

Outback Australia

The People Group

Since 1946, Global Interaction has had a presence among the Gurindji and Warlpiri people in Outback Australia, particularly among the communities of Kalkaringi, Lajumanu, Ali Curung, Willowra and Yuendumu. The team is committed to walking alongside people, sharing faith, discipling believers and empowering leaders.

Over the past year, we have been particularly encouraged by believers sharing Bible stories with those in their community and beyond. The unity of church leaders from different communities, the weekly church meetings and Bible studies that recommenced in Ali Curung and the fruitful women's camp where a group taught Biblical truths through a culturally meaningful dance, are all recent expressions of God's hands at work.

The Global Interaction team in Outback Australia

Respect, time and the demonstration of genuine care are the foundation for authentic relationships where faith and life can be shared. The team spends time meeting with local people, chatting over a coffee and investing in everyday moments of friendship.

Today our team is serving alongside local faith leaders in five indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. Bible teaching, encouragement, leadership training and empowering one another to share the Gospel with the broader community is the ongoing and growing ministry.

Prayer Needs

- For local faith community leaders to be strengthened and equipped to lead their own people
- That the believers will demonstrate Jesus' love within their communities through their actions and words
- For the intercultural team to disciple and journey with believers well
- That local believers will reach out to their communities, investing in authentic relationships and sharing the message of Jesus

Pray for the Team Members

Mat and Shannon
Vivian (Team Leader)

Stories of Hope from Outback Australia

Yearning for Hope

Mat, Shannon and their four young children are in their first term of service with Global Interaction. They are living in Yuendumu, one of the largest Indigenous communities in central Australia, approximately 350 kms north west of Alice Springs. Mat and Shannon are focused on learning the Warlpiri language and culture as well as building relationships with the local people. They see many opportunities for discipleship, assisting church leaders in contextualised theological reflection and supporting a community that faces many social challenges.

Recently one man in Yuendumu shared his story with Mat. He grew up with Christian parents, but he told the story of how his life was impacted by addiction and violence. He has lived through much community unrest and bitter violent community conflict. He has suffered much trauma, but he desires change in life and for his community. He yearns for hope, he was keen to explore the difference Jesus could bring to his life.

Let's be praying for this young man and all his story represents – challenge, opportunity and hope! We can all play a part in supporting what God is doing in the Northern Territory.

Workers for the Harvest

Global Interaction has been seeking to share Christ with remote Indigenous communities across the Northern Territory since the 1950's. Currently, there are six communities in which Global Interaction ministers, alongside existing Indigenous Baptist fellowships. The Indigenous believers in these fellowships have identified a need for leadership development and evangelism so that their remote faith communities can reach out to their own people, in their own distinctive, culturally appropriate ways.

However, this training work is virtually impossible on a consistent, regular basis, with Mat and Shannon being the only workers. The Outback team is praying that the Lord will raise up more workers for this part of the harvest because God continues to be on the move.

Shannon shares, "We recently celebrated the baptism service for two men who are new believers. They have been considering this step for a while and were able to complete a Bible study with some of the Indigenous church leaders and Mat. The church was packed with family members from the area. It was an exciting day and we pray that these men will continue to grow in faith, witnessing to others the transformation that Jesus brings."

Praise God for the movement of His Spirit and pray with the Outback team that more workers will be raised up for this ministry.

>>> For more stories of hope, visit:

www.globalinteraction.org.au/News