique for people to be able to access the Scriptures for themselves. To this end, the Global Interaction team in Mozambique is in the exciting beginning stages of creating a Mozambican Ciyawo Oral Bible Translation. Translators have been selected and are beginning their training, with the aim of completing the initial stage, the book of Genesis, over the next two years.

2020 has been a year of global uncertainty, but in Mozambique and Malawi for the Global Interaction team working among the Yawo it's also been a year of God's continuing favour and opportunity. God's Word is going out and people are responding. They are inviting their family and friends to join them on their spiritual journey, seeking God together.

My word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

(Isaiah 55:11)



Photo of Yawo man and child outside a village taken by C&K Beeck.

Lives Changed in Lebanon

For the past 18 years, Milard and Joyce have faithfully served God in Lebanon. In this update, Milard reflects on their ministry and shares stories of lives changed.



By the grace of God we have been in Lebanon for 18 years so far serving in many ways with one purpose, “to know Christ and make Him known”. The Lord has allowed us to preach the Gospel to hundreds of people through big outreaches, through the church and through one-to-one sharing of the Gospel.

In the last eight years we planted a church which started with ten adults and has grown to over 150 people. It has been a great joy to see so many come to faith, get discipled and serve the Lord wherever they are.

This church is one that loves the Lord and is passionate about sharing His message. When seekers visit us they are struck by its love, its friendliness, its liveliness and especially its worship and Christ-centred message. I would like to share just a few stories from among so many whom Christ has transformed.

GEORGE AND JACKY

A young couple with two children who attended one of our outreaches because someone from our church invited them. In this outreach they heard worship songs and then a salvation message. As a result God spoke to them powerfully and convicted their hearts to repent and follow Jesus.

The change in their lives was radical in so many areas. The Lord had met them in their hour of need and they were filled with His love, joy and peace which radiated out of them. **Both George and Jacky got baptised together and became heavily involved in ministry with their children. They are an amazing testimony for Jesus.**

JOHN AND JULIANA

John, Juliana and John’s father visited our church after somebody had told John about our church. They came for the first time on Good Friday when we normally do a very reflective service. After deep reflections on the cross, singing worship songs and hearing the word, John and his father were in tears and deeply touched by the spirit of God.

I went to John and his father and they asked if they could come on Sunday and of course I said yes! On Sunday I saw John, his father, his fiancé Juliana, and his sister arrive early and excited to be there. Well after a few weeks I had the privilege of leading them to a commitment to Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

This was a significant moment for John. He comes from a wealthy family but at the age of 16 his mother left them and divorced their father. She left Lebanon and went to another country. This devastated John and he turned to drugs and alcohol and became very depressed. But after giving his life to Christ, attending church, home group and being discipled, John was transformed.

His character and countenance has changed drastically and he was set free from so many addictions. He continues to press on to be whole in other areas of his life. **John is on fire for the Lord and shares his faith on a regular basis. He also brings many seekers to church. John is such a joy and a blessing. He is a real miracle of God.**

RAMI AND TATIANA

Tatiana was introduced to Jesus by her mother-in-law while her husband Rami had fallen away from the faith. She was encouraged to attend our church by her mother-in-law. This couple are very successful in the professional world.

Due to Tatiana's love for the Lord and commitment to church her husband Rami, who was attending with her, began to be impacted by the worship, the messages and the community. As a result, he committed his life to the Lord and began to grow.

Now he co-leads a Bible study while Tatiana has grown so fast in the Lord. She is a mighty evangelist who at one time brought 11 people from her work to our church! Again, another couple who are so beautiful and contagious for Jesus.

What a privilege the Lord has given Joyce and I to see so many receive Christ, get transformed and live to make Christ known. Currently we continue to lead the church while we are in Australia due to COVID. We look forward to going back when we can to serve them further and equip them for the work of the ministry.

We are very thankful to everyone who is praying and supporting us in so many ways. Our prayer is that all who follow Jesus would live to know Christ and make Him known.



Photo of the church worship team taken by Milard.



In the Family

NEW TEAM MEMBER



Lisa, QLD

Lisa has joined the South Asia team as the CEO of our partner NGO among the B people. Lisa will remain based in Australia, travelling to South Asia multiple times per year. She has long history with Global Interaction as an Intercultural Worker in Cambodia and as the QLD Young Adults Consultant. In recent years, she has also served on the board of our partner NGO in South Asia.

NEW STAFF



Gill Donnellan

Acting PA to Cross-Cultural Director, National Office

CONGRATULATIONS



We celebrate with Megan and Tristan the birth of their daughter Hannah Ruth in August 2020. Hannah is a little sister to Zechariah and Samuel.



Congratulations to proud parents Alison (National Office team member) and Bradley Nissley on the birth of their son Eric Joel in August 2020. Eric is a little brother to Caleb.

COMPLETION OF SERVICE

Lindsay and Jane

Lindsay and Jane began their journey with Global Interaction as Intercultural Workers in 1988 and served across Central Asia, Singapore and Hong Kong. After three decades of faithful service, Lindsay and Jane have returned to Australia and concluded their work with Global Interaction. We honour their legacy of faithful service including Lindsay's work at Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary where students across Asia are trained and Jane's thriving ministry among women providing counselling and pastoral support. We thank God for their decades of sacrifice to inspire others to share Jesus in relevant ways and we pray for God's continued leading and blessing in their lives.

Bill and Pauline

Global Interaction extends sincere gratitude to Bill and Pauline who, after 11 years of faithful service in Outback Australia, have concluded their ministry. We give thanks to God for those who have been blessed by Bill and Pauline during their service; for the seeds of faith that have been sown, for the relationships cultivated and for the opportunities made for Bill and Pauline to share the Good News of Jesus among the Gurindji and Warlpiri people. We pray for God's continual blessing and guidance for this couple as they navigate this next season.

Adam and Natalie

After being candidates with Global Interaction since June 2018, Adam and Natalie Moss made the difficult decision to withdraw from their candidacy. Over the past two years, the Global Interaction family has developed a strong relationship with Adam and Natalie and we pray that their time as candidates has been valuable in their spiritual formation. Please pray that the Lord will continue to guide Adam and Natalie as they seek to faithfully serve Him wherever they are.

Val Holt

Val's wonderful contribution to Global Interaction's ministry spans more than four decades, commencing when she and Mark responded to God's call to serve in Papua. During their 11 years in Papua, Val developed and cherished many local friendships. Following a period of ministry in Australia, Val and Mark joined the team in South East Asia as Team Leaders from 2011 – 2014. The team knew her as a servant leader, an excellent listener and a great encourager. Val built authentic relationships with local people and shared the message of Jesus through her words and her genuine love for others.

Returning to Australia, Val became our Director of Member Care and then Member Care Specialist. In these roles, Val offered excellent pastoral and professional care to our intercultural teams, supporting them through the challenges and joys of ministry. We honour Val and thank God for all she has brought to this ministry over many years.

Allison Lynn

For the past four years, Allison has worked with Global Interaction as the Executive Assistant of the VIC/TAS State Office. Her warm personality, professionalism, heart for Global Interaction's ministry and genuine care for the candidates and intercultural workers sent from Victoria and Tasmania will be missed. We thank Allison for all she has contributed and wish her all the best for her next steps.

Eryl Edwards

Eryl has a long history of dedicated service with Global Interaction. From 1983 – 1998 she served in Papua with her husband David. Following time in Australia and working at the National Office from 2005 – 2009, Eryl and David returned to the field, serving with the team in South East Asia from 2010 – 2018. Their faithful work through the Education Foundation continues to bear fruit. Upon their return to Australia, Eryl began working at the National Office in Melbourne as a Finance Officer. She has recently concluded in this role. We honour Eryl for her missional heart, sacrifice and decades of service.

Lynda McMahon

Since 2012, Lynda has served as the Executive Assistant of the QLD Global Interaction State Office. Lynda passionately worked to connect with QLD churches to facilitate their partnership with Global Interaction's ministry and teams. Prior to her time at the State Office, Lynda served in Central Asia with the intercultural team from 2003 - 2012. As Lynda concludes in her role, we thank her for her years of faithful service and pray for God's continued leading in her life.

Paulo Pereira

Paulo joined the Corporate Services team at the National Office in 2019 as a Finance Assistant and concludes in this role mid-November 2020. His friendly manner and strong work ethic will be missed. We thank Paulo for his contribution to the team and wish him well in all he does.

Shola Oni

Shola has worked with Global Interaction in the Corporate Services team since 2013 in a variety of roles, most recently as the Finance Manager. Throughout her years at Global Interaction, Shola has served with integrity and passion, working hard to support our intercultural teams. As Shola concludes in her role at the National Office, we thank her for contribution and pray for God's guidance in the coming season.



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