BEING CHRIST IN A BUDDHIST VILLAGE
Our pioneer church planters need your prayer

MORE THAN REFUGEES
The brother and sister getting an education thanks to you

UNFATHOMABLE GENEROSITY
Kang-San Tan on the gift of giving

YOU’RE SAVING LIVES IN AFGHANISTAN

Taban’s smiling because her baby girl is alive and well
When you support BMS World Mission, you’re standing alongside Christians like Helen and Wit Boondeekhun. Helen and Wit are BMS pioneers, church planting in a village in Thailand where the population is 100 per cent Buddhist.

“The leader of the village told us we cannot do anything religious, anything Christian,” says Wit. “We are here to bless the community – not just to share the good news, but to do something. We want them to see our good deeds and then praise our heavenly Father.”

I was so inspired by Helen and Wit’s faithfulness to God’s call during the three days I spent with them in Wang Daeng village. It’s not easy to come into a community as outsiders, to build trust and grow friendships, to find ways to serve and opportunities to come alongside people. But they’ve done all this and more.

Now, they’re longing to see the fruit of their labour – lives saved by God’s grace. I know that this is God’s heart for Wang Daeng, and I would love it if you would partner with Helen and Wit in prayer. They’re pretty isolated where they are, but if every reader of Engage commits to praying with them over the next 12 months, they’ll be supported by more than 20,000 people. And how amazing would that be?! So, once you’ve read (and hopefully enjoyed) this issue of Engage, please do cut out page 9, stick it somewhere you will see it, and join Helen and Wit every Wednesday by praying for people to meet Jesus in Wang Daeng.

Happy reading!

Jessica
Editor

Have something to say in response to this issue of Engage?

magazine@bmsworldmission.org

www.facebook.com/bmsworldmission
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We look forward to hearing from you!
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Dr Kang-San Tan on the challenge of giving

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“You’ve let me use my passion for football as a way of sharing God’s love”
Yaccoub lost his faith when he saw a bomb fall on a school bus in Syria, his home country, killing children as young as four. Now, he’s just finished a year of theological education at one of the best seminaries in the Muslim majority world – a BMS World Mission partner that is preparing Christians to lead the Church in the region. Yaccoub came back to faith thanks to the witness of a family member and the profound questions the Syrian conflict raised in him. He came to study and be trained for future leadership thanks to the generosity of UK Christians like you.

Your giving has enabled BMS to provide four full scholarships to students at the seminary this year – covering their tuition, accommodation, food and books. “We need leaders in our churches and our ministries,” Yaccoub says, “and people supporting us in this seminary are helping to send out these leaders to where they are needed.”

Each scholarship of $10,000 (about £7,500) has helped to prepare women and men from the Muslim majority world (some of them from countries too sensitive to publish here) to serve God at home or in other places where the Church is small. And you have paid for these scholarships.

“I want to thank the people who give without knowing us,” Yaccoub says. “I would like to thank them for the opportunity they are giving us to study here, to let them know that we are being transformed at many levels, theologically, spiritually and in our characters. They are sending prepared leaders.”

Your support for BMS leadership ministries will transform far more than just Yaccoub’s life. You can read more of his story at www.bmsworldmission.org/yaccoub

We are being transformed theologically, spiritually and in our characters.

Leadership

Region: Middle East and North Africa

Aim: empowering future leaders for the World Church

Cost: £7,500 per student per year

Four future leaders of the Church in Muslim countries have finished another year of education and formation, thanks to you.

THE CHRISTIAN FUTURE OF THE MIDDLE EAST

And how you’re supporting it

www.bmsworldmission.org/yaccoub
In May 2018, I visited Lebanon and was deeply challenged by the generosity of Lebanese Christians, who have welcomed thousands of Syrian Muslim refugees into their homes and churches. This is particularly surprising as thousands of Lebanese people suffered brutal oppression during the Syrian occupation of Lebanon from 1976 to 2005.

I worshipped alongside hundreds of Christians who were generous in helping Syrian refugees, even though these Syrians were hated by the wider Lebanese community as enemies. And through their sacrificial support, more than 500 foreigners from Iraq and Syria have come to Christ and are now members of the church.

Many of us in the UK live in challenging times, including the decline of churches, rising costs, and overwhelming needs in our families. But today, let’s draw encouragement from fellow Christians around the world, who are giving out of difficult circumstances and seeing God move in amazing ways.

As I reflect on the rich history of BMS, I am deeply conscious that friends and supporters from the UK gave, and continue to give, out of difficult economic challenges so that the gospel can be shared across the world. Like the Macedonian Christians, so many gave out of “their severe trials, their overflowing joy and extreme poverty” (1 Corinthians 8: 2). They gave “beyond their ability” (8: 3) and considered it a “privilege to give” (8: 4).

Your generous support of BMS means that, with God’s help, we are able to continue working amongst the marginalised and spreading the gospel in some of the least evangelised regions of the world. We do not take you for granted, and we pray that “your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God” (2 Corinthians 9: 11).

PS You can find out how you’re helping Lebanese Christians support Syrian refugee children on page 14!
Thank you

You’re making mission possible

35 years a volunteer

We want to give a massive shout-out to Joan from Enon Baptist Church! Joan has been administrating her church’s BMS Birthday Scheme for the last 35 years, faithfully enabling those at Enon Baptist to support BMS World Mission’s medical work.

At 86 years old, Joan has the huge task of administrating cards and donations for around 40 Birthday Scheme members, all of whom are using their birthdays to bless some of the poorest and most marginalised people in the world.

Joan, you’re an absolute star and we want to thank you for your faithful service. God is using you to transform lives around the world, and we are so grateful for you!

Coffee and cake linked to longevity

Our friends at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Blackwood have been running a weekly coffee morning to raise money for BMS for 65 years! That must be one of the longest surviving groups ever! Last year, they raised a huge £1,453.08 to support our work around the world.

We were thrilled to see this photo from your coffee morning’s 65th birthday celebrations! You’re all amazing and we are inspired by your dedication to God’s mission on this earth. Thank you so much for your support!

You gave £41,959 to the BMS Bardaï appeal!

That’s enough to fund the life-saving work of BMS surgeons Andrea and Mark Hotchkin for ten and a half months.

“We really would like to thank people for the support that they’ve given, both financially and through prayer,” say Andrea and Mark. “Both are vital, and without that we can’t do the job that we’re called to do.”

If your church has been supporting BMS or if you know someone like Joan who has done something wonderful for us, we would love to hear from you! Get in touch using the contact details on page 2.
Ang Daeng village is 100 per cent Buddhist. At least it was until two years ago, when BMS World Mission church planters and pioneers Helen and Wit Boondeekhun moved there. Now, there are precisely three Christians amongst the 2,000 or so people living in Wang Daeng: Helen, Wit, and the first person to find Christ through their ministry: Suree.

Helen and Wit’s greatest passion is to see more people become Christians in Wang Daeng. They long for their friends, neighbours and community to find life in all its fullness. But change is slow. Buddhism is central to the rhythm of daily life. The Boondeekhuns are regularly invited to gather with the community to celebrate as firstborn sons become Buddhist monks for a few weeks or months. The temple is at the centre of life – it’s the meeting place, the mourning place, the everything place. It’s not easy to convert to Christianity in this context.

Even Suree, who has taken the bold step to follow Jesus, has not yet found the courage to tell her family and friends of her newfound faith. She lives instead as a secret believer.

“Other ministers ask us: ‘why did you come to this area?’” says Wit. “They say: ‘you are very brave coming here.’ We are not really brave, but we feel that God called us here. And if we will not come, who else will?”

And so, for two years, TEFL teacher Helen and pastor Wit have been serving the people of Wang Daeng in every way they can. With your support, they’ve rented a house that they’re using as a community centre, opening their doors for English classes, guitar lessons and a women’s weaving project. Helen and Wit have also employed a youth worker called Tah, who’s using his heart for the gospel and huge levels of coolness to build relationships with Wang Daeng’s younger generation.

Helen, Wit and Tah would love you to partner with them as they share the love of Christ with Wang Daeng. It’s a huge challenge and they need all the prayer support they can get! Turn the page to find out what they are up to and how you can pray.
If you can speak English in Thailand, you have more chance of getting a good job. That’s why English language teacher Helen is offering English classes to children in Wang Daeng, and helping their school teachers practise their English, too.

Helen runs classes in the community centre and in the local school. The children seem to love learning English, and the conversation classes leave lots of space for laughter. They provide great opportunities for Helen to build trust and good relationships with her students and their families as well!

WEAVING

Wit was involved in starting a weaving project for women in Wang Daeng who struggle to find work. He helped to track down a teacher and secure funding for the initial materials. Now, ten women are coming together each week to weave placemats and coasters which they hope to sell. Wit joins them to build friendships and help with quality control.

It was actually through the project that Wit met Suree (their first success story) and was able to share the gospel with her.

“It’s very, very good to learn this new skill,” says Leung, who is part of the weaving group. “This project should carry on, because it’s helped me make a little bit of money, and it’s also been a good time to get to know the other women.”

FOOTBALL

Parents in Wang Daeng worry their children are spending their lives in front of computers or hanging out on the streets, in danger of getting into drinking and drugs. The football club that BMS project worker Tah has started is a great alternative. “Parents have told me that they are very glad we have a football team,” he says.

Tah teaches his players basic football skills and has enrolled the team in a league. They won their first match 6:1 (so he’s obviously doing something right!).

“I can see these children now have discipline and their mental attitude has improved,” says Tah. “They are happy and relaxed when they’re playing football.”

GUITAR

Guitar club has proven a great way to share faith with young people in the village. Tah teaches his music students to play the guitar using Christian songs, which they all sing together. Recently, some of the group expressed an interest in Christianity, and Helen and Wit were able to take them on a field trip to another district to visit a church.
Every Wednesday at 10 am (3 am UK time), Helen and Wit meet with other pastors working in Uttaradit to spend the morning praying for God to move in the province. Will you commit to partnering with them by praying for Wang Daeng every Wednesday for the next year?

1. Pray for ten people to come to know Jesus Christ as their personal saviour in the next 12 months, through the ongoing witness of Helen, Wit and Tah. Pray that they will be the beginnings of the first church in Wang Daeng.

2. Pray for Suree. Pray that she would continue to grow in her faith, and that God would give her boldness to share the gospel with her family and friends. Pray too that he would give Helen and Wit the wisdom to support her and disciple her well.

3. Pray for Tah, as he seeks to build relationships and share the gospel with young people in Wang Daeng. Pray for energy, discernment and opportunities for him to pray with and encourage his football players and guitar students.

4. Pray for God to bless Wang Daeng and all of its inhabitants with peace, joy and opportunity. Pray for real hope to drive out despair.

5. Pray for Helen and Wit as they live and serve in Wang Daeng. Everyone knows that they are Christians, and they feel like there are thousands of eyes on them. Pray for protection and blessing on their lives, so that they can be salt and light.

Our God is a God of miracles, and we know he has the power to answer these prayers!
You’re saving lives in Afghanistan

Simple lessons have the power to keep mothers and babies alive. And thanks to you, they’re being shared in Afghanistan’s mountain villages.

Saman’s daughter had been in obstructed labour for days. When two people pushed down hard on her stomach to try and help the baby out, she just started bleeding and bleeding.

“We fired a gun by her head. We took the door off its hinges. We did everything we knew,” says Saman.

“We committed her into the hands of God.”

Saman speaks in a quiet voice, covering her face with her hand. I don’t understand any of the words she’s saying, but I feel her distress. I can see it in the crumpled skin around her eyes. In the way she curls up, hiding from the memory.

“She just kept bleeding. Whatever we did, it wouldn’t stop.”

Giving birth killed Saman’s daughter. She left behind four young children and her newborn baby, who wouldn’t survive to see her second birthday.

You can hear a story like this in almost every village you visit in the mountains of Afghanistan. A lack of knowledge has resulted in countless deaths. Thousands of babies and mothers gone from this world because of preventable illnesses and birthing complications that would be easily treated in a hospital.

That’s why your support for BMS World Mission is so important. You’re helping to do probably the most amazing thing I have ever witnessed. You’re driving out fear. You’re bringing hope. You’re keeping mothers and babies alive.

It’s not so hard to understand why people would believe that firing a gun or taking a door off its hinges would help a mother stop bleeding to death when you’ve visited these villages. When you’ve taken a chartered flight or UN helicopter, followed by seemingly endless 4x4 journeys
You have transformed Mohammad’s life. Find out more at www.bmsworldmission.org/lifesfirstcry

Saman is still mourning the death of her daughter
through the mountains to reach them, and you realise just how little medical care and education they’ve been able to access until now. Of course Saman tried these traditional methods. And of course they didn’t help her daughter (or any of the hundreds of women who have died before or after her). But she did her best. And you and I would have done the same.

“People do what they do because they think they’re doing the right thing. And if they find out there’s a better thing to do, they change,” says BMS worker Rory, who’s spent more than a decade living and serving in Afghanistan.

I hear the words “we didn’t know” in each village that we visit. And I wonder how it must feel to discover that the very things you were doing to help your wife or your newborn baby survive were actually the things that were making them sick. Things like not letting your pregnant wife eat fruit and vegetables, because you believed they could be harmful for her and your unborn baby. Or not giving the baby breastmilk for the first three days, because you’d been told that the first milk is not healthy.

The humility is moving. The willingness to accept the blame. But guilt does not belong with these mums and dads – who could never have known a better way until another Afghan came and showed them.

And showing them a better way is what you’re making possible. Thanks to you, BMS is helping to dispel these unhelpful superstitions and beliefs. We’re supporting trained local women and men to travel to remote villages and teach people how pregnant women can look after themselves, the safest ways to give birth, and how to care for a baby. The team covers topics such as hygiene, nutrition, finance, how to identify when something is going wrong and why vaccinations are important. They teach through storytelling, role-play and pictures. Simple lessons we all need to learn if we are going to have a baby, but ones that are so easy to access here in the UK, and so hard to get in Afghanistan.

“Communities always talk of the heartbreak of losing mothers and babies,” says Rory. “We’re aiming to prevent at least a third of those deaths, just from the knowledge that we can pass on at community level.
“Everywhere that we work with this course, it ends up saving lives.”

The people I’ve met here in Afghanistan are some of the kindest men and women I’ve ever had the privilege of encountering. We turn up in their villages with big cameras – foreigners they don’t know, who can’t speak their language – and they invite us in. They have so much love for the local team who’ve helped them, and they pass that love onto us. There’s an endless supply of green tea in little glass mugs, and a small plate of sweets is always laid before us. They let me – a woman, who in this culture wouldn’t ordinarily look a man in the eye – interview them. And, despite the briefings and best efforts, I probably fall into a million cultural faux pas. They are patient with me. They won’t let us leave their villages without a lunch of flatbread and hot stew that we share in groups, out of big bowls laid on the floor. And before we eat, someone comes around and pours warm water over our hands to wash them.

When I type ‘Afghanistan’ into Google, this isn’t what I see. And perhaps that is understandable. Because while one of my new Afghan friends was washing my hands before we ate together, 35 people were being slaughtered in a hotel in Kabul by the Taliban. And while I got to see the peaceful, beautiful side of this country, another reality was being shown to the world. A scary reality that doesn’t fit with the hardworking father who washed the dirt off my hands. With the kind man, determined to protect his wife and children from sickness. He is a different story. A different reality.

The warm welcome I receive in every village testifies to this other story. It speaks of the amazing work of the local team of men and women who are serving in these mountains every day, visiting villages and teaching them this pregnancy and birthing course. It speaks of the workers in head office – the workers you support – co-ordinating, facilitating and leading this work. Making sure the lessons happen. And because they do, they are making the world of difference to families who have suffered more than anyone should suffer. To parents who show immense strength as they tell their painful story of losing baby, after baby, after baby – a story that, even now, even after telling it so many times, still threatens to bring me to tears.

The moment when those same parents invited me into their home to introduce me to their two small children – whose lives they attribute solely to the course that you help fund – is perhaps the most beautiful memory I will ever possess.

We cannot fix all the problems faced by people in Afghanistan. But neither can we wash our hands pretending there’s nothing we can do. There is something we can do – we’ve already started doing it. And it’s beautiful.

Your gifts and your prayers are helping to save lives in Afghanistan. It’s as simple as that. You’re helping these remote communities to say: ‘not one more baby or mother is going to die here.’ And you’re giving them the tools to make that possible. Because sometimes, a little knowledge isn’t a dangerous thing – it’s a wonderful thing. It’s everything.

There are so many more people still to tell

BMS wants to take these lessons further into the mountains. We want to save the lives of more mothers and babies. And we need your help. Life’s First Cry is the BMS appeal focused on our life-saving maternal health work in Afghanistan, and we would love it if you and your church would support it. You can find out more at www.bmsworldmission.org/lifesfirstcry

If you’ve already given to the appeal, thank you so much! Your gift has the potential to make a huge difference to families in Afghanistan. Having met babies who are alive because of these lessons, I know that this work really does have the power to save and transform lives.

All names changed for security reasons.
Malick has a confident, apple-cheeked smile and a supermodel’s intuition for where the camera is. Always striking a pose, grinning, watching. Sara, his little sister, has a dreamy, otherworldly quality. Soft, with gentle eyes. She floats sleepy but attentive around the school with Malick, quiet and smiling (once she knows you). She is ten. Malick is 11. They’re three flights up in a building without window panes in the hot and noisy urban sprawl just outside Beirut. They are two of the over 1.5 million Syrians estimated to be living in Lebanon today. They are Kurds. They are refugees. They are from a Muslim background. They don’t own much, but labels they have in abundance.

Malick and Sara are, more than anything, children. And if you recently gave towards the BMS World Mission Syrian refugee education appeal, you’re helping them remember that.

The third-floor is effectively their school. Sparsely decorated with alphabets and Bible pictures, there’s an assembly hall with light garden furniture and heavy curtains, a kitchen – simple and flooded with natural light. Practical and humble and quite beautiful. Humble things often are, if you have the time to see. The walls and concrete ceilings echo with laughter that would be a cliché if you didn’t know the children’s stories. This learning centre is full of Syrian children. They are far from home and, without the handful of teachers here, they’d have no chance at an education. Malick and Sara missed two years of schooling before their mother found this place.

“In general, war is really bad,” says Roshina, Sara and Malick’s mother. “But the worst part is when you feel that you are not able to provide what you should for your children.” Roshina doesn’t laugh as much as they do. “Especially that they might feel a little bit different, or less than other children,” she says. Much of the time she looks at the ground rather than your face. “Other children who get to have the things they want.”

Roshina works as a cleaner in the learning centre – something that her children haven’t always understood. “They would say: ‘how can you do this in front of everyone?’” She speaks so matter-of-factly you could almost miss the catch in her voice. “Even now, for Sara, it is still hard. She still sometimes tells me: ‘you don’t have to do this.’ She’s older in her brain than her age,” Roshina says. “I get sad from Sara’s sadness even more than she gets sad.”

Most of us can understand that. What’s harder to comprehend are the other experiences, so divorced from our own. Roshina was at home when their neighbours’ house
was hit by a bomb. They ran. And when they came back, they didn’t have a home anymore. Just rubble. “We left our house with the clothes on our backs,” she says. “That’s how we arrived here. We took nothing with us.”

Roshina and her family have faced abuse. All refugees do. “Some people treated us like animals, not people from another country,” she says. “But here, at school, it feels like we are all equal. They are not above us, they are not better. We are all the same,” she says. “Here, we are treated so well.”

Ask any child in any of the classrooms and they say the same. What do you like most about the learning centre? “The teachers.” Every time.

“The teachers take care of us,” says Sara.

Malick says: “They don’t shout at us, and also when we are sad the teachers come and make us happy.” And Sara smiles and says: “Yes.”

“Emotionally, my children have changed a lot,” says Roshina. “Before, they used to fight a lot. Now they are happier. They try to solve their problems calmly, and together.”

Malick and Sara are not living a charmed life. Their problems have not all disappeared. But they are doing better. They are happier. They are being counselled, educated and loved. That’s partly due to the many Christians in the UK who have given a huge proportion of the support this learning centre needs. The centre is growing and helping more children. And that is thanks to people like you.

“I know there are people overseas who support the school,” says Sara, with an understanding that makes you wince, “and I am really happy that you are supporting us.”

Malick, always eager to chip in, says: “Yes, thank you for supporting the school. I’m really happy about it!” He grins. He’s off to his next class. Sara follows, quiet and happy.

There is so much more that you could know about these wonderful children. They love hide-and-seek and playing catch. They love their cousins and when they visit them they play-fight, girls versus boys – and the girls always win. Malick loves Arabic and English, Sara: arts and crafts. They both miss their grandparents.

They are more than refugees. More than Syrians and beneficiaries of your kindness. They are children. Ordinary children, yes, and not important to the world’s powers. But loved by God. Everything we do for them is something that we do for Jesus Christ himself. •
Get involved

HOW YOU CAN GO the extra mile

We are so thankful for your time, prayers and donations. If you’re looking to do even more to support BMS World Mission’s work among some of the most marginalised and least evangelised people in the world, here are some of the powerful ways you can help us.

Are you a baker? A runner? An administrator? A party planner? Whatever your gifts, passions or skills are, we believe you can use them to help serve some of the most marginalised people in the world. And Ian Richardson is proving that to be true.

At 66, Ian is fundraising for BMS for the very first time. He was inspired by our Life’s First Cry appeal and wanted to do something to help. Ian has arthritis in both knees and walking can be painful for him. So, he’s decided to get on his bike and cycle 1,000 miles before his church’s Life’s First Cry service in Hawick, in the Scottish Borders, to raise money for the appeal.

“I was so challenged by the Life’s First Cry video I decided to help,” says Ian. “I love cycling, so it seemed the best way to do something.”

If you’re inspired by one of our projects or appeals, we would be so grateful if you’d support us by fundraising like Ian.

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Become a 24:7 Partner

Make your support for BMS official by becoming a 24:7 Partner. Your commitment to regularly pray for and give to BMS will help us to better plan for the future – equipping our mission workers to share the gospel with unreached people, save the lives of mothers and babies, provide refugee children with an education, and much, much more.

“I know how vital it is to have people at home praying for BMS, and supporting their work,” says Marlene Fox, who served with BMS in India in the 1960s and is part of our 24:7 Partner family.

“That support is very important for mission workers, which is why I help today.”

What you can do now:

It’s really simple to become a 24:7 Partner. Sign up today at www.bmsworldmission.org/partners or speak to a friendly human by giving us a call on 01235 517628.

Fundraise for us

Ian Richardson is cycling 1,000 miles to help mothers and babies he’ll never meet

For inspiration, visit www.bmsworldmission.org/fundraising. Once you’ve decided what you want to do to help, email supportercare@bmsworldmission.org or call us on 01235 517634 and ask for a fundraising form.

www.bmsworldmission.org
Families in rural Uganda will drink clean water today, patients in a Chadian hospital will be operated on, and people in secular France will worship Jesus for the first time, all thanks to generous gifts left in wills. Just imagine what great things God will be doing decades from now, if we make them possible.

The late Dr Bernard McCullough, who served with BMS from 1964 to 1972 in Zaïre, left a gift in his will to BMS. His wife, Ursula, intends to do so as well.

“BMS is spreading the gospel by helping at the point of need, through education and medical work,” says Ursula. “We saw BMS being effective in so many areas and wish to further this work for years to come.”

If you, like Ursula, decide to include BMS in your will, our pledge to you is this: we will honour your gift in every aspect of our work, ensuring it is used diligently so that it leaves a lasting legacy.

What You Can Do Now:
Visit www.bmsworldmission.org/cyrus and sign up. When you join our prayer network, you’ll receive updates, opportunities to support our work in other ways and details of future Project Cyrus events.

PS If you are fundraising for us, please let us know as we’d love to thank you. Just email magazine@bmsworldmission.org – and you never know, you might even feature in Engage!
Dear friends,

My name is Joshua. Twenty-five years ago, while I was playing professional football in the first division in Brazil, I became a Christian after another player approached me and told me the gospel. Two years later, I decided to go and work in local mission in my church, before travelling to different parts of the world telling people about Jesus through sport.

I could have stayed playing professional football and chased fame and glamour. But now, it’s about something more than money. To be able to get a ball, and go on to the field and have 15 to 55 kids with me, and to be able to share the gospel and see people become Christians – it’s amazing. The Bible says different people have different skills. My skill is football, and the skills God gave me I want to give back to him.

So far, thanks to the support of BMS World Mission, I’ve been to India, where I coached football to local children. In each session I taught them biblical values and told them about God, before they went on to play matches and other drills I led them through. I also trained eight Christian coaches from different areas of the country, so they could then go on and do community sports in the villages that they are from, and spread the gospel too.

Football is a universal sport, and it opens so many doors. Because I’m a Brazilian ex-footballer, I can go into sensitive countries that other people cannot go into, and help establish the Church and mission there. It opens opportunities for us to go back too, and continue to help with all that is going on.

Thank you so much for your support. You’ve let me use my passion for football as a way of sharing God’s love in India, and this year I’m hopefully going to coach football in Thailand, Guinea, and wherever else God sends me, with BMS support.

Please do pray for me as I continue with this work. You can see the result of your prayer as I go out there and get the job done, coaching and sharing the gospel through sport. We want to do more in the Middle East. I know if we plan, we can go into that area with sport too. So, please pray.

Thank you.

Joshua*

*Name changed
Engage is a helpful tool for the local church

Dear Jessica,

Ismay and I want to congratulate you and your team on a brilliant edition of Engage (issue 41, 2018). The small cameos, showing how we are reaching our targets, were really helpful to share in a missions service we were leading yesterday. In addition, we think the practical suggestions on how we can all engage in aspects of mission are particularly helpful in the local church situation, notably the article on modern slavery and the Life’s First Cry feature.

Well done, and keep it up!

Steve and Ismay

BMS is in good hands

Dear friends,

Just to say that I think the Engage magazine is excellent. It is well produced and filled with interesting material about the work of BMS World Mission.

I have been interested in the work of BMS since childhood. From an early age I attended Sunday school at Fuller Church Kettering, so naturally the beginnings of BMS were right on the spot. Indeed, I used to pass widow Wallis’ house every day on my way to work. However, God did not call me to work overseas, but I serve him in England. I thank God for his faithfulness through the years.

It is so good to know that BMS is in such good hands and is doing such great work in so many countries. May the Lord continue to bless and use every servant of his.

Yours truly,

Margaret E Jones

Get in touch!

If you’ve been inspired or challenged by anything you’ve read in Engage, have been busy raising money for us, or have anything else you want to share, we would love to hear from you. Get in touch using one of the methods on page 2!
It’s such a privilege to be working in Afghanistan, and to see the impact of what we are doing, up close. Living here is not like living in the UK, but day-to-day we don’t feel stressed about our safety. People are always surprised by that, but it’s true.

“The BMS partner we work with has been here for a long time, they know what they’re doing and they take the security of our family and the whole team very seriously. If you’re interested in joining us we would definitely encourage you to get in touch and explore how God might use you. It’s not as scary as it sounds!”

Jenny and Tim*
BMS World Mission workers in Afghanistan

Our current vacancies include a primary school teacher, development worker, mental health trainer, finance director and executive assistant.

*Names changed

To find out more visit www.bmsworldmission.org/afghanistanjobs or get in touch by emailing opportunities@bmsworldmission.org or phoning 01235 517651.